

Minutes of a Meeting of Bickleigh Parish Council held on Thursday 25th September 2014 at The Woolwell Centre

PRESENT:- Councillors P W Hitchins, Mrs C Bruce-Spencer, Mrs L Crowe, C Ellis,
R Goddard, Mrs C Lane

ALSO PRESENT:- Mrs M Small, Clerk to the Parish Council

APOLOGIES:- Councillor M Blake
County Councillor J Hart (in hospital)

8589 COUNCIL VACANCIES

It was noted that Barrie Spencer and Roger Ivey had resigned from the Parish Council. Notices have been put up asking electors if the vacancies should be filled by election or co-option.

8590 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

(Councillor Mrs Bruce-Spencer took the Chair for this item)

It was unanimously **AGREED** that Councillor Hitchins be elected Chairman for the remainder of the ensuing year.

8591 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was unanimously **AGREED** that Councillor Mrs Lane be elected Vice-Chairman for the remainder of the ensuing year.

OPEN FORUM

(a) Mr Silverwood from the Tamerton Foliot Village Conservation Society and Friends of Tamerton Field asked the Parish Council to note that the proposed development of 66 dwellings at the junction of Allern Lane and Whitsoncross Lane, Tamerton Foliot will:-

- have a severe impact on the traffic passing through the village, which is a Conservation Area;
- generate further traffic in the lanes to Roborough
- require school places which have not been provided
- affect the skyline of Bickleigh Parish
- create a precedent for infill of sides of Coombe Valley with further housing and may affect run-off and sewerage in the adjacent lanes.

Mr Silverwood asked if the Parish Council would represent these objections to the District Council as a matter of joint concern with Tamerton Foliot.

(b) Mr Lane reported on the Our Plan workshop held at Follaton House on the 19th September. The site information pack for Bickleigh includes Woolwell, Roborough and Tamerton Foliot land availability assessment. One site adjoins the site at Allern Lane. The Parish Council need to respond to the sites in this document by the 3rd October.

Mr Lane also reported that he had attended a meeting to hear the views of the Tamerton Foliot Village Conservation Society.

- (c) It was reported that the grass cutting of Roborough Green and the grass by the old oak in the village was the poorest it had been. It was **AGREED** to look at this.
- (d) Bitter disappointment was expressed that the Parish Council had not responded to the 'Our Plan' document and urgent that they now do so. It was **AGREED** to consider this at the end of the meeting.
- (e) A request was made that the Parish Council consider holding alternate meetings at Roborough Recreation Hall. It was **AGREED** that this will be discussed.
- (f) The Clerk was asked why the June minutes are still in draft form. The Clerk stated that they had not been put to the Parish Council as there was problem with the content but that they were being presented for signing at this meeting.
- (g) It was reported that after football matches a lot of litter is left which children then pick up and there is much bad language. It was **AGREED** that the Chairman will speak with the Football Club.
- (h) The poor condition of Woolwell Road from School Drive to Pick Pie Drive was raised. It was **AGREED** to liaise with Highways and the Police.

POLICE REPORT

There was no report.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Councillor Hitchins reported that the proposed name for the new electoral ward was being contested by Shaugh Parish Council as their name was not included. The matter has not yet been resolved.

The District Council's office re-organisation is going ahead at a pace. Their web site has had a few problems. They are investigating working with Torridge District as well as West Devon. At a meeting next week there is a motion to contact the Secretary of State for Transport to see investment in road and rail services.

Sovereign Housing is pulling out of Devon in December.

South Hams had offered the job of Executive Director (Strategy and Commissioning) and Head of Paid Services to Tracy Windsor but she had not accepted and therefore the position has to be re-advertised.

South Hams and Plymouth City have no objection to the proposed development at Allern Lane at the moment.

Councillor Hitchins reported that the Federation of Small Businesses had highlighted that by 2018, South Hams would be one of the most prosperous areas in Devon.

Councillor Hitchins concluded by thanking everyone for their numerous best wishes during his recent illness.

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

There was no report.

8592 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Lane declared a personal interest in Minute No. 8596(b) as a Trustee of Roborough Recreation Hall

Councillor Mrs Bruce-Spencer declared a personal interest in Minute No.8596(a) as a Trustee of The Woolwell Centre.

Councillor Hitchins declared a personal interest in the proposed development at Allern Lane as he had attended the Open Day with objectors held in Tamerton.

8593 MINUTES

It was unanimously **AGREED** that the Minutes of the meetings held on the 26th June and 24th July 2014 are signed as a correct record.

8594 MATTERS ARISING

Open Forum (May) The walkway and steps opposite the green in Village Drive to the A.386 has been cut back.

Open Forum (May) The grass on the pavement from the Gas Station to the Dartmoor Diner has not been cut and the Parish Council will keep pressing for this as and when the opportunity arises.

Minute 8307(b) Councillor Ellis reported that the gritter is now stored at Darklake Farm. Ugborough Parish Council has already purchased a gritter.

Minute 8514 Councillor Hitchins will speak with Gary Streeter MP to find out what happened at the meeting with Plymouth City Council regarding lane priorities.

Minute 8550 It was **AGREED** not to proceed with the beating of the bounds but to discuss further, possibly walking the footpaths in the Parish.

Minute 8576(d) The Clerk reported that the tree on Roborough Green had been trimmed at a cost of £250 and Mr Mait was making a contribution.

Minute 8586 The Clerk reported that £6,300 had been received for neighbourhood planning and will check to see if any had been withheld as £7,000 was expected. The second application for grant had been refused as it was considered that the Plan would not be complete before the end of the year, when the Fund was closing. It is anticipated that a new Fund will open in April 2015.

Minute 8587© It was **AGREED** to ask Highways if they could put up a caution concealed access sign to regularise the sign currently erected at the Old School Cottages.

8595 **PLANNING**

(a) **Consideration of applications, as follows:-**

Bumblebees had requested work to be undertaken to a tree on their property. It was **AGREED** to RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

(b) **Decisions taken by District Council**

Approved

- 04/1608/14/F 9 Tavistock Road, PL6 7BB – conversion and extension of attached store to form residential dwelling
- 04/1568/14/F 1 Maple Way, Woolwell, PL6 7SS – First floor extension over existing garage
- 04/1713/14/F 10 Jump Close, Woolwell – Single storey extension to side and rear
- 04/0943/14/F Field at SX 507 620 Bickleigh Down Road, Roborough – retrospective application for approval of use of field for equestrian use and erection of stable block
- 04/1808/14/F 8 Skylark Rise, Woolwell – two storey extension
- 04/1924/14/F 39 Tramway Road, Woolwell PL6 7TP – Retrospective application for erection of conservatory to rear
- 04/1772/14/DC4 Land adjoining Woolwell Community Centre - Installation of 4 lighting columns with post-top lanterns

8596 **REPORTS**

(a) **The Woolwell Centre**

Councillor Mrs Bruce-Spencer reported that a Trustee of the Woolwell Centre had suggested a local business awards event. Nominations were received and independently judged. It was a very successful event which raised the profile of the Centre with over 100 attending.

Two large functions were held in July with positive feedback. Two Inflata days were held during the summer holidays with excellent attendance. In August 80% of regular bookings were suspended for the summer holidays. This left the Centre with a cash flow challenge. As a consequence, staff hours were slashed. It will take several months to get back on course but Trustees are working on a business plan with projected cash flow. Future bookings are looking good with six new hirers and bookings for 2015 are coming in. The first live music event will be held in October. Bookings are good in the run up to Christmas but they fall off again after Christmas.

Fire proofing work has been completed and all fire doors replaced on the first floor.

(b) **Roborough Recreation Hall**

Councillor Mrs Lane reported that at the last Committee meeting it was noted that efforts to raise funding had resulted in £11,300 being donated, which included a private donor, County Councillor Hart and Plym Valley Lions.

Works associated with the Fire Risk Assessment and visits from Environmental Health and Health and Safety Officers from the District Council have been specified and prices sought. This work has been ordered and should be completed by the end of September. Other work which the Committee would like to order include new front doors, new flooring to the toilets and porch and to sand and seal the Hall floor. A start has been made to redecorate the wall panels in the hall to brighten up the venue.

The Committee is now starting to look at the Sports Pavilion to raise standards for the players.

Bookings are still constant and after the last successful Table Top sale, more are planned.

The outstanding utility bills have now been paid and the energy usage is being strictly controlled and monitored.

8597 FINANCE

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|-----------------------------|----------|---------------------------|
| Roborough Methodist Church | 40.00 | Signpost Advertisement |
| U3A | 40.00 | Signpost Advertisement |
| Sanctuary Housing | 40.00 | Signpost Advertisement |
| Co-op | 15.42 | Interest July |
| Co-op | 15.83 | Interest August |
| Community Development Fund | 6300.00 | Grant: Neighbourhood Plan |
| Co-op | 15.25 | Interest September |
| Viewme | 280.00 | Signpost Advertisement |
| South Hams District Council | 39851.00 | Precept/Grant |

Payments

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|------------------------|---------|--------|--------------------------|
| M H Crowe | 121.67 | | Office furniture etc |
| Plant Tech | 300.00 | 250.00 | Grass – Roborough Green |
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| Staff | 358.00 | | Salary |
| HMRC | 89.40 | | Tax |
| Appleby Westward | 589.20 | 491.00 | Printing Signpost |
| Security Management SW | 38.55 | 32.13 | Key holding July – Sept |
| Security Management SW | 60.00 | 50.00 | Key Holding response x 2 |
| RBS Ltd | 130.80 | 109.00 | Software maintenance |
| B Spencer | 46.72 | | E-Hosting |
| Harveyson | 300.00 | 250.00 | Tree – Roborough Green |
| Plant Tech | 300.00 | 250.00 | Grass – Roborough Green |
| P A Weston | 3000.00 | | Neighbourhood Plan |
| B Spencer | 23.36 | | E-Hosting |
| Staff | 357.80 | | Salary |
| HMRC | 89.60 | | Tax |
| ASG Security | 94.86 | 79.05 | Contacts on new doors |

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|--------------------------|--------|--------|-------------------------|
| Plant Tech | 300.00 | 250.00 | Grass – Roborough Green |
| Future Cooling Solutions | 34.49 | 28.74 | Cold water tap |

8598 CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) It was noted that Dartmoor National Park has funding available for community groups and Parish Councils to support innovative projects that have environmental, social and economic benefits.
- (b) A letter was reported from the District Council indicating that they propose a reduction in grant funding for 2015/16 in relation to the allocation of Council Tax Support Grant which Towns and Parishes receive.

8599 CHAIRMAN'S TIME

- (a) Councillor Mrs Crowe reported that the next edition of Signpost magazine is ready; there are three new advertisers.
- (b) Councillor Mrs Crowe stated that the re-cycling bags are now very thin. It was **AGREED** to write to Helen Dobby at the District reporting that the quality of the bags are not as they should be.
- (c) It was **AGREED** to write to the Maristow Estate regarding the trees on Bickleigh Green to ask if they could they look at the spread of the trees as they are now very big.
- (d) It was **AGREED** to ask Mr Eggins to cut the hedges on Roborough Green.
- (e) Councillor Mrs Lane reported that goal posts are being given for Roborough Playing Field and the Marines are running from the Camp to the Playing Fields carrying the new posts.
- (f) It was **AGREED** to respond to the Our Plan consultation by 3rd October.
- (g) It was **AGREED** that following the request by the Tamarton Foliot Conservation Association, the Parish Council wait until the planning application is received for consultation before commenting on the proposed housing at Allern Lane.

8600 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

As several Councillors were unable to attend the meeting, it was **AGREED** that the date is changed to the 30th October.

Meeting on 27th November to be held at Roborough Recreation Hall