

BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Bigbury Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel on WEDNESDAY February 12th 2020 at 7:30pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs: E Huntley (Chair), G Rosevear, S Smith, C Case, V Scott, S Watts, C. Cllr. R Gilbert and Clerk R Matthews. Twenty One residents were also in attendance.

1.0 Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

2.0 Apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence were received from D. Cllr. Taylor.

3.0 Minutes of previous meetings held on January 8th 2020

Cllr. Smith proposed the minutes be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Watts and all Councillors present at that meeting voted unanimously to accept the minutes. These were duly signed.

4.0 Matters arising from minutes of previous meeting held on January 8th 2020

Frequency of road sweeping – in D. Cllr. Taylor's absence this was deferred. However, Cllr. Watts commented that hedge cutting had been completed and was concerned about the time of day this took place (evening) and the amount of resultant debris left in the road, which was a potential cause of damage to vehicles. This topic was deferred until the arrival of C. Cllr Gilbert.

Stop signs for car park. Clerk confirmed this had been followed up with SHDC in the last week and an answer was awaited.

Maintenance jobs. Answer – Waiting better weather.

Repairs to damaged bridge at Dukes Mill had been completed and Cllr. Watts had written to Adam Keay (Highways) thanking him for this and the excellent quality of work undertaken.

Locality fund application (s) had been submitted although Cllr. Rosevear stated it was unlikely any funding would be offered for Neighbourhood Plan related activities.

Discussion with Cllr. Huntley regarding the proposed Internet Banking was required and this would be dealt with outside the meeting.

5.0 Casual vacancy - Councillor

Clerk was pleased to announce that Keely Holland had been appointed as a Councillor following an interview with other Councillors earlier in the evening. Ms. Holland read the Declaration of Office statement, duly signed same and was given a copy of the code of conduct, joining the meeting from this point forward as a Councillor. Clerk to advise SHDC and update council documents to reflect this change.

Action Clerk

Whilst dealing with changes to the members of the Council, Clerk took the opportunity to confirm his resignation, advising the process would commence to find a replacement.

Action Clerk

6.0 Finance

Clerk showed a statement of cash book movements over the past three months showing a balance of £31,966.64, which was reconciled back to the Parish bank account statements as at January 31st 2020.

After discounting both restricted and reserved funds the working balance was £18098.71

Clerk showed a statement of S106 cash held at SHDC and Cllr. Rosevear explained how this account was funded.

Clerk recommended the following payments were to be made:

£33.48	BT	Phone line and internet for Memorial Hall (direct debit)
£10.00	D Vanstone	Repairs to gate on footpath
£733.72	R Matthews	£540.00 salary and £193.72 office expense ending 31 st Dec 2019
£193.50	R Matthews	Paper procured for Bigbury News
£135.00	J Morris	Video creation for Neighbourhood plan project
£125.00	TGO Web	Upgrades and repairs to Parish lap top
£681.60	Nick Walker	Promotional brochures and banner for Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr. Rosevear proposed that the financial statement be accepted and that the payments set out above be paid. This was seconded by Cllr. Huntley and all councillors agreed.

7.0 Planning applications and related matters

0117/20/HHO The Nineteenth, Ringmore Drive, TQ7 4AU. Application for construction of vehicular hardstanding.

Resident A (owner) explained the rationale behind this application and after discussion Cllr. Smith proposed the Council declare No Objection. This was seconded by Cllr. Rosevear and agreed to by all Councillors.

0264/20/TPO The Paddock, Ringmore Drive, TQ7 4AU. Tree work

Cllr. Huntley had reviewed this on site and proposed No Objection be declared. This was seconded by Cllr. Scott and agreed to be all Councillors.

0024/20/HHO Lewin, Marine Drive, TQ7 4AS. Application for internal refurbishment and changes made to the external materials and fenestration.

Resident B (owner) explained the rationale behind this application. In discussion Cllr. Watts stated an objection had been lodged by a neighbour whose privacy would be compromised by this change, adding that this also seemed contrary to the 'Dark Skies Policy'. After further discussion Cllr.

Rosevear proposed Object be declared on the grounds that the privacy of adjacent property was compromised. This was seconded by Cllr. Scott and agreed to by other Councillors. Cllrs. Watts and Case abstained from the vote.

8.0 County Councillor's report

C. Cllr. Gilbert provided the following updates:

As a result of the changing of weather patterns DCC were investing an additional £1 million in drainage projects designed to reduce the volume of water on the roads.

The roadworks near Edmiston were ongoing and it had recently been identified that there was a need to probe much deeper into the ground to ensure a substantive repair. There was still no definitive completion Date.

National concessionary travel (bus passes) was costing the County £9.5 million p.a.

Public transport and keeping bus routes operational was costing the County £5.6 million p.a.

DCC owns 65 farms as an initiative to support both young and start up farmers.

As an update to the point raised by Cllr. Watts in paragraph 4 above, C. Cllr. Gilbert advised he was not aware of who undertook the hedge cutting and that it was the responsibility of the land owner to keep hedges trimmed.

Cllr. Case added it may be useful to talk to the local farmer about the issue.

9.0 Neighbourhood Plan

Jonathan Morris shared a video he had created as part of the promotional activity related to the Neighbourhood Plan and he was thanked for his support and hard work.

Cllr. Scott gave the following update on the Neighbourhood Plan referendum:

We now have a date for the referendum which is Thursday, 27th February 2020. Voting will take place in the Memorial Hall between 7am to 10pm. Anyone on the electoral register is able to vote and you can apply for postal votes or proxy votes if you unable to attend. Notices relating to this have been placed in the Holywell Stores with information also placed on the community website and in the Bigbury News.

We have prepared notices regarding the referendum which have been placed on all of the Parish Council Noticeboards. It has also been advertised in the Bigbury News, on Bigbury Drums and on the community website. A referendum banner is also being prepared.

A copy of the Referendum Version of the Bigbury Neighbourhood Plan has now been placed on the community website and hard copies of the plan are now available in the Holywell Stores for inspection purposes. All Parish Councillors and members of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group also have copies which people can borrow.

If more than 50% of those voting in the referendum vote 'yes' then the Neighbourhood Plan becomes part of the statutory plan for the area.

Resident C expressed concerns that residents in general were not aware they needed to vote if they had an objection to the plan (I.E. wanted a NO outcome). Cllr. Scott advised the process for voting and proxy voting had been both well and consistently advertised. Cllr. Watts commented this was an opportunity for all residents to have a say.

Resident D expressed concerns that individual properties had been photographed for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan document which was widely being circulated. This was an intrusion of privacy and had been done without permission of the property owners.

Cllr. Scott gave an explanation as to why this was done and Cllr. Huntley apologised to resident D, although Cllr. Rosevear added that Bigbury Parish Council acted in good faith in respect of this matter and were working within the protocol set out by South Hams District Council. Cllr. Case commented it was not possible to contact every owner of property listed as heritage.

Resident D concluded by stating he considered his privacy (and his family's) had been breached.

Cllr. Rosevear suggested this be discussed with SHDC.

Action Clerk

Cllr. Rosevear added the wider JLP set out parcels of land that were available for development and that the Neighbourhood Plan was the vehicle to ensure local communities through the Parish Council would have greater influence over the eventual outcome.

Resident E offered a vote of thanks to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee for the effort put in to develop the plan itself.

Resident F added that a yes vote in the referendum would give the Parish Council more power to influence local developments in the future.

10.0 AONB signage

Cllr. Watts confirmed the sign had now been installed and that positive comments had been made in respect of its location and message given about AONB.

11.0 Open session

Resident G was concerned about a development to change the lighting at Merrylees – SHDC reference 4139/19/ARC, requesting the Parish Council to consider objecting. Cllr. Scott advised that as a reserved matter the Parish Council have no influence and as such would not respond adding that residents could make individual representations to SHDC in respect of this.

Resident H asked if the Bay Café would be opening in time for the summer season. Cllr. Huntley thought it doubtful as more work was needed to complete the transformation and the owners had other financial priorities at this point in time.

12.0 Correspondence received

Heartbeat Community Trust had provided a contract to transfer ownership of the phone box on Ringmore Drive to the Parish Council – to be reviewed. **Action Cllr. Rosevear**

Ringmore Parish Council had raised the possibility of merging with Bigbury Parish Council but no formal approach had been received.

DCC provided a statement on drainage maintenance responsibilities.

13.0 Agenda Items for next meeting

VE day anniversary and Royal British Legion.

NOTE The supporting presentation is uploaded to the Parish Council section of the Bigbury Community website.

The meeting closed at 9:15pm.

The next meeting is to be held on **WEDNESDAY March 11th at 7:30pm**

Signed....., Bigbury Parish Council