

# SUTCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of Sutcombe Parish Council Extra Ordinary Meeting held remotely using the ZOOM Platform, on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021 which commenced at 8.00pm**

Members of the Council Present: Councillors Chris Quance (Chair) Barry Galbraith Marten (Vice Chair), Claire Furse, Emma Horn, John Daniel, John Shepherd and Holly Rowlands.  
Also present was Lorraine Buttery (Clerk)

1. Chairs 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.  
*None were declared*
  - b) To declare any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature. *None were declared*
  - c) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda and their nature.  
*None were declared*
3. Apologies were received from Devon County Councillor Barry Parsons.
4. It was the unanimous decision of the Parish Councillors to co-opt Miss Holly Rowlands as a Parish Councillor, the Clerk had the relevant forms to Holly, these were duly signed and will be returned to the Clerk. The Chair Councillor Chris Quance officially welcomed Holly.
5. A meeting was held at the Community Playfield on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021, in attendance from Devon County Council was Jon Williams and Sarah Bowker, Sutcombe Parish Councillors Emma Horn and Barry Galbraith-Marten.  
The proposal from Sarah Bowker and Jon Williams was that the Parish Council provide 2 parking places and a vehicle turning circle near the hard standing in the playfield. This would provide parking for the purchasers of the School buildings. The vehicle entrance would be the pedestrian one that is in use at the present time.  
The proposal was discussed fully and the following comments and observations were made:
  - i) Councillor Barry Galbraith-Marten, it must be stressed that the Parish Council is not being difficult or obstructive but the safety of all who use the Playfield is of paramount importance.
  - ii) Councillor John Daniels: maybe there could be a safer entrance be near the old school playground.
  - iii) Councillor Emma Horn: We much appreciate that the value of the property might be lower, and the New owners could be difficult.
  - iv) Councillor Claire Furse: The current entrance is quite narrow and to have extra vehicles using this on a regular basis would be a real safety issue to all who use the entrance. "Safety comes above profit"
  - v) Councillor John Shepherd stated that the entrance is not good and we cannot allow extra vehicles unless absolutely necessary.
  - vi) The Chair Councillor Chris Quance: to sum up, is it the decision of the Parish Councillors to write to Jon Williams and Sarah Bowker and state that we cannot agree to their proposal? The decision was unanimous. Chris will draft an email and send to all for approval and the Clerk will then send on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March.

The email received from Sarah Bowker regarding the clause in the Heads of Terms as set out below needs to be confirmed:

1.1. not to use the Property:-

5.1.1 other than for the permitted uses which is as a public playing field and associated recreational / community uses, and for no other uses.

5.1.2 for the period of 10 years from completion of the sale the land shall not be used other than for playing field land within the definition used by the Dept for Education in its Guidance dated February 2021 being land in the open air provided for the purposes of physical education or recreation (with such uses being considered to mean team games, non-team games, informal and social activities and the study and enjoyment of the natural environment). The Clerk will email confirmation to Sarah.

6. Although not relevant to the agenda or the discussion in hand the decision was to discuss the grass cutting contracts for the summer. This will be for the three areas, Village Green, the War memorial and St Andrews Close. It has been noted that someone had been cutting the grass, Councillor John Shepherd will try to find out who had been doing so and whether they were willing to carry on. Councillor Chris Quance will endeavour to get quotes where necessary. If the cost is less than £100 quotes were not required. Councillor Holly Rowlands requested that she be updated regarding the sale of the school as she had little knowledge of what had transpired. Councillor Quance gave a brief outline and said he would email as much detail as he could.

The next meeting was set for the 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021, which will also encompass the Annual Council Meeting (AGM) when it is hoped a face-to-face meeting will be possible.

There being no further business, Councillor Quance thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 8.40pm.

