

Minutes of a Meeting of Bickleigh Parish Council held on Thursday 27th February 2014 at 7.30 pm at the Woolwell Centre

PRESENT:- Councillor B Spencer (Chairman)
Councillors Mrs C Bruce-Spencer, Mrs L Crowe, C Ellis, R Goddard,
P W Hitchins, R Ivey

ALSO PRESENT:- Mrs M Small (Clerk)

APOLOGY: Councillor E Dobinson, Councillor County Councillor J Hart,
PC Tamsyn Dingley

OPEN FORUM

(a) The issue of the new road markings on the slip road from Woolwell and the roundabout on the A386 was raised, as there is no longer a dedicated lane from Woolwell onto the roundabout. Councillor Ivey explained that meetings have been held and it would appear that the design was approved in 2008 as part of the Taylor Wimpey planning application. A meeting has been arranged with Gary Streeter MP, Plymouth City Council and Amey in March to discuss the situation further.

(b) Mrs Barnes stated that she was disappointed to learn that the Roborough Recreation Hall will close tomorrow. She asked why the Trustees had not asked the Parish Council to help before the Hall was closed. A report on the Hall is given to the Parish Council every month but no mention of the situation has been reported. She also asked why the Parish Council has not called an emergency or public meeting to see the way forward.

Councillor Goddard replied that it was a tough decision for the Trustees to make but users of the Hall have dropped off and it was the farm shop income which kept it going. Utility bills have increased dramatically.

(c) Mr Huitson stated that it is the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I this year and suggested that to commemorate this, poppies could be grown on the verges and the School could be involved. He had details of where the poppy seed could be purchased and another resident had some poppy seeds also. This will be discussed in Council.

POLICE REPORT

Crimes in the last month have been theft from a vehicle in Churchlands; burglary in Pinewood Drive – enquiries are ongoing - it is a complex investigation and possibly it is part of a series all over Plymouth; vehicle stopped by Police in Hawthorn Close – driver in possession of cannabis and given cannabis warning; criminal damage at School Drive – Restoration Justice disposal; taking a vehicle without consent at Blackeven Hill – full investigation by CID – no lines of enquiry; Public order offence at Bowers Park still under investigation.

There are four potential new volunteers for Community Speedwatch – 2 from Roborough and 2 from Woolwell. The speed watch volunteers in Bickleigh have been out recently gathering data. The high speeds indicated that the enforcing speed gun is needed and start to issue tickets to drivers. The Crime Prevention Officer and PC Dingley spoke to the One Stop, Hairotica and Papa Johns regarding problems with youth. It is now for the owners/managers to decide if they want CCTV to be installed.

PC Dingley's area has increased in size and therefore there is a need to decrease the amount of Police surgeries in Woolwell. Therefore the Woolwell surgeries will now be once a month.

Any Councillor willing to help out with Cop Cards is urged to contact PC Dingley.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Councillor Mrs Bruce-Spencer reported that the Independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England has published its final recommendations on the future electoral arrangements for South Hams District Council, which are that there should be 31 Councillors representing 11 single member wards, 7 two-member wards and two three-member wards. The Commission did not accept the proposed name for the Bickleigh, Shaugh and Cornwood ward, but they propose the name to be Bickleigh and Cornwood. Woolwell will be a separate ward. There will now be further consultation until 4th June on the new warding patterns

A small increase in council tax of 5 pence per week (£2.71p a year) for the average home has been agreed in order to protect frontline services. The District Council has a budget gap of just over £580,000 for 2014-15 following a cut in grant from central government. It faces a further reduction in funding the following year. They agreed to raise its portion of the council tax by 1.9% increasing the cost of an average Band D property to £145.42.

Former Council Chairman and representative of the Salcombe and Marlborough ward John Carter sadly died at his home from a short illness.

South Hams residents are being warned to watch out for a potential email scam which appears to offer a tax rebate.

Councillor Hitchins reported that there are proposed changes to permitted development rights. The National Park is concerned as this will mean that changes to barns would no longer need permission and they are pressing for an amendment.

Network Rail's proposal to open the Okehampton rail line is under discussion with the National Park.

Huckworthy Mill Regeneration Scheme at Yelverton has now gone through.

Dartmoor National Park has been invited to host the Parks Conference in 2015.

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

There was no report.

8511 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations were made:-

Councillors Spencer and Mrs Bruce-Spencer:- personal interest in Minute No.8515(a) as Trustees of the Woolwell Centre.

Councillor Spencer declared a personal interest in Planning Application 04/0357/14/F 56 Woodend Road, as the applicant is known to him.

8512 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd January 2014 were confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to deleting “had” in the first line of page 1413.

8513 MATTERS ARISING

Minute No. 8393(b) The rubbish near the footbridge over A386 has still not been removed. The Clerk has reported this again

Minute No.8307(b) Councillor Ivey proposed that the Council accept that they have tried to resolve the issue of someone willing to tow the gritter but as there were no volunteers, the Council should sell the gritter. It was **AGREED** by 4 in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention that the gritter is sold, subject to consultation with County Councillor Hart as it was purchased with a grant.

Resignation The District Council has confirmed that there had been no request to fill the Councillor vacancy by election. Therefore, a notice of co-option will be put on the Council’s web page. Also, the Clerk had arranged for a notice to be sent out with the Woolwell Centre leaflet. It was **AGREED**

- (i) to endorse the cost of £25 for delivery
- (ii) the notices are delivered to the outlying areas also.

8514 WOOLWELL TRAFFIC LANE PRIORITIES

Councillor Ivey proposed that the bus lane on the slip road from Woolwell is removed and is put into two lanes of traffic and a letter is sent to Plymouth City Transport accordingly. It was **AGREED** to wait until after the meeting with Gary Streeter MP before sending a letter to Plymouth City Transport, which has been approved by the MP.

8515 ROBOROUGH RECREATION HALL

After much discussion, it was **AGREED:-**

- (i) to hold a public meeting to see if new Trustees could be found.

- (ii) Mrs Barnes to telephone existing hirers to see if they would be returning to the Hall if it was kept open.
- (iii) Mr Lane will draft a leaflet to go to all households from the Parish Council
- (iv) the Woolwell Centre to be asked to delay their delivery so that the leaflet can be delivered by them.
- (v) the Parish Council to pay the £25 delivery charge

(Councillor Hitchins left the meeting)

8516 PLANNING

(It was noted that Councillor Mrs Bruce-Spencer took no part in the discussion or voting on planning as she will be considering the applications as a District Councillor)

(a) **Planning Applications for consideration:-**

04/0357/14/F Erection of rear conservatory, **56 Woodend Road, PL6 7RQ**
It was **AGREED** by **4** in favour with **2** abstentions
(Councillors **Spencer, Mrs Bruce-Spencer**) to
RECOMMEND APPROVAL, subject to no neighbour
objection.

04/0371/14/F Two-storey side extension, **Dovecote Cottage, Maristow
PL6 7BZ** It was **AGREED** to RECOMMEND APPROVAL

04/0372/14/LB Listed Bldg consent for two-storey extension, **Dovecote House,
Maristow, PL6 7BZ** It was **AGREED** to RECOMMEND
APPROVAL

04/0284/14/F Demolition and replacement bathroom to include removal of
chimney, **North Lodge, Roborough, PL6 7BH** It was
AGREED to RECOMMEND APPROVAL

04/0285/14/F Listed Bldg consent for demolition and replacement bathroom
to include removal of chimney, **North Lodge, Roborough,
PL6 7BH** It was **AGREED** to RECOMMEND APPROVAL

8517 GRASS CUTTING

Four tenders had been received and the Parish Council had met three of the tenderers to clarify their tenders.

It was **AGREED:-**

- (i) that the grass cutting contract is awarded to Plymouth City Council for one year subject to sorting out the detail.
- (ii) the Parish Council pay for an additional cut in March 2014.

8518 COUNCIL ACCOMMODATION

Councillor Goddard produced a report on possible accommodation at The Woolwell Centre for the Clerk and Council. It was **AGREED** that this is referred to the

Property Working Group for consideration and that the Clerk forwards a copy to Councillors.

8519 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

In view of the time, it was unanimously **AGREED** to adjourn the meeting at 10.30pm and the remaining business is taken at a meeting on Monday 3rd March at 7.30pm

Re-convened Meeting held on Monday 3rd March 2014 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillors B Spencer (Chairman), Mrs C Bruce-Spencer, Mrs L Crowe, R Ivey, PW Hitchins

8520 PLANNING

Decisions taken by District Council:

Withdrawn

04/3059/13/F The Cottage, Bickleigh Down Road, PL6 7AB – side extension to form garage with bedroom over

04/3037/13/F Retrospective application for change of use of field to equestrian use and erection of stable building, and proposed erection of new stable and tack room, field at SX 507 620, Bickleigh Down Road, Roborough

Approved

04/2766/13/F Retrospective application for PVCu conservatory to rear of existing dwelling, 20 Campion View, PL6 7TA

04/2576/13/F Replacement of timber framed doors and windows with UPVc framed doors and windows, 2 Spring Park PL6 7SL

04/3073/13/TW Bickleigh Down C of E Primary School, School Drive, Woolwell, PL6 7JW. Fell English Oak due to root defect. Replant an oak in same position

Refused

04/3005/13/F New detached dwelling, land to east of Old School House Cottages, New Road, Bickleigh, PL6 7AG

8521 REPORTS

The Woolwell Centre

The recruitment of new Trustees is an on-going process. If Councillors know of anyone who might be interested in becoming a Trustee they should ask them to contact Councillor Mrs Bruce-Spencer or obtain an application pack from The Woolwell Centre.

The Trustees have agreed to take on the following roles with a view to securing potential additional income:

- Local business Community Sponsorship, Advertising etc. (James Peterson)
- Local Community Fundraising, Membership, Reward Schemes (Ali Bishop)
- Grants (Charlie Huitson)

The Woolwell Centre has endeavoured to accommodate hirers following the announcement of the closure of the 'Roborough Recreation Hall'. February weekends have been quieter but are still heavily subscribed in respect of daytime bookings. In March there is a 30th birthday party with 200 guests as well as an end of school prom / birthday parties for the same family. Another ballet school has booked for a show and one of the current ballet users is extending into a tap workshop. Several new party packages have been developed for hirers. 'Inflata-days' were piloted during the February half-term holiday with 2 nights after school play.

The BACS process has been agreed with a dedicated Trustee (James Peterson) authorising the Payroll list, checking payments made against bank statements and checking a random minimum selection of 20% of the invoices per month for audit purposes. They are awaiting confirmation of acceptance for Retail Merchant Services (Card facilities)

The outer front door became detached twice as a result of the stormy weather and has now been mended although the original contractors refused to rectify the problem. The Parish Council is going to contact the contractor with the view to resolving the situation or providing a full refund.

8522 WORKING GROUPS

- (a) Councillor Mrs Crowe reported that the next newsletter is full. There are four new advertisements this month. A reply is still awaited from Tesco. The deadline for the next newsletter is 16th May.
- (b) The Property Working Group met on the 11th February and made the following recommendations to Council:-
 - (i) the quotation of Universal for internal emergency lighting is accepted in the sum of £1091.20p plus annual maintenance at £120.
 - (ii) the service contract with Future Cooling Solutions is renewed at the reduced price of £1265 + VAT
 - (iii) the contracts for the maintenance of the fire and alarm systems are renewed with ASG and they are advised that the Council will be reviewing the tender with effect from the next annual renewal date and they will be invited to tender.

It was unanimously **AGREED** that the above recommendations are endorsed.

(Councillors Spencer and Mrs Bruce-Spencer abstained from voting having declared a personal interest)

- (iv) The Clerk reported that a quotation for a tree survey has been obtained and a second quotation is awaited. In view of the concerns with one tree, it was **AGREED** that delegated authority is given to the Chairman and the Clerk to accept a tender.

- (v) the date of the next meeting was changed to Wednesday 26th March at 8.30am and the meeting will be a combined Property and Finance Working Group.
- (c) The Finance Working Group had met on the 12th February 2014. There were no recommendations to Council.
- (d) The next meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group will be on the 18th March. Questionnaires have been issued and collecting boxes for return of the forms have been placed around the Parish.
- (e) The scheduled meeting regarding youth between Councillor Spencer, PC Dingley and the Centre Manager was postponed.

8523 FINANCE

- (a) The January print-out will be considered at the next Finance Working Group.
- (b) Receipts and Payments

The following receipts and payments were noted:-

Receipts

MOT Garage	300.00	Signpost Advert
T Crocker	65.00	Signpost Advert
Roborough Methodist Ch	25.00	Signpost Advert
WI	65.00	Signpost Advert
Co-op Bank	14.05	Interest

Payments

It was **NOTED** that the following payments have been made:-

	£	p	Excl.	
Mrs M Small	357.80			Jan Salary
HMRC	89.60			Tax
Security Management SW	37.45	31.21		Key holding service
Investec Asset Finance	74.32	61.93		Copier
Fleet Line Markers	386.36	321.97		Line marker
ASG	342.86	285.71		Intruder/Fire Alarm Maint
ASG	117.24	97.70		Service Alarm call-out
Appleby Westwood	456.00	380.00		Printing Signpost
The Woolwell Centre	50.00			Office and room hire
The Woolwell Centre	1480.00			Grant
The Woolwell Centre	125.00			Companies House
The Woolwell Centre	25.00			Delivery of magazine
O2	30.96			Mobile January
O2	30.96			Mobile February

- (c) The Clerk reported that it was not possible to proceed with additional signatories as one Councillor did not agree to the release of personal information and the second Councillor had now resigned. It was **AGREED** that there is no change in signatories.
- (d) The proposal to plant poppy seeds was approved and a budget up to £100 was **AGREED** and to seek permission from the County and District Councils, also to involve the School and Bickleigh Camp.

8524 CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

8525 CHAIRMAN'S TIME

- (a) A reminder letter to be sent to the County Council regarding the triangular sign outside Old Schoolhouse Cottages.
- (b) The County Council to be asked if the signs appearing on the banks at the side of the A.386 can be removed.
- (c) The sign for the medical centre at the entrance to School Drive has totally come down now. It will be reported again to the County Council.
- (d) Councillor Spencer thanked the District Council for their prompt action in removing fly tipping.

8526 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 27th March 2014 at 7.30 pm