

**Minutes of meeting of Bickleigh Parish Council
Woolwell Centre, Thursday January 24th, 2019, 7.30pm**

Present : Cllr Blake, Cllr Crowe, Cllr Turner, Cllr Spencer, Cllr Tamsett-White, Cllr Lusk, Cllr Prout
In attendance : Cllr Hopwood (SHDC)

Apologies : Cllr Ellis, Cllr Hitchins (SHDC), Cllr Hart (DCC)

12 members of the public in attendance

Open Public Forum

- Barrie Spencer raised the issue of an open letter from NALC ref trying to lower age profile of councillors. It was agreed to look at promoting the campaign where the Parish Council could. Cllrs Spencer and Tamsett-White agreed to help with printing where possible
- Site Inspection – Pinewood Drive.

Some parishioners were unhappy about exchanges that took place at the site meeting, and more importantly that there was no official Parish council representation at the South Hams Planning meeting. There was a prolonged discussion, also including reference to the Neighbourhood Plan. Apologies were offered to the wider community in respect of the lack of attendance by Cllr Tamsett-White and Cllr Spencer. Cllr Blake also apologised in respect of the same and that he had not contacted every councillor to see if they might have been available at the SHDC Planning meeting.

9082 (01/19) Update on Bickleigh ward casual vacancy

There was a report on a meeting held with a prospective candidate on January 5th. Cllr Crowe reported that a decision was made not to proceed with an appointment, especially with impending elections approaching. The candidate, it was reported, had been disappointed at the outcome. There was some disquiet from some members of the public. Cllr Tamsett-White apologised on the council's behalf.

9083 (01/19) Declarations of Interest

Cllr Spencer declared a pecuniary interest in the Woolwell Centre; Cllr Turner and Cllr Lusk a personal interest in Roborough Recreation Hall. Cllr Lusk also declared a possible personal interest in the JLP and NHP.

9084 (01/19) Confirmation of Minutes of meetings November 22nd and 29th

The minutes of the meetings were confirmed apart from the following issues. In respect of 9075 (11/18) – Cllr Spencer had noted again at that meeting that the Rialtas finance system was not being used; and in respect of 9078 (11/18) Cllr Spencer had indicated at that meeting that the Parish Council were in breach of legislation ref Employer's Pension Scheme.

9085 (01/19) JLP Response

It was reported that the response had been submitted in full and on time by the Clerk in conjunction with the Chair. Cllr Spencer raised that the use of a consultant (Paul Weston) had not been discussed

9086 (01/19) Recruitment of new Parish Clerk.

Adverts were to be placed with Indeed and the Plymouth Herald.

9087 (01/19) Meeting with Bickleigh and Roborough residents

It was agreed to explore holding an informal meeting with residents and councillors prior to the next council meeting at Roborough Recreation Hall.

9088 (01/19) Police Report – none had been received

9089 (01/19) District Council reports

- (i) there was no report from Cllr Hitchins
- (ii) Cllr Hopwood reported that Bickleigh Down school had been given a Best state funded Primary school in Devon award, Bumblebees nursery had received an outstanding OFSTED report. She also reported that the Post Office at One Stop, Woolwell was to close on March 2nd (with the closure of the store).

9090 (01/19) Dartmoor National Park Report – no report received

9091 (01/19) County Council Report – no report received

9092 (01/19) Woolwell Centre Report – (Cllr Spencer left room during discussion)

- (i) Kitchen was in place
- (ii) Grant from Bickleigh PC for 2019/20 - £ 11,880 had been recommended
- (iii) Bar works would be carried out by Southmore (formerly RAE)
- (iv) An alternative heating option was being looked at – and a decision would be deferred in the short term
- (v) Four new Trustees had joined the charity
- (vi) Ongoing maintenance issues would be discussed at Property meeting on 14/02/19

9093 (01/19) Roborough Recreation Hall & Playing Fields

- (i) Projects cannot be added to precept
- (ii) Insurance issues – ref the criminal damage – were still to be sorted and settled
- (iii) Sports field improved, and a boules / petanque area should be in place for the Spring/Summer
- (iv) Bookings were healthy

9094 (01/19) Woolwell in Bloom

- (i) Group now has charitable status
- (ii) A public meeting would be taking place on February 13th
- (iii) A commemorative garden at GP surgery is likely to be started on March 1st and 2nd
- (iv) Grant of £500.00 from Bickleigh PC was passed to group during meeting

9095 (01/19) Planning Applications

The following applications, having been circulated had no objections raised

- (i) 4209/18/HHO – 76 The Heathers, Woolwell
- (ii) 4004/18/FUL – The Cottage, Tavistock Road, Roborough

- (iii) 3361/18/VAR – Plessey Semi-Conductors, Tamerton Road, Roborough

9096 (01/19)

Neighbourhood Plan

Rod Lane gave a comprehensive presentation on the history of the NHP from its origins right through to being on the verge of the referendum on February 27th. Liz Gilmour thanked Rod. She also explained that polling cards would be going out and the result will be known on the morning of February 28th. For reference 3 hard copies of the plan would be available at the Woolwell Centre and 2 at Roborough Recreation Hall. Cllr Blake gave special thanks to both Liz and Rod for all their dedication and hard work.

9097 (01/19)

Property and Finance Group

- (i) it had been decided that due to likely cost – a public toilet was not an option at this juncture
- (ii) no news ref ownership of Darklake Lane (in respect of lighting issues). Barrie Spencer offered to forward pertinent information to the Council. Cllr Spencer reported that Eric Drabble of Roborough Scouts would be happy with a light mounted on the gable end of their building. At no cost to the scouts
- (iii) It was resolved (after recommendation) to match £25,000 of funding with SHDC to improve and refurbish Cann Wood Play park.
- (iv) No formal correspondence had been received from Bickleigh Bell ringers – it was therefore agreed to await any approach from them in the future.

9099 (01/19)

Precept request 2019/20

There was lengthy discussion on the revised budget and precept figure to be submitted. The revised figures indicated that precept request would be in the region of £ 85,654 an increase of 8% on 2018/19. This was felt to be too high. After discussion it was resolved to increase the precept by 3% - the council to submit a request for £ 81,667. The budget could be adjusted in the future accordingly to reflect this.

9100 (01/19) Correspondence – none received

9101 (01/19) Chair's Time

Cllr Turner reported that flooding on the road near the Vicarage was in hand
Cllr Crowe – raised the issue of the signpost for Shaugh Prior. It had been ordered by Nick Colton (Devon Highways)
Cllr Tamsett-White – reported that post box in Cann Wood was now available. It was agreed to contact the Post Office ref moving the post box at One Stop back outside after the shop closure
Cllr Prout reported that the speed sensor would be moving to Bickleigh

9102 (01/19)

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held at Roborough Recreation Hall, on Thursday, February 28th at 7.30pm.