

BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Bigbury Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel on WEDNESDAY 11th July 2018 at 5:00pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs: C Carson, G Rosevear, S Smith, E Huntley (D.Cllr.), C Case, V Scott and Clerk R Matthews. Five residents were also in attendance.

1.0 Declaration of Interest

The Chairman read out a statement in respect of Declaration of Interest and no such interests were acknowledged.

2.0 Apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. H Getley and C.Cllr R Gilbert

3.0 Minutes of previous meetings held on June 13th 2018

Cllr. Rosevear proposed the minutes be accepted as an accurate record of the previous meeting. Cllr. Smith seconded the proposal and all Councillors present at that meeting voted unanimously to accept the minutes, which were duly signed by the Chairman.

4.0 Matters arising (actions) from last meeting and not covered in this month's agenda:

Clerk reported he had been in contact with British Telecom in respect of the poor condition of the three operational phone boxes in the parish and that supporting photographic evidence was to be supplied. Provided BT accept the visual evidence, they would agree to repaint and renovate but stated that this would not be completed until 2019 – between May and September. Clerk also to submit evidence of condition of the unused phone box (not operational) situated at the old post office in Ringmore Drive.

Clerk confirmed the installation of a Variable Average Speed review (VAS) would be undertaken by Devon Highways and Adam Keay agreed to move this project forward.

Clerk confirmed that the grant of £3000.17 had been received from the Devon Air Ambulance Trust and that the installation was to be completed later this month.

Cllr. Case advised a full update on the Play Park project would be given at the September Parish Council meeting.

Clerk confirmed a new two year contract had been signed with BT to provide broadband access into the Memorial Hall. The contract renewal rate is £5 lower per month than the current price.

5.0 Open session

Resident A raised concerns in respect of the Lincombe Barn planning application and these comments are included in the relevant section of Planning Matters – Topic 7 below.

Resident B asked the Councillors if they knew who owned the land (grass verge) to the front of Park Cottages. The Councillors were not aware of who the land belonged to and advised the if it were to be used for parking, with changes to the hedge and wall etc., it would be advisable to discuss the matter with South Hams District Council planning dept.

Resident C wished to ask about the recent communication from Gigaclear in respect of the roll out of Super-Fast Broadband across the Parish. This matter is covered in the correspondence section – Topic 10 below.

6.0 District Councillor's report

D.Cllr. Huntley provided the following updates:

Further to the Gigaclear announcement (see correspondence – Topic 10 below), D.Cllr. Huntley had approached SHDC to see if the potential option of linking the car park ticket machines to broadband could be further expanded to cover a charging structure for access to the public toilets. Such an all-encompassing option would remove the need for change to be given every day by the staff in the Beach shop.

SHDC had now provided an Operative to undertake regular cycles (three times per day) of rubbish removal from the three main beaches – Island, Sedgewell and Challaborough. This service would stay in place throughout the summer but SHDC had declined to provide larger bins to accommodate the waste. A request for additional bins of a smaller size has subsequently been made.

As Cllr. Getley was unable to attend this evening's meeting, D.Cllr. Huntley advised that, as discussed in the June meeting, new signs for the beach and car park area were being made. Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had agreed to contribute to the overall cost of this enterprise.

D.Cllr. Huntley added that National Trust had been asked to review the positioning of signs on and near the Clematon Hill footpath.

D.Cllr. Huntley advised that SHDC had introduced a 'Communities Together Fund', similar in nature to the TAP Fund but only relevant where two or more parishes join together on a specific project.

7.0 Planning related matters

Clerk confirmed that all owners/agents responsible for the three planning applications to be discussed had been advised of the revised start time of the meeting.

1925/18/VAR Merrylees, Ringmore Drive. Councillors reviewed the drawings which related to landscaping and traffic management variations within the boundaries of the site. These variations were not deemed to be detrimental to the project or the immediate surrounding area and Cllr. Carson proposed the Parish Council support the application. Cllr. Case seconded the proposal which was agreed by the Councillors with the exception of Cllr. Huntley who abstained from the vote.

1857/18/HHO Spring Garden, Bigbury. Having reviewed the plans on line and on the large screen at the meeting itself, the Councillors were of the opinion that the proposed changes were in keeping with the area. Cllr. Case proposed the application be supported. Cllr. Rosevear seconded the proposal which was agreed by the Councillors with the exception of Cllr. Huntley who abstained from the vote.

2139/18/HHO Lincombe Barn. With reference to the Open Session, Resident A expressed concerns that her garden, part of an adjacent property would be overlooked from the proposed balcony and that her and her family's privacy would be compromised as a result of its construction. Significant time, cost and effort had been invested in making this section of her garden an area where the family could relax peacefully and in isolation. This concern was further heightened as the barn had been sold as a business and would become a holiday rental house for 'larger' groups of people. Resident A requested that a privacy screen be added to the design to minimise the loss of privacy. The Councillors debated the concerns raised and reviewed the plans submitted. Cllr. Rosevear proposed the Council support the application but with the condition that an opaque privacy screen made of an appropriate material be incorporated into the design. Cllr. Smith seconded this proposal which was agreed by the Councilors with the exception of Cllr. Huntley and Cllr. Scott who abstained from the vote.

Update on Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr. Scott provided the following update:

Community-led housing scheme Revised heads of terms document for the Land Option Agreement has now been sent to the owners of the site and SHDC are awaiting written agreement to these so that the legal agreement can be prepared.

Fees for the consultants are now being considered by SHDC and a further meeting with the Architect to further pursue the draft concept plan is in process.

A site meeting has been held with Roger English of the AONB Unit. He has agreed in principle to the proposed development and given some helpful advice in terms of the layout and design so that it will fit in with the landscape.

Views, vistas and local heritage list. We will shortly be doing a consultation on the Views and Vistas. A Draft Local Heritage List was sent to Devon CC Heritage Division and Richard Gage of SHDC who have both given very positive feedback with Devon CC suggesting some further sites that we might consider.

We have still not carried out the walkabouts with the local youth but this is being arranged.

Consultations We have had a meeting with Nicholas Johnson and officers of the Golf Club to discuss the future of the Golf Club and the Bantham Estate. Some interesting ideas in terms of expanding the golf club to include better restaurant facilities, a possible events room and some accommodation for visitors is being investigated. This might be on a different part of the golf club site.

We have also had a meeting with Tom Jones, Policy Officer of SHDC to run through the draft policies. He has given some initial useful feedback and will be coming back with more comments in due course. He also suggested that AECOM should now carry out their Strategic Environmental Assessment to avoid delays to the process rather than waiting for the Regulation 14 Consultation. We have therefore asked AECOM to pursue this.

Survey of dwellings used as a principal residence, second home or holiday lets. The survey of properties throughout the parish is almost complete. This is to establish the number of residences, second homes and holiday lets.

8.0 Finance: Approval of payments to be made and presentation of finance statement

Cllr. Rosevear proposed the financial statements and recommended payments be accepted which was seconded by Cllr. Smith and all councillors agreed. Clerk was to raise the following payments:
£60.00 – Kingsbridge Websites – annual maintenance fee
£159.66 – V Scott – replacement cheque for cost incurred in preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan
£840.71 – R Matthews – Clerk salary £540.00 qtr. ended 30.06.2018 and expense £300.71 for the same period – reviewed and authorised by Chairman
£200.00 – Hope Cove Lifeboat – annual donation
£35.84 - BT group – rental cost line and broadband Memorial Hall. Paid by direct debit

Several cheques raised at previous meetings had been 'lost' and the bank was to be advised to stop these cheques from being paid.

Action Clerk

Clerk showed a slide of the current cash book and bank reconciliation statement showing a balance of £24,090.98 as at June 30th 2018.

Clerk showed a statement of restricted and reserved funding with a balance of £3,090.06.

Clerk showed details of S106 funds held by SHDC - £162,771 for affordable housing projects and £24,194 for OSSR projects.

9.0 Finance – deposit and reporting of surplus funds from disbanded Shrimps

The main topic relating to the management of the surplus funds was deferred to the September meeting.

Cllr. Case did however have a communication from Bigbury Youth Club which she shared. 'The Bigbury Youth Club have received a grant from the British Science Association towards the cost of a trip – an awesome experience with a sleepover with the sharks at the Aquarium, rather than just making it a day trip. The event will cost £1,500 and the Youth Club are planning to invite siblings, although those younger than eight years old must be accompanied. The Youth Club has reserves of £1,000 and consider it acceptable to request a £10 contribution from those attending. The award was made to SEADREAM, which is a non-profit community interest company (see website or facebook pages). There have been several science sessions in the Youth Club and a donation of £350 from the Parish Council would be a fantastic contribution to enable the planned sleepover to take place. We would also like to invite some other local children; they may join the Youth Club in the future.

Cllr. Huntley raised a concern that the charge from the Aquarium was rather high, although other Councillors did not share this view. Cllr. Case proposed the £350 funding from the 2018/2019 precept be re-allocated as per the above discussion. Cllr. Rosevear seconded this proposal which was agreed by all Councillors

10.0 Correspondence

Correspondence can be found in the information pack displayed at the meeting and subsequently uploaded to the Bigbury Community website. Content includes a communication from SHDC in respect of an increase in the annual charge for inspecting the Play Park.

The main item of correspondence received related to Gigaclear and a notification that cables would be laid across the entire Parish in the period starting 1st August 2018. After general discussion and little means of clarification, it was decided to organise a public meeting to discuss all aspects of the topic.

Action Clerk

11.0 Agenda items for next meeting

Carry forward from this meeting to September - Playground, Centenary event to commemorate the end of World War 1 and review of Precept allocation not spent so far this year – particularly the need to renovate, tidy, paint etc. important areas around the community such as Millennium Steps and the boat in the lay-by.

Add to the October meeting – actions needed to encourage and increase the use of the football field to the rear of the Memorial Hall

IMPORTANT NOTE – IT WAS DECIDED TO BRING THE DECEMBER MEETING FORWARD BY ONE WEEK TO WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 5TH

The meeting closed at 6:29pm - the next meeting is to be held on WEDNESDAY September 12th at 7:30pm

Signed.....B Carson, Chairman, Bigbury Parish Council