

Minutes of a meeting of Bickleigh Parish Council held on Thursday 22 February 2018, 7.30pm at Roborough Recreation Hall

PRESENT: - Councillors P W Hitchins (Chairman), F Turner, C Ellis, N Prout, C Spencer, Mrs S Lusk and Mrs L Crowe

ALSO PRESENT: - Councillor Mrs N Hopwood (South Hams District Council)
Mr J Peterson, Chair of Trustees, Woolwell Community Resource Trust
Ms L Gilmour, Secretary, Neighbourhood Plan Working Group
Mrs M Small, Clerk to the Parish Council
Mrs A Tamsett-White, Admin Assistant
Members of the public - Eight

APOLOGIES: - County Councillor John Hart
Councillor M Blake
PC Tamsyn Dingley

OPEN FORUM

The Woolwell Centre

NB - Councillor Spencer left the meeting as she has a disclosable pecuniary interest in The Woolwell Centre as Centre Manager

Representations regarding the reduction to The Woolwell Centre grant application of £11,800 for the year 2018/19 were made.

The Parish Council was urged to reconsider the reduction as the grant is relied upon to operate and keep the Woolwell Centre open and to support community events. The Centre is the heart of the community and without the Parish Councils support one does question how long it will remain open. The grant of £8,000 offered represents a 32% reduction. The Parish Council as Landlords of the building are required to maintain the building and whilst it was acknowledged much maintenance work is required the resultant costs should not be taken into account when considering the revenue grant.

Councillor Hitchins reported that any surplus precept funds will be utilised for roof and air-conditioning plant works. The Parish Council is right to challenge the revenue grant and where funds are going, everyone is experiencing cut backs. Parish Councillors are to meet with the Board of Trustees on Monday 19 March at 6:30pm.

Councillor Ellis stated that The Woolwell Centre has a turnover of £200k+ per annum. However with the wages bill being slightly more than half of this, he wondered where the community minded volunteers are. The response was that it is very difficult to get volunteers.

Councillor Mrs Crowe conveyed that the figure of 32% could make people think that this was a huge sum of money when in fact it relates to a reduction of £3,800 or £74 per week.

NB: Councillor Spencer joined the meeting.

POLICE REPORT

January Crime Report

1/1/18 DV Assault. No complaint from victim but safeguarding / social services help in place.

6/1/18 DV Assault. No complaint from victim but safeguarding / social services help in place. (Linked to above – counter allegation).

6/1/18 Dog not under proper control. Loose dog in Bickleigh Woods bit another dog. No owner around and offending

dog ran off, not to be seen again. Filed.

9/1/18 Theft. Victim states flatmate stole some of his belongings. No evidence to support allegation. Filed.

19/1/18 DV Theft in Dwelling. Currently under investigation by CID.

29/1/18 DV Assault. No complaint from victim but safeguarding / social services help in place.

31/1/18 Theft *SUSPECTS IDENTIFIED AND CAUTIONED / CHARGED*

Information

Sgt Ray Bower is temporarily covering in Sgt Woodward's absence. He will primarily be based in Totnes and it is unknown for how long he will be covering.

Keep vigilant / alert after reports of suspicious goings on with peoples bins, BBQs, storage benches and hot tubs being moved around and uncovered. Only 1 log reported so far but updates on Woolwell Matters (Facebook).

Logs of Note

7/1/18 On Woolwell Road a report of 3 males walking around the church site. Unit attended but no trace of the males.

31/1/18 In Skylark Rise a report of 2 males loading scrap into a van. These males later stopped by Police in Teignmouth and arrested for theft. PC Dingley interviewed both males who admitted the offences. One male given a Police Caution, the other male was charged to court.

Councillor Spencer reported that PC Dingley and a colleague were on foot patrol in Woolwell on 21 February.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Councillor Mrs Hopwood, District Councillor for Woolwell Ward reported:

- 25 March will see the second Easter egg hunt for Woolwell resident's children and grandchildren.
- Woolwell has a memory bench that now has two plaques on it. Contact for plaques is Councillor Mrs Hopwood.
- Towerfield Drive has a group of Travellers and Woolwell residents have reported strange goings on in gardens and late night walks.
- Joint Local Plan inspector has visited Woolwell and the Plymouth Airport site.
- Plymouth City Council has contractors taking samples of the road surface overnight from Woolwell to the George junction, this relates to the planned upgrade to the road.
- Inaccurate reports by the BBC suggested that SHDC had overspent its budget by 20% a retraction and apology has been requested.
- SHDC has agreed a Council Tax increase of £5 per annum.

Councillor Hitchins, District Councillor for Bickleigh Ward reported:

- The £5 Council Tax increase relates to a Band D property.
- Various flooding in the Parish, bottom of Blackeven Hill/Shaugh Bridge. Contacted Devon Highways, flooding caused by debris rather than blocked drains.
- Repairs to some pot holes in the area have been carried out however some large ones left.
- Fly tipping reported.

Councillor Mrs Crowe asked the District Councillors if there would be any waste collection changes.

Councillor Mrs Hopwood confirmed that SHDC are going through the procurement process and the outcome is awaited.

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

In the absence of County Councillor Hart, there was no County Council report.

REPORTS

a) The Woolwell Centre

NB - Councillor Spencer left the meeting as she has a disclosable pecuniary interest in The Woolwell Centre as Centre Manager

Mr Peterson, Chair of Trustees, Woolwell Community Resource Trust reported:

- Bookings at the Centre for the coming year are in line with those budgeted.
- Ofsted finally visited the Centre to assess the AM/PM club and the inspection was passed.
- The Centre was successful with its TAP fund application. £7,500 capital grant to be used on the kitchen project.
- The new procedure of reporting property and maintenance matters for the Centre started this month with a list of the current issues being emailed to Bickleigh Parish Council on 6 February.
- Many of the major property maintenance matters including the Main Hall lighting and the replacement CCTV is now being progressed which should make a big difference to the users once completed.
- At the meeting in February Mr Peterson set out the main concerns regarding the proposed reduction in the Centre's grant. The Trustees convened an emergency meeting to review and amend their budget as a result of the reduction; the outcome was shared with the Parish Council on 6 February.
- The main 3 areas that are likely to be impacted as a result, are a reduction in 1. The amount budgeted for the Trustees Reserve, 2. The amount budgeted for dealing with the lease and 3. The amount budgeted to subsidise community events at the Centre.
- Given that the Trustees are obligated to maintain a Reserve by the Charity Commission, finalising the lease is crucial to the long term stability of the Centre and supporting community events is part of the charity's objectives, this has left Trustees in a very vulnerable position.
- Community users have been advised that they should budget for a percentage increase in rates from April 2018.
- It is understood that Councillors have agreed to a meeting with the Trustees at the Centre in order to discuss how the Parish Council and the Centre can work more closely together and discuss ways there may be to work together differently going forward that could result in overall savings. The meeting will be held on Monday 19 March @ 6.30pm at the Centre.
- Comparison figures from 2012 to 2017 in relation to occupancy, income and expenditure are being put together and survey results regarding where Users live will be available. These can be used to promote discussions.

NB: Councillor Spencer joined the meeting.

b) Roborough Recreation Hall and Playing Fields

Councillor Hitchins reported:

- Bookings are strong.
- Voluntary painting continues, moving into the office and toilets next. Paint is free.
- Kitchen requires an upgrade.

8955 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Hitchins declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in any discussions on future development at Woolwell as a land owner in the area.

Councillor Spencer declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in The Woolwell Centre, as Centre Manager.

Councillors Hitchins, Turner and Mrs Lusk all disclosed a personal interest in Roborough Recreation Hall.

8956 MINUTES

It was unanimously **AGREED** that the Minutes of the meetings held on 2 January 2018 and 8 February 2018 be signed as a correct record.

8957 MATTERS ARISING

Minute No. 8818 (f) Collapsed pavement opposite Old Vicarage. In the absence of County Councillor Hart, nothing to report.

Minute No. 8911 (a) Mobile speed sign for Bickleigh. In the absence of County Councillor Hart, nothing to report. Councillor Turner reported that he has provided costings in respect of clothing and tools for Chapter 8 to County Councillor Hart. A container will be required; c.10 by 15, to store equipment and County Councillor Hart has asked if the Parish Council would cover the cost of this item? Councillor Hitchins suggested identifying a suitable container and take it from there.

Open forum (g) A discussion is still to be held with the Deputy Monitoring Officer regarding Declarations of interest regarding Roborough Recreation Hall.

Councillor Mrs Crowe asked if the Parish Council could apply for a grant under the Flood Resilience Scheme.

Councillor Hitchins confirmed that this is possible and the Clerk will submit an application to Devon County Council.

8958 PLANNING

a) Consideration of applications:-

4373/17/VAR Development site at SX 499 629 s.e. of Roborough Farm, Tamerton Foliot Road. Variation of Condition 2 following grant of planning consent 3051/17/VAR for phased development of 8 No. commercial units and 3 No. dwellings.

It was AGREED to RECOMMEND APPROVAL subject to no neighbour objection

b) Decisions taken by District Council:-

3051/17/VAR Development site at SX 499 629 South East of Roborough Farm Tamerton Road Roborough Variation of conditions 2 (approved plans) and 16 (for commercial units and A1 use) following planning consent 0475/17/FUL (Phased development of 8no. commercial units and 3no. dwellings)

Conditional Approval

3846/17/OPA Rose Cottage Station Road Bickleigh Devon PL6 7AL

Outline application (some matters reserved) for proposed single dwelling and double garage

Refusal

3943/17/HHO 11 Kestrel Way Woolwell PL6 7SY

Householder application for a two storey side extension with link to existing garage converted to habitable room

Conditional Approval

0668/17/FUL Proposed Development Site at Sx 4744 616 Allern Lane Tamerton Foliot Devon Construction of 65no. dwellings together with associated landscaping, car parking and infrastructure (resubmission of 04/1129/15/F)

Withdrawn

1782/17/OPA Proposed Development Site At Sx 4744 616 Allern Lane Tamerton Foliot Devon

OUTLINE application with all matters reserved for construction of up to 65 no. dwellings together with

associated landscaping, car parking and infrastructure

Withdrawn

4097/17/ARC Hatshill House The Village Road From Carron Cross To Bick Bickleigh PL6 7AH

Approval of details reserved by condition number 3 of planning consent 04/0398/15/LB

Discharge of condition Approved

4230/17/HHO Trencom Blackeven Hill Roborough Devon PL6 7AD

Householder application for alterations and extension to existing bungalow, to create a 2 storey dwelling

Conditional Approval

8959 WORKING GROUPS

a) Neighbourhood Plan (NHP)

Ms L Gilmour, Secretary, Neighbourhood Plan Working Group reported:

A discussion meeting was held on 31 January to clarify any concerns the Council may have had regarding the Neighbourhood Plan and the next steps to be taken. Paul Weston, Consultant, answered these in detail. The decision was taken to formally address the move to Regulation 16 at the next Council meeting held on 8 February.

At the meeting on 8 February the Neighbourhood Plan was formally voted on to be submitted to SHDC to start Regulation 16 consultation. The appropriate documents were sent to SHDC on 9 February. SHDC responded on the 14 February, recognising acceptance of the request. The consultation will run from 22 February to 5 April. A list of formal contacts that was used for Reg14 is now required. The documents are now on SHDC's website. The next stage, after the 6 weeks, will be to discuss any queries and then to appoint an Examiner to review the Plan.

Ms Gilmour has informed all those contacts who indicated an interest at previous consultations.

b) Property and Finance

NB - Councillor Spencer left the meeting as she has a disclosable pecuniary interest in The Woolwell Centre as Centre Manager.

Councillor Turner reported that a quotation for the Woolwell Centre has been received for £2.830.03 Inclusive of VAT in respect of replacing the existing cage lights in the main hall with LED non dimmable lights. **It was AGREED to proceed with this quote and the Clerk is to email confirmation to the contractor.**

NB: Councillor Spencer re- joined the meeting.

c) Signpost Newsletter

Councillor Mrs Crowe asked the attendees of the meeting if they read Signpost and find it useful. The audience responded favourably. Some receive by email already whilst others read it on the notice-boards, website or pick up a hardcopy from one of the collection points.

March's Signpost is yet to be agreed. Councillor Hitchins is unsure if Dartmoor National Park have been consulted in respect of the AONB initiative.

8960 FINANCE

a) Receipts

Nil

Payments

Staff	930.38		Salaries
HMRC	150.20		Tax
Plant Tech Grounds Maint	810.00	675.00	Rob Green Grass/tree
D Stockton	95.00		Repair cistern
M Blake	26.10		Travel
Chubb Fire & Security Ltd	792.00	660.00	Intruder Alarm Maint.
Chubb Fire & Security Ltd	183.60	153.00	Emergency Lighting Maint.
Security Management SW	252.48	210.40	Maintenance/call out
Chubb Fire & Security Ltd	1665.20	1387.67	Panel/sounders
Concorde Ltd	152.29	126.91	Printing
G D Hunt	35.00		Web maintenance
Future Cooling Solutions	129.00	107.50	Maintenance contract
Woolwell Centre	990.00		Grant

8961 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) The Clerk reported receipt of 4 letters regarding the reduction to The Woolwell Centre grant.

8962 CHAIRMAN'S TIME

- a) Councillor Mrs Crowe reported the road entering Hele Close is beginning to dip again and asked who will fix it properly.
- b) Councillor Turner reported that the hedge down one side of New Road has been cut but not the other. Councillor Ellis confirmed this will be completed by the end of the end of the month. .
- c) Councillor Lusk reported pot holes on Little Down Road and a Tent on the Moor.
- d) Councillor Ellis reported pot holes in Leigh Lane on the way to Leigh Farm.
- e) Councillor Spencer asked how the request for a pavement to be put in Darklake Lane will be taken forward.
The Clerk confirmed this will be an agenda item for the next Property and Finance working group meeting.
- f) Councillor Spencer asked if a response has been sent to Mrs Taylor-Brown following her email.
The Clerk confirmed that an email response has been sent and acknowledged.
- g) Councillor Spencer requested the DALC training courses.
The Clerk confirmed these will be emailed.
- h) Councillor Hitchins reported that he has attended a 'Moorhealth and Wellbeing' Conference the aim of which is to persuade local GP's to prescribe more "Green prescriptions". A toolkit will be going out to all GP's.

8963 a) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Annual Parish Meeting with Parishioners Thursday 23 March 2018, 7:00pm, at The Woolwell Centre followed by full Parish Council Meeting ||