

Minutes of a Meeting of Bickleigh Parish Council held on Thursday 23rd July 2015 at The Woolwell Centre at 7.30 pm

PRESENT:- Councillors P W Hitchins (Chairman), Mrs I Andrew, M Blake, Mrs L Crowe, C Ellis, Mrs C Lane, Mrs D Owen, Mrs S Lusk, F Turner

ALSO PRESENT:- Councillor Mrs N Barnes
County Councillor J Hart
Mrs M Small, Clerk to the Parish Council

APOLOGIES:- PC Tamsyn Dingley, PCSO Jim Brokensha

The Clerk reported that Councillor Mrs Owen had signed the declaration of interest forms.

OPEN FORUM

- (a) An issue was raised regarding the tree belt between The Heathers and Long Park Drive. The sycamore and ash are now 50 – 60 feet high. It was also asked if the District Council had insurance cover for the tree belts. Councillor Mrs Barnes reported that she had visited the tree belts with Tim Pollard from the District Council and he has taken note and needs to put a management plan in place.
- (b) It is reported that there will be no buses to Woolwell in September. County Councillor Hart stated that First is giving up and Stage Coach is taking over. Devon County Council Officers are to analyse a package to see what can be done. Councillor Hart emphasised that if people do not use the service, it may be lost in the future.
- (c) Mr Goddard enquired about the lighting in the park. The Clerk reported that there was no trace of the first application but a second application will now be submitted.
- (d) A Hawthorn tree is overhanging the footpath by the bus stop in Woolwell Road
- (e) There are a lot of problems caused by deer on Woolwell, It was **AGREED** that a letter is sent to the Forestry Commission and the Deer Control Group to enquire if they have a solution to the problem.

POLICE REPORT

There was no report.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Councillor Mrs Barnes reported that administration at the District Council had changed significantly since her last term of office and she found the new way of working complicated. Each group of Parishes has a Locality Officer – Tim Pollard being the Officer for Bickleigh Parish. She has visited the tree belts on Woolwell with Mr Pollard and it is understood that there will be a management plan. Dog bins are not being emptied often enough. The grass cutting is good but there are lots of weeds in the gutters. As this is a County matter, Councillor Hart had stated that if the Parish Council obtained a price for spraying weeds, he would give some money towards this, including Roborough and Bickleigh villages.

Councillor Hitchins reported that over 140 staff at Follaton House have gone and the new staff are settling in. A discussion has been held with West Devon regarding leisure provision and this will be going out to tender for a 25 year period.

There is an event on Monday morning for Town and Parish Councils, which Councillor Turner is attending.

In the National Park, an excavation is taking place at North Hall Manor, Widdecombe and a lot of remains have been found. The National Park has been advised to look at 20% - 40% cuts in budget.

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

County Councillor Hart reported that over the last 4 – 5 years, County Council spending has been reduced by £10m. Next year there will be a further cut of £30m. The increase in the minimum wage will mean an increase of £6.4m and this will have an impact on services. Residential Homes are now completely empty but the County is still looking after a number of people in private homes for half the price and thereby saving £10m a year. There will be a reorganisation of children’s centres, libraries, buses and the youth service.

The question of spraying was raised and Councillor Hart stated that the Parish Council should speak with Nick Colton. Reference was also made to the fact that residents in the Parish can no longer take re-cycling to Chelson Meadow or Weston Mill. County Councillor Hart stated that a new re-cycling centre is to be built in Ivybridge.

8681 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Hitchins and Mrs Lane declared an interest in Minute No.8685(b) Roborough Recreation Hall as they are Trustees. Councillor Hitchins also declared an interest in discussions on the Neighbourhood Plan as a land owner.

8682 MINUTES

It was unanimously **AGREED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 25th June 2015 were signed as a correct record, subject to:

Deleting the name of Councillor Turner from the attendance list and adding it to the apology list.

In the last line of the 3rd paragraph of the Police Report, change “stall” to “staff”
Minute No. 8660(d) of Matters Arising – add “board” after “notice”

8683 MATTERS ARISING

8660 (b) The rope on the tree in the plot on Roborough Green has been removed.

8660(d) The Clerk reported on the cost of a free standing notice board for School Drive and it was **AGREED** that a notice board of man-made timber is purchased capable of taking 6 pieces of A4, with posts and header at a cost of £804.749 plus VAT.

8678(b) The use of the telephone box in Bickeigh was considered and because of the number of people passing through the village on foot, it was **AGREED** that it is used as a tourist information point where community leaflets could be kept. Councillors Mrs Lane and Mrs Crowe will keep the box updated with leaflets.

8679(a) The Clerk reported that she had met with Garry Hunt of Sonic Digital Communications regarding a re-designed web site. She had raised the issue of e-mail accounts, maintenance of the web and the Signpost magazine, all of which he could undertake, and a quotation was awaited.

8679(c) A response was awaited regarding the flashing 30 mph sign at Bickleigh

8679(g) Councillor Ellis stated that he could attend Snow Warden Training in the autumn.

8684 PLANNING

(Councillor Hitchins took no part in the discussion or voting on planning applications as he will consider these as a Member of the District Council)

(a) Consideration of application, as follows:-

04/1532/15/LB Listed Building Consent for repair and restoration works including new roof, windows and doors to former slaughterhouse with stone wall repairs. Reconstruction of upper part of chimney stack, **Ashleigh Farm, Peter Hopper's Hill, Tamerton Foliot, PL5 4LH. It was AGREED to RECOMMEND APPROVAL.**

(b) Decisions taken by County Council

04/1131/15/VAR **Water Treatment Works at SX 505 632 adjoining Roborough Reservoir**, removal of conditions (b), (c) and (e) of planning consent 04/2379/90/3 revisions to approved plans, landscaping details and material finish.

04/0823/15/F **29 Clover Rise, Woolwell, PL6 7TB** Part two-storey extension, part single storey side extension to house, including conversion of existing garage and enclosing open porch.

8685 REPORTS

(a) The Woolwell Centre

There was no report

(b) Roborough Recreation Hall

Mr Lane reported that the floor is going to be maintained during the last week in August and the Hall will be closed for the duration of the work. To undertake work at the playing field, the height restriction bar has to be taken down but this causes some concern that travellers will get onto the field. There is a problem with rabbits on the field.

8686 WORKING GROUPS

(a) Neighbourhood Plan

Mr Lane reported that a draft proposal has been written for public consultation. A very useful map has been obtained from the District Council.

(b) Signpost

Councillor Mrs Crowe reported that there were no new advertisers in the last two editions of Signpost and that there was a need to generate more advertising. Also articles were needed. It was **AGREED** that Councillors Mrs Lusk, Turner, and Mrs Crowe would get together for a brain storming session to get new articles.

(c) Joint Property and Finance Group met on the 15th July 2015. There were no issues to be brought forward to the Council. Councillor Hitchins stated that he had spoken with the District Council regarding parking problems at the Centre. The District Council would install and run a pay and display system under their Traffic Order if required. The equipment would cost £3,000. The District Council's remuneration would come from penalty fines. If they emptied the machine, they would take 20%.

Councillor Turner reported that he had not been successful in getting a company to make fire doors for the centre as they are not of standard size. It was **AGREED** to leave for now.

8687 FINANCE

(a) Cheque Signatories

As there are currently only two Councillors left who are authorised to sign cheques, it was **AGREED** to increase this to four – Councillors Hitchins, Blake, Mrs Crowe and Mrs Lane (two from these four at any one time).

(b) Payroll

The Clerk was still making enquiries regarding what the Council need to do regarding new Government regulations regarding the payroll.

(c) Income

	£	p	
Co-op Bank	16.73		Interest
<u>Payments</u>			
E M Gilmour	49.35		Travel –N.P.
The Woolwell Centre	20.00		Office hire
The Woolwell Centre	30.00		Room hire
The Woolwell Centre	1199.50		Grant
Future Cooling	129.00	107.50	Maintenance contract
Concorde	119.40	99.50	Copier
O2	29.50	24.58	Telephone

8688 CORRESPONDENCE

There was nothing to report that had not already been circulated to Councillors.

8689 CHAIRMAN'S TIME

(a) Councillor Mrs Lusk reported that parking at Tramway Road is still a problem.

- (b) Around 4.30 pm the roundabout by Tesco is gridlocked when people are leaving the CSA. Councillor Hitchins will speak with MPs Streeter and Mercer to ask if they could arrange a meeting with Plymouth City Council.
- (c) In answer to a question, Councillor Hitchins stated that the Tree Belt on Woolwell is still owned by the original developer.
- (d) Someone has driven into the telephone box on Pick Pie Drive and it was **AGREED** to enquire regarding its repair.
- (e) There is Ragwort growing on the entrance to Violet Drive. This will be reported to Highways.
- (f) Councillor Mrs Lane reported that the weeds growing in the kerbs at Bickleigh need attention.

8690 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 24th September at 7 pm