

BICKLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

The Council Offices, The Woolwell Centre, Darklake Lane, Woolwell, PL6 7TR

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Minutes of a meeting of Bickleigh Parish Council held on Thursday 23rd November 2023 at 7.30pm at the Woolwell Centre, Darklake Lane, Woolwell

Present: Cllr Brian Hill (Chair), Cllr Paul Blight, Cllr Wendy Haymes, Cllr Nicky Hopwood, Cllr Geoff Pithouse, Cllr Lindy Scott, Cllr Lynn Tamsett-White, Cllr Jackie Taylor, Cllr Larry Taylor

In attendance: Two members of the public, District Cllr Chris Oram, and Mrs H Broughton (Clerk)

Open Forum

The Parish Council was thanked for laying a Remembrance Sunday wreath and for their letter of support requested by Woolwell in Bloom. It was asked if the Parish Council had made any response to the request for S106 funding for the Woolwell in Bloom Jubilee Path Project, the Chair replied that once information was received from the District Council, the PC would consider this and respond to the District Council directly.

A resident asked if there had been any substantial changes to the planning application for 2,000 new homes and what the Parish Council's role was in the consultation. The Chair advised that the Parish Council was consulted in the same way as members of the public and this was an item on the agenda for later discussion. Cllr Haymes also stated that the Parish Council had submitted original objections and will make further comments if there is anything new to be added. Sessions have been held at the Woolwell Centre for the public to view documents in hard copy and the Chair was able to make arrangements for the resident to view these tomorrow if he wished.

2023 152 **Apologies for absence:** there were none

2023 153 **Pecuniary and other interests:** Cllrs Haymes and Tamsett-White declared an interest in items relating to the Woolwell Centre.

2023 154 **Dispensations**

It was noted that a dispensation had been granted for Cllrs Haymes and Tamsett-White to speak on items relating to the Woolwell Centre.

2023 155 **Minutes**

- i. It was agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th October 2023 be signed by the Chair as a true record.
- ii. The Woolwell Centre Working Group minutes were noted.

2023 156 **County and District Councillors reports**

District Councillor Chris Oram reported on the following:

- Cost of living – various help available for residents in need, more information available via District Council website
- Update given on latest situation with waste collections now that all of South Hams on same system. Changes were made to collection days in some areas in order to better fit the crew schedules.

District Cllr Nicky Hopwood reported on the following:

- The Woolwell Centre had organised a very successful fireworks event with 1,500 people attending.
- The Christmas tree lights switch on was taking place on Friday 1st at 6pm.
- The Woolwell Community and Resident's meal was being held on Friday 8th December at 6pm.

The Chair requested that, if possible, a short written report be submitted before the meeting so that this could be circulated, Cllr Oram agreed to do this prior to future meetings.

2023 157 **Clerks Report**

The action list was noted and should be updated as follows:

- Cllr Hopwood reported that other solutions to a sleeve being fitted on the posts around Roborough Green were being considered. This was in hand.
- There is still a possibility that the PC owned bus shelters would be replaced by the District Council's contractor, so advertising would be further considered following this.
- Neighbourhood Plan meeting would be arranged in the New Year.

2023 158 **Finance and Administration**

- i. The bank reconciliations as at 31st October 2023 were noted.
- ii. Receipts and Payments as at 31st October 2023 were noted.
- iii. It was agreed that a date for a Finance Committee meeting be arranged by the Clerk in January.
- iv. It was noted that the Public Works Loan Board consultation has commenced, information is available on the PC website and at the Woolwell centre.
- v. An alternative project for use of the Green Fund grant was discussed. Cllr Hopwood had consulted the District Council who had advised that the fund had now lapsed. It was therefore suggested that the money be used to tidy up Roborough Village. Cllr Jackie Taylor asked if some of this money could be used to combat 'fly-tipping' which is taking place in the area of Bickleigh Down Road, near the business park. Cllr Oram stated that this was the responsibility of District Council and he would take this up with the Environmental Team for possible action. Cllr Hopwood is looking to have quotes done from contractors for the village clean-up and also suggested that we look at what Cornwood Parish Council has done recently, employing a lengthsman. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that Cllr Hopwood obtain quotations for weed clearance and tidying up of Roborough Village up to the cost of the allocated grant money.
- vi. It was agreed that the possibility of grant funding towards improvements at the play park beside the Woolwell Centre would be discussed at the next Finance Committee Mtg and any recommendations made to Council.

vii. The following payments were approved (*invoices sent electronically to Councillors*)

Pre-paid

SUPPLIER	DETAILS	TOTAL	VAT	NET
Royal British Legion	Remembrance Wreath	23.98	0	23.98
E&S Ltd	CCTV and lighting	648	108	540
Royal British Legion	Remembrance Wreath 2	23.98		23.98
Woolwell Centre	Room hire Sept Council	60	0	60
Woolwell Centre	Room hire Nov Council	60	0	60
Woolwell Centre	Room hire 15 Nov	36	0	36
Cutec	Monthly hosting fee	66	11	55

For approval

SUPPLIER	DETAILS	TOTAL	VAT	NET
H Broughton	Salary	906.09	0	906.09
South Hams DC	Emptying dog bins	93.60	15.60	78.00
Defib Warehouse	Defibrillator	1498.80	249.80	1249.00
Western Web	Website for PWLB	90.00	0	90.00

2023 159 Woolwell Centre

- i. The minutes of the Woolwell Centre Working Group had been circulated and Cllr Larry Taylor highlighted that the potential Public Works Loan Board expenditure was considered at the meeting. Key items could be completed but this would not include the air handling unit. Once the consultation was completed the matter of the application for a loan would be on the January agenda for approval. It was asked if an impact analysis on the Centre operations had been undertaken, this was discussed and agreed that the Parish Council would liaise with the Centre Manager and Trustees. The Chair raised the point that he felt that the windows to doors conversion in the main hall remain in the S106 project scope, this was discussed briefly and agreed.
- ii. Cllr Blight was discussing the ongoing main hall lighting issues (defective lighting controller) at the Woolwell Centre with a contractor and a quotation would be obtained. Other improvements to the general lighting in the main hall would also be investigated and discussed further at a later date.

- iii. The Centre Manager and Clerk had requested quotations for a new porch at the Centre however only two contractors had responded. As these were contractors who had previously undertaken works it was agreed to suspend standing orders to enable two quotations only to be obtained. It was agreed to give the Clerk delegated authority to appoint a contractor once two quotations had been received, in consultation with councillors.

2023 160 **Planning**

- i. The following responses were agreed to planning applications:

4185/19/OPA - Part of the Land at Woolwell JLP Allocation (Policy PLY44).

READVERTISEMENT (revised plans) Outline application for provision of up to 1,640 new dwellings; up to 1,200 sqm of commercial, retail and community floorspace (A1-A5, D1 and D2 uses); a new primary school; areas of public open space including a community park; new sport and playing facilities; new access points and vehicular, cycle and pedestrian links; strategic landscaping and attenuation basins; a primary substation and other associated site infrastructure. All matters reserved except for access. **Issues with construction traffic going through Woolwell and affordable housing were raised. It was agreed that Cllr Haymes draft an objection for the Clerk to submit by the end of the month.**

4181/19/OPA - Land off Towerfield Drive. READVERTISEMENT (revised plans & description of development) Outline application for up to 360 dwellings, associated landscaping and site infrastructure. All matters reserved except for new access points from Towerfield Drive and Pick Pie Drive. **The same objection would apply as that made to application 4185/19/OPA.**

2023 161 **South Hams Corporate Strategy**

It was agreed not to make a response to the South Hams Corporate Strategy.

2023 162 **Neighbourhood Plan Standing Item:** There was nothing further to discuss.

2023 163 **Roborough Village Hall:** Cllr Pithouse gave an update from the most recent meeting he attended, the MoM will be circulated to councillors when available.

2023 164 **Correspondence received**

Correspondence had been received requesting that the Woolwell Centre security lights be switched on when users exited functions held at the Woolwell Centre. It was agreed that this was a Woolwell Centre matter and the resident should be advised to speak to the Centre Manager. Wayfinding lighting was suggested and Cllr Haymes agreed to draft a lighting policy. Cllr Blight advised of an external lighting specialist who might assist with the policy free of charge.

2023 165 The **date of the next meeting** was noted as 25th January 2024

2023 166 It was agreed **to exclude the press and public** due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

2023 167 **Staff Matters**

- i. It was noted the national pay awards have been agreed and that a £1 per hour increase would be applied to the Clerks salary, backdated to 1st April 2023, as per her contract.
- ii. It was agreed that a Parish Council pension contribution of 5% of the Clerks gross salary be paid monthly into a NEST pension scheme.

The meeting closed: at 9.25pm