

SUTCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Sutcombe Parish Council Meeting held in the Memorial Hall on Monday 8th November 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, and John Shepherd., , District Councillor Stephen Harding, Richard Boughton and Anna Dart, also present was Mrs Lorraine Buttery (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 were 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:

PCSO Mark James- not on duty. Parish Councillor H. Rowlands (ill), Devon County Councillor James Morrish

4. Public Comment Session: No Members of the Public present.

5. Reports from Devon County Councillor and District Councillors:

District Councillor Stephen Harding reported that there was a new North Devon beat officer, with the addition of 25 new police officers in the New Year. The new campaign 'Stop speeding' before Christmas is up and running. Some officers are busy with the Leisure Industry, with the Council taking over in April. There had been motions regarding 'Emergency Climate' changes, and sustainable Methane, cows being the worst animals for this, here is a lot more to be sorted regarding this subject.

Councillor Emma Horn commented that there still seemed to be a lot of people on furlough.

The subject of Social Housing was raised, with Councillor Quance commenting that developers must not wriggle out of supplying such housing.

District Councillor Richard Boughton commented that he basically agreed with this, but the problem was that sometimes when planning applications were approved, the developers say it's not financially viable to build affordable houses and then wriggle out of it. It is a big problem. Councillor Quance commented that Torridge Planning must stipulate and then stick to it. Richard went on to report about the proposed Solar Farm at Pyworthy, which was approved by 5 votes to 4, there had been a massive campaign against the site, Bridgerule Council did not complain at all.

The 160 acres of the site consists of 40% grade 3 the rest being 4 and 5, such a waste of land.

Councillor Anna Dart apologised for being late and said she thought Stephen and Richard had said all that was Necessary, but as she had not attended for some time thought she would drop in to see everyone.

The Chair Councillor Chris Quance thanked Councillors for attending and their reports.

6. All members of the Council had received a copy of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 13th September 2021 by email, the contents were deemed true and correct and were duly signed by the Chair Councillor Chris Quance

7. Matters Arising

- 1) Sutcombe Playing field, nothing much is happening as waiting for the sale of the school buildings to go through.
- 2) Sale of School Buildings, still waiting for the acceptance of terms by the Charity Commissions.
- 3) Hedge/Verge Cutting, the majority seems to have already been done by Highways
- 4) Sutcombe Newsletter, it was the unanimous decision of the Councillors to leave any publication until the spring
- 5) The Clerk had reported the damage to Highways again and copied DC Councillor James Morrish into the email, action is yet to be taken.

8. Planning Applications:

- 1) 1/0981/2021/FUL (Amended description) Proposal; Conversion of existing barn into one holiday let

Location: Magnolia Barn, Sutcombe, HOLSWORTHY, Devon

- 2) 1/1004/2021/FUL, Proposal: Extension and alterations

Location: 12 St. Andrews Close, Sutcombe, Holsworthy, Devon

The above applications comments had to be with Torridge before the meeting, comments had been sent to the Clerk by email, no issues were raised and the Councillors unanimously approved of both applications. The Clerk had conveyed the decisions to Torridge Planning department.

8. **Planning Decisions:**

- 1) 1/0981/2021/FUL (Amended description) Proposal; Conversion of existing barn into one holiday let
Location: Magnolia Barn, Sutcombe, HOLSWORTHY, Devon
 - 2) 1/1004/2021/FUL Proposal: Extension and alterations
Location: 12 St. Andrews Close, Sutcombe, Holsworthy, Devon
- The above applications were granted permission*

Planning Appeals:

There were none

9. **Finance.**

- a) The cheques for signature were approved: i) Clerks Quarterly Salary £322.02 ii) Admin expenses £47.52
- b) financial report to date, the Parish Councillors had received a copy of the spreadsheet, no issues were raised, the bank balance of £22,538.79 was supported by the current bank statement.
There being ring fenced funds of Election £500, Project fund £4002.00, Loan £8000, DCC £3150, the balance of £6886.79 being Parish Council funds
- c) To consider grant applications received from: -
 - i) Sutcombe Memorial Hall ii) Sutcombe Free Church Cemetery
 - iii) St. Andrews Church iv) Sutcombe Community PlayThe above applications were considered by the Councillors, the Chair Councillor Chris Quance made A proposal that due the lack of fund raising the grants be doubled for this year only, this proposal was Unanimously accepted. £500 was awarded to each organisation

The Clerk apologised as she had left the cheque book at home, the cheques would be written out and Sent to the Chair who would arrange for them to be signed and sent back to the her.
This was unanimously approved by the Councillors.

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

- i) DALC Newsletters 58-63 ii) DCC Covid 19 cases/ Keeping Families safe
 - iii) Rural Network Services bulletins x 2 iv) R.N.S Rural Funding
 - v) D.C.C Parish & Town Councils Highway newsletter vi) H.Roper- New Council led leisure company
 - vii) Devon Communities together-Training for Halls viii) H.Page- Rough Sleepers estimate
 - viv) D.C.C £8.5 million to help deal with Covid 19 x) L.Barrows -Devon Highways
 - xi) Devon Climate Emergency report xii) North Devon Stakeholders update
 - xiii) D C T Charity Christmas Tree xiv) J. Tall Funding for the ND records Office xv) Highways Conference
 - xvi) H.Roper Training Opportunities xvii) Torridge D C – Regeneration Grant Funding
- The above were all received by email, no issues were raised or follow-ups*

Letter received by post from Mr D Hedges, the letter had been scanned and sent to Councillors prior to the, Mr Hedges had written to explain that he would be applying to Torridge Planning Department to remove The Holiday restrictions from his holiday home in the Village. After discussion it was raised that the Parish Council were not allowed to have an opinion before the application was sent to the Planning department. The Clerk will convey this to Mr Hedges.

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

- 1) Councillor John Shepherd reported railings within the footpath from Town Farm to Upcott were in a very poor,
The Clerk will report this to Martin Caddy.

The date of the next meeting was set for the 10th January 2022
There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.35pm