

SUTCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Sutcombe Parish Council Meeting held in the Memorial Hall on Monday 24th May 2021 which commenced at 7.45p.m

Members of the Council Present: Councillors C. Quance (Chair) B.Galbraith Marten -(Vice Chair),C. Furse, E.Horn , J. Daniel, H. Rowlands and John Shepherd., Devon County Councillor James Morrish, District Councillors Richard Boughton, Stephen Harding and Anna Dart also present was Mrs Lorraine Buttery (Clerk)

1. Chair's announcements

Councillor Chris Quance welcomed all to the first face-to-face meeting for over twelve months. And welcomed Councillor Morrish to his first Sutcombe 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. *Councillor Claire Furse declared an interest in planning application item 8 1*

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:

PCSO Mark James- not on duty.

4. Public Comment Session

No Members of the Public present.

5. Reports from Devon County Councillor and District Councillors:

DC Councillor James Morrish thanked the Chair for his welcome, and said that he would like to officially thank Barry Parsons as a friend and a colleague in Holsworthy Town, if I can achieve 60% of what Barry did it would be a great achievement for me. I am pleased to be working alongside my colleagues from Torridge, Stephen, Anna and Richard, my heart is in the Torridge area.

I have attended 7 Parish Council meetings in the last 14 days, I cannot promise to attend all future meetings, but please contact me by phone or email if you have any problems that I can help with.

I will shortly learn what my locality budget will be, so if there are any projects that might need a grant please do not hesitate to contact me. One of our main problems is the state of the highways and I will endeavour to help as much as I can to improve matters.

District Councillor Anna Dart, reported that there was not a lot going on at present, the AGM was held by a ZOOM Meeting, the same Chair was elected, she reminded all that there was a fund to help with those that due to Covid and Restrictions could not pay their Council Tax; applications can be made on-line.

District Councillor Stephen Harding stated that he was now on the Internal & External scrutiny board.

The good news was that Holsworthy pool should be opening on the 16th June.

District Councillor Richard Boughton apologised for being late and said that Anna and Stephen had updated all on the issues relevant.

6. All members of the Council had received a copy of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 1st March and the extra ordinary meeting held on the 25th March 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 -update, not a lot to report, the Playfield inspection had been held, no major issues were Raised, only minor risk assessments had to be done, these were in hand. There has been no progress regarding the Transfer of the playfield to the Parish Council.
- 2) Sale of School Buildings, nothing much to report, although the Councillors were not too happy with the reply from Jon Williams when he replied to the email we sent asking for an update, Councillor Morrish was briefly up-dated with what had been happening over the years, and was invited to go to the play field, some of the Councillors will go with him. Councillor Quance asked James if he could try to speak to Jon Williams, with Jon being made aware that the Councillors are very concerned with the delay of the transfer of the playfield to the Parish Council.. Councillor Gailbraith-Marten asked whether we should reply to Jon's email, but the decision was to wait until after James had contacted him.

Matters arising cont/...

3)The grass around the War Memorial and the Village green was being cut by residents, Chris Abbot is cutting the grass at the top of St Andrews Close.

4)Sutcombe Newsletter, Faye Fry was still willing to compile the newsletter, Councillor Furse will have a chat With her as to when it could be printed, District Councillor Anna Dart suggested that an article regarding the possible assistance to meet council tax payments might be a good article.

8. Planning Applications:

1) 1/0317/2021/FUL

Proposal: Demolition of agricultural building and erection of Idwellinghouse with associated works in lieu of class Q permission 1/0304/2019/AGMB Location: Barn at Billhole Farm, Sutcombe, Devon

The above application was discussed and the Councillors raised no issues and unanimously approved the Application. Councillor Claire Furse declared an interest and took no part in the discussion, she had offered to leave the room but the Chair said this was not necessary.

Planning Decisions:

There were none

Planning Appeals:

There were none

9. Finance.

a) The unanimous decision of the Councillors was to approve and sign cheques for:

i) ZOOM Monthly fees £7.19 ii) Clerks Quarterly salary £322.02

iii) DALC Annual fees £73.88 iv) Dr J.Foster £50 for internal audit

v) To discuss and agree insurance quote and issue cheque for either £338.80 or £321.46;

after discussion it was the unanimous decision of the Councillors to approve the quote of the three year option of £321.46, a cheque was written and signed by two Councillors.

b) The receipt of first half of precept £3,000 was acknowledged

c) Uncashed cheque for Poppy Wreath, this cheque will now have to be reissued, the Clerk will contact the British Legion representative to enquire why the cheque has not been cashed.

d) Public Loan Board Statement had been received, the first payment being due in June.

e) To Consider the end of year accounts/statements and approve and sign the following:

i) The Annual Internal Audit ii) The Annual Governance Statement

iii) The Accounting Statements iv) The Certificate of Exemption

The above items were fully explained by the Clerk and fully discussed; Councillor John Shepherd proposed that all the statements were true and correct, this was seconded by Councillor Emma Horn and unanimously accepted by a show of hands, the relevant forms were signed by the Chair Councillor Chris Quance and the Clerk Loraine Buttery.

f) Financial report to date, all Councillors were supplied with a spreadsheet of the current account, the balance being supported by the Bank statement. There being £21,366 .23 in the bank, this consists of ring-fenced funds, £500.00 elections, £4002.00 project fund, £8,000 Loan, DCC owing £3150.00 The balance of £5,714.23 being PC general funds.

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

i) S.Bowker ii) Jon Williams iii) M.D.P.C Re footpath no 8 iv) Rural Policing update.

v) DALC Newsletters 18-22 vi) NHS CCG Bulletins 17-20 vii) Rural Network Bulletins April/May

viii) H. Roper, Devon Climate Assembly, Councillors Update

viv) Parish Council Insurance renewal x) DCC -Appeal for Foster Parents, Economic Recovery, Quality of life for residents. xi) Planning within Torridge xii) N.H.S Structural Change

xiii) Road map- Highways Parish & Town Council Newsletter

The above were all received by email no issues were raised, i and ii had already been discussed.

11. Matters for discussion or to be noted, and matters brought to the attention of the Chair

1) Councillor Holly Rowlands had been approached regarding requesting a Dog waste bin to be placed near The Brewery, the Clerk will write to the Environmental dept to request one.

2) The state of the road from Matcott up to Priors cross was dreadful this had already been reported to Highways also, the area by Thuborough cross. Councillor B. Galbraith Marten also mentioned the poor state of the road from Sutcombe to Bradworthy, the Clerk will report these to Highways.

The date of the next meeting was set for the 12th July 2021

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.30pm