

SUTCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Sutcombe Parish Council Meeting held Remotely

Using the ZOOM Platform, on Monday 21st September 2020 which commenced at 7.30p.m

Members of the Council Present: Councillors C. Quance (Chairperson) B.Galbraith Marten -(Vice Chairperson), C. Furse, M. Wonnacott, E.Horn and J. Daniel and John Shepherd, District Councillors Richard Boughton
Also present was Mrs Lorraine Buttery (Clerk)
District Councillors Anna Hart and Stephen Harding were unable to access the meeting due to a technical hitch, Apologies to them have been sent by the Clerk

1. Chair's announcements

Councillor Chris Quance welcomed all to the meeting

2. Declarations of Interest

a) Register of Interest: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.

There were none declared

b) To declare any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature. *There were none declared*

c) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda and their nature. *There were none declared.*

3. Apologies and reasons for absence were received from:

Devon County Councillor Barry Parsons and PCSO Mark James.

4. Public Comment Session

1) Toby Russell from DAAT said that was nice to have had a chat with Councillor Claire Furse regarding the Proposed Community Landing site. A field has been identified and approved, which is land owned by the Furse family, who will also cover any ongoing electricity charges which may occur. Toby went on to say that it is the vision of DAAT to be able to land 24.7, at present it ceases at 2am. At present there are 155 and soon to be 158 sites in rural areas. DAAT will provide a grant but it is envisaged that the Parish Council will have to raise approximately £2,500. Councillor Barry Gailbraith-Marten what other costs might there be in setting up and will there be any On-going cost? Toby replied that the initial costs would be the Planning application with associated maps the costs Would be in the region of £150.00, the cost of Electricity is minimal, but this would be covered by Councillor Furse. There would also be annul insurance costs.

The Chair Councillor Chris Quance thanked Toby for attending and for all the information.

2) Representative from Bradworthy Primary Academy, the headmaster Mr Richard Stephenson.

Richard explained to the Councillors the vision for Bradworthy Academy, at present there were 220 children on the Roll, with 13 being recently turned away because of lack of facilities. The initial project is for two additional classrooms and toilets, it is hoped this would commence in June 2021 to open for the new term in September. This will give the children presently enrolled extra space and facilities.

Councillor Emma Horn asked what the total cost would be? Richard replied the partial project is in the region of £160,000 which is for two classrooms, the total with the second phase is £230-£240,000.

Councillor Claire Furse asked whether this included the fixtures and fittings? It does not, with the extra cost about £5-6,000 per classroom which is included in the budget.

Councillor Michael Wonnacot asked whether the building of new classrooms was to increase capacity? Richard replied No, it is to increase space and facilities for existing children, as at present the school is very overcrowded.

The Chair Councillor Chris Quance thanked Richard for attending and said we would contact DCC to push things forward.

5. Reports from Devon County Councillor and District Councillors:

District Councillor Richard Boughton said there was not a lot to report at present, the issue of free parking in Bideford, Torrington and Holsworthy car parks is still ongoing, the biggest stumbling block is the financial cost, which would be in the region of £70,000 to offer two free hours of parking, the second idea was to offer 'pay for one hour and get one hour free'. This has not been ratified. The Chair thanked Richard for attending and is more than welcome to stay for the rest of the meeting.

6. All members of the Council had received a copy of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 16th July 2020 by email, with the unanimous decision of the Councillors, the contents were deemed true and correct and were duly signed by the Chair Councillor Chris Quance.

7. Matters Arising

1) Sutcombe Playing field – The revised and Final DCC Heads of terms were circulated to Councillors by email prior to the meeting and all new points for the purchase of the playfield were unanimously agreed, clarity regarding the drainage had also been received, Councillor Galbraith-Marten proposed and seconded by the Chair, that the Heads of Terms be accepted, and that Councillor Claire Furse be the delegated signatory, this was unanimously approved It was also unanimously approved that the 'no search' indemnity insurance be obtained at the cost of £53.88, this will give the cover of up to £50,000. Councillor Furse will contact Pam at Coodes Solicitors

2) Notice Board, this had been looked at and although not perfect it is still functional, but will need to be replaced at a future date.

- 3) The verges and hedges had now been cut.
- 4) DAAT Night Site, after further discussion the Parish Councillors agreed to make further enquiries regarding grants to facilitate the possibility of going ahead with the project, it was suggested to go ahead with the planning application this was not approved; the Clerk was requested to enquire as to what grants might available, the matter would be discussed at the next meeting.
- 5) i) Bridge, there is still no date for the repair of the bridge. ii) Parking in the layby in Ham Lane:-
The Chair Councillor Chris Quance had contacted DCC Highways officer Kieran Stanbury regarding the complaint of parking in the layby in Ham Lane, he was informed that there are currently no Regulations to stop parking in this layby.
- 6) Sale of School Buildings, the clerk was requested to draft a letter to Jon Williams DCC informing him of the Decision of the Parish Councillors, regarding Bradworthy Primary Academy receiving the proceeds of the sale of the Old School Buildings
Councillor Barry Gailbraith-Marten raised concerns regarding the possibility, that in the future that Sutcombe will no longer be in the Catchment area of Bradworthy Academy, hence Sutcombe school children will then not benefit from the sale of the School Buildings, this will be relayed to Jon Williams
Councillor Michael Wonnacot enquired as whether the Parish Council could ask for a percentage of the proceeds of the sale of the School Buildings? This suggestion will also be included in the letter.

8. Planning Applications:

1/0590/2020/FUL - Proposal: Conversion of Loft, proposed porch and alterations

Location: Sunnybank, Sutcombe, HOLSWORTHY, Devon

The application had been discussed via email, no issues were raised and the unanimous decision of the Councillors Was to support the development.

Planning Decisions:

1/0590/2020/FUL - Proposal: Conversion of Loft, proposed porch and alterations

Location: Sunnybank, Sutcombe, HOLSWORTHY, Devon

The application was approved

Planning Appeals:

There are none

9. Finance.

a) Financial report to date, the cash book spreadsheet had been emailed to all Councillors, n

No issues were raised, there being £10,696.16 in the bank (Statement presented to uphold), earmarked funds of £350.00 election costs £3,002.00 project funds, £3150.00 owing to D.C.C. for fencing, balance of Torridge Grant £188.16.

The remaining balance of £4,006.00 being PC General funds.

a) Councillors unanimously approved to sign cheques for: i) Admin expenses June-September £37.50

ii) ZOOM Monthly fees £7.19 iii) Verge/Hedge Cutting £367.20

b) Clerks Salary, the clerk informed the Councillors (emails had been forwarded to support) that the approved and recommended pay rate for Clerks had been increased by 2.75% backdated to April, the Clerks salary was only increased by 2% in April, it was unanimously approved that the Clerk make adjustments to her salary to be Paid in November

10. Correspondence as below and as available at the time of the meeting

i) Holsworthy Rural Update DCC Councillor Barry Parsons plus Covid 19 updates

ii) DALC Newsletters 40-50 iii) North Devon Advocate scheme iv) Rural Network Bulletins x 6

v) D C Together x 6 vi) DCC Power to Help vii) Cara Stobart- DALC viii) NDHCT- Updates x 2

ix) Harry Roper Discretionary Grants x) Jon Williams x 3 xi) C.Dobbs- Strategic Plan xii) DALC AGM

xiii) Highway Maintenance fund x 2 xiv) Transport to School xv) DCC Ash Die Back & ND Link Road

xvi) Planning – Residents Letter xvii) Ian Rowland -Planning reforms xviii) PCSO Mark James-Report

xix) Paul Morris – Roads xx) Emma Horn- Alms Houses Trustee

The above were all received by email, issues raised: -

xx) Mrs Emma Horn clerk to the Trustees of Sutcombe Alms Houses informed the Councillors that

Mr Anthony Cawseys four-year term of office will expire on the 10th December and requested he be elected

For a further term of four years. It was unanimously agreed. The Clerk will inform Emma by letter.

A letter had been received from Mr Paul Morris regarding work at Rectory Cottage, the clerk was requested to write to Mr Morris informing him that the Parish Council had contacted Torridge Planning, who had raised no issues, The Parish Council will continue to monitor the situation, but if Mr Morris has further concerns, he could contact Torridge himself.

The date for the next meeting was set for the 9th November 2020

The Chair Councillor Chris Quance thanked everyone for their attendance, as there was no other business the meeting was closed at 9.38pm.