

BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Bigbury Parish Council held on WEDNESDAY June 10th 2020 at 7:30pm. In accordance with Government advice and DALC guidance this meeting was held via video link (Zoom)

PRESENT: Cllrs: E Huntley (EH) (Chair), G Rosevear (GR), S Smith (SS), C Case (CC), V Scott (VS), S Watts (SW), K Holland (KH), C. Cllr. R Gilbert (RG), D. Cllr. B Taylor (BT), Clerk R Matthews (RM) and three members of the public.

1.0 Declaration of Interest

GR declared an interest in agenda item 9a – Herb Heaven. CC declared an interest in planning agenda items 9a – Cockleridge and 9b Fryer Tuck.
No further declarations of interest were noted at this point.

2.0 Apologies for absence:

No apologies received

3.0 Approval of Minutes of previous monthly meeting held on May 13th 2020

GR proposed these Minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record. SS seconded this proposal which was duly agreed to by all Councillors.

4.0 Matters arising from Minutes of previous meeting held on May 13th 2020 (matters not completed or covered as a topic in this agenda)

Disabled parking in proximity of Venus Café – BT confirmed he had contacted SHDC localities on this topic but had not yet received a response. Carry forward to next meeting. **Action EH**

5.0 Appointment of Parish Clerk

EH advised the meeting that interviews had taken place to find a replacement for the current Clerk (RM). EH was pleased to announce that the Councillors were unanimous in appointing Ian Bramble to this position and highlighted Ian's background and experience in Local Government as being a major contributory factor to his appointment. Ian will be in post from July 1st but will be supported by RM through to the end of September. All Councillors offered Ian best wishes for success in this role.

6.0 County Councillor's report

RG provided the following update: * DCC has been made a Beacon Council, one of only eleven in the country for community services during Covid-19, * Devon's economy has been badly hit by Covid-19 and things were not good before due to the Flybe and Appledore closures etc. * Recycling centres are now opening as normal with quite long waits at peak times. * Pot-hole defects are under 1000 in Devon which is the lowest for a long time. Good weather and less traffic has helped. * The government has given Devon Highways an extra £27M to help improve the network. This is on top of the £50M DCC budget for this year. * I have sent you various bits of information over the last month which I hope you've found helpful. * A huge well done to Stuart and all for getting the car park closed signs sorted. They could also be useful in the future..?

In response to a question from resident A, RG to check on status of road repairs at Edmiston.

Action RG

7.0 District Councillor's report

BT provided the following update: * SHDC were working towards building a new platform for 'the new normal', post Covid-19. * Solid levels of financial reserves are in place, however all capital expenditure had been placed on hold and the council needed to find ways of recovering lost income from leisure centre and car park closures. * Planning meetings (DMC) were due to start in July (virtual). * £37,000 had been paid to 180 businesses from SHDC Covid-19 support fund and twenty applications were being processed each day. * A new fund to support local shops had been established and £5,000 was available for large towns with a lower level of £2,500 for smaller towns such as Modbury. * A new Chief Executive had taken up his post at SHDC – Andy Bates. * Parking

permits were now being issued. * The toilets had re-opened at Bigbury-on-Sea. * A waste management meeting was scheduled for later this week and EH asked if three/four new waste bins could be placed around the beach area. **Action BT**

8.0 Finance – payments to be made and approval of financial statements

GR proposed the following payments be approved. This was seconded by SS and agreed to by all Councillors:

£33.48 British Telecom - line rental and broadband (direct debit)
£250.00 C Lane renovation work in St Lawrence burial ground
£250.00 S George renovation work in St Lawrence burial ground
£25.00 E Huntley – contribution towards high phone usage (community related) Covid-19 related (Minute 13)
£193.84 Community First – Public Liability Insurance
Council agreed to a three year commitment at a rate of £193.84 as opposed to an annual renewal of £204.04

The cash book for the period has been uploaded to the Bigbury Community website but RM confirmed the key numbers and indicators to be:
Cash book and bank statements reconciled at £35,929.53
Working surplus £18,861.44

9.0 Planning related matters

- a) 1224/20/HHO Cockleridge TQ7 4BA. Construction of deck and external seating area adjoining existing boathouse. Associated landscaping.

EH confirmed that four Parish Councillors had visited this site (socially-distancing) and that the changes proposed were well suited. EH proposed this application be supported but requested the following condition be put in place – no external lighting to be installed without prior discussion with the Parish Council and approval by the District Council. VS seconded this proposal which was supported by all Councillors.

- b) Fryer Tuck - Licencing application

VS confirmed the rationale behind this application was reduced food sales as a result of seating being occupied for excessive time periods by customers who bring their own drinks. VS proposed this application be supported and all Councillors agreed.

- c) Merrylees – update from owner

Owner was not able to join the meeting – therefore no update was offered.

- d) Herb Heaven

SW reminded the attendees that this fell within the remit of Aveton Gifford Parish Council but was of interest as it had a visual impact on Bigbury. GR confirmed discussions were taking place with the architects and that SHDC Enforcement Officers were involved.

- e) Crosstream

BT confirmed this was still live with the SHDC Enforcement Officers

- f) Neighbourhood Plan

VS provided the following brief update:

Neighbourhood Plan - The minor amendments to the Bigbury Neighbourhood Plan as reported to the last Parish Council meeting have been approved by South Hams District Council and copies of the plan have been sent to Patrick Whymer, Head of Planning, Cllr Judy Pearce, Leader of the Council and Cllr Julian Brazil, Chairman of Development Management Committee.

Community-led Housing Scheme - The Section 106 Agreement for the community-led (primarily affordable) housing scheme at St Ann's Chapel is still awaiting final agreement and signature by all parties.

Planning Applications - The first application to be submitted following the making of the Neighbourhood Plan is that relating to a new terrace at Cockleridge House (Ref: 1224/20/HHO). This included a Planning Statement which included relevant policies of the Joint Local Plan but failed to consider the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan.

10.0 Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) – Dog Control

RM confirmed that agenda items 10 and 12 were the same topic.

Councillors have reviewed the consultation document and considered its implications. Resident A also stated that she had submitted an objection.

The consultation document covers two topics and Parish Councillors support introduction of new order stating that a) dog walkers MUST carry dog bags or other containers to collect dog waste and b) restrict the number of dogs that can be walked to four at a time.

The consultation document also refers to changes in the hours to which the beach at Bigbury is closed to dogs. This is a relaxation of the current restriction allowing increased access.

BT confirmed that, as an economy, the Dog Warden role had been abolished by SHDC some time ago

Councillors voted to object to this change in the ratio of five to one.

Further discussion took place about the perceived inadequate signage advising dog owners of where and when they could exercise their animals but no conclusion was reached.

11.0 Police and Crime Commissioner – Councillor Advocate Scheme

GR proposed EH take on this role as she was already undertaking this task. EH agreed

12.0 Update on Bigbury Coronavirus Support Group (BCSG) activities

SW advised there was little to report by way of update. All volunteers had been invited to submit any out-of-pocket expenses to the Clerk for consideration and payment. No claims had been received, to date.

13.0 Allocation proposals for SHDC Covid-19 grant £495.00

GR proposed a sum of £25.00 be awarded to EH as a contribution towards the high phone charges incurred in dealing with community related Covid-19 activities. SS seconded this proposal and all Councillors agreed.

RM advised the balance left in this fund was now £141.70

SW suggested this outstanding sum be allocated towards the cost of a waste skip as households have experienced a significant build-up of waste during the lockdown. It was agreed to review this again in September.

14.0 VJ day celebrations

It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting.

15.0 Cllr. Rosevear – St Lawrence burial ground

It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting.

16.0 Bigbury News Funding

As a means of reducing cost RM suggested the Parish Council take over payment of the monthly licencing fees for Adobe software needed for the publication of Bigbury News. The annual cost equates to £600 and the resultant saving on VAT would be £100.

SS proposed this be adopted. GR seconded this proposal which was unanimously supported by all Councillors

Henry Wainwright (Bigbury News) thanked the Council for their ongoing support adding that generation of advertising revenue had been particularly challenging during lockdown.

RM advised that lockdown had brought challenges in paper deliver for Bigbury News as larger vehicles were banned from residential areas. GR and Jason Pheasant (Bigbury Golf Club) offered their premises as potential future delivery points.

17.0 Waste skip placement

It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting. See also item 13.0 above.

18.0 Open session

Resident A observed that parking lines at Sedgewell Slipway had still not been re-painted. RM raised concern in respect of liability insurance should the Council appoint a contractor locally. It was agreed that RM would contact RG to establish cost from DCC to undertake this task. **Action RM**

In response to a question from the public, EH confirmed that notices had been posted in respect of the closure of footpaths on Burgh Island.

19.0 Agenda items for next meeting

- VE/VJ day celebrations
- Waste skip placement
- St Lawrence burial ground
- Herb Heaven
- Crosstream
- Bigbury News
- Sedgewell Slipway parking
- Playpark

NOTE Supporting information 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 July 8th at 7:30pm**

Signed..... Bigbury Parish Council