

# SUTCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of Sutcombe Parish Council Meeting held in the Memorial Hall on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 which commenced at 19:45.**

Members of the Council Present: Councillors C. Quance (Chair), B. Galbraith -Marten (Vice Chair). C. Furse, E. Horn, J. Daniel, H. Rowland and J. Shepherd. District Councillors Richard Boughton and Anna Dart. Also present was the Clerk Lorraine Buttery.

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 James Morris, PS Frank Morgan District Councillor Stephen Harding.
4. **Public Comment Session:**  
No members of the public were present.
5. **Reports from Devon County Councillor and District Councillors:**

District Councillor Anna Dart said that there was not much going on and no meetings had been held recently. I am mainly dealing with planning matters. The development in Bradworthy had a biodiversity gain but there is nowhere local to spend it, the Planning departments hands are tied as its legally bound. Government wants houses built but it's putting the right argument forward to get what is needed.

Councillor Richard Boughton commented that one had to be mindful about going against planning officers recommendation. Richard went on to talk about Holsworthy Pool reopening, as there are problems there, and does not know what will happen in the long run now it has been taken over by the Council.

Councillor Claire Furse wondered why the Roller Skating had been stopped as it was very popular, Richard Replied that he did not know why.

The Chair Councillor Chris Quance asked Anna regarding her 'Calling in' of the planning application for the 12 houses on the land next to the Memorial Hall, Chris said he was still confused as to why the developers had put in another application for 10, Councillor Barry Galbraith- Marten suggested it might be to do with them having to reduce their contribution if the development for 10 was passed.

Councillor Shepherd suggested that the building of smaller properties might be better for the young people of The Parish to get onto the housing ladder and stay in the village, Anna replied that one bedroomed properties Did not sell well, and it was important to establish what exactly was needed, John argued that youngsters could not afford two or three bedroomed properties.

Anna went on to say that a compromise might be necessary with the decision of viability being made by the Planning dept. Anna asked whether any of the Councillors would be willing to attend the meeting?

Councillor Shepherd also commented that the current design of the intended properties bore no resemblance to What was in the original plans, the new ones are very contemporary and it seems the developers are building to a 'trend' to maximise profits.

Councillor Quance thanked Anna and Richard for their help and explanations.
6. All members of the Council had received a copy of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022 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- no developments to report
  - 2) Sale of School Buildings- an email had been received in reply to the Clerks enquiry to Michelle Ellis asking for an update. Michelle stated that they await D of E consent to dispose of the school site, she will let us know once this is to hand and can progress the matter.
  - 3) Roads, although some potholes had been repaired there are still many areas of the village where the road surfaces are in a dreadful state and potholes stay unrepaired. The highway officer Kieran Stanbury has replied to the Councillors complaints, quoting lack of money and the roads complained about are not deemed dangerous or not a priority. The Councillors agree this is not satisfactory.

**8. Planning Applications:**

1) 1/0274/2022/FULM

Proposal: Residential development of 12 dwellings and associated works, amended Plans.

Location: Land adjacent to Sutcombe Memorial Hall

2) 1/0654/2022/REMM

Proposal: Reserved matters application for access, appearance, landscaping, layout & scale pursuant to Outline application 1/0989/2018/OUTM – proposed residential development of 10 dwellings.

Location: Land adjacent to Sutcombe Memorial Hall

*After discussion with the District Councillors the Clerk was requested to report the comments and misgivings to Torridge planning, this would include some of the original comments made on the original application,*

*Plus: 1) The design and mix of house sizes are not suitable for the Village*

*2) Would the plot left on the application for 10 houses be left to degenerate as had happened in St.Andrews close.*

*3) To state that the Parish Councillors do not object to the developments per say and appreciate the Village has to grow, but would like to see more consideration given to the environment of the Village and consider what was actually needed for the Village to grow and prosper, with the youngsters living in the village able to stay.*

**Planning Decisions:**

1) 1/0642/2022/FUL

Proposal: Conversion of barn to holiday cottage (Removal of condition 5 of permission- 1/2258/2001 (Holiday use). Location: The Small Barn, Sutcombe, Holsworthy, Devon

*The above application has been withdrawn*

**Planning Appeals**

*There were none*

**9. Finance.**

a) financial report to date the bank balance of £20,087.31 was supported by the current bank statement and bank reconciliation. The balance consists of Ring-fenced funds £650 elections, £4152 project and, £8,000 loan £3150 owing to DCC, the balance of £4,350.73 being Parish Council general funds.

b) Although not on the agenda as the invoice was received the day of the meeting, the councillors approved and two councillors signed a cheque for £35 for the hire of hall/kitchen for Parish Council meetings.

**10. Correspondence as below emails 12<sup>th</sup> July-15<sup>th</sup> August 2022**

i) Rural Network Bulletins x 5 July/August ii) DALC Newsletters 31/32/33/34/35/36

iii) Devon County Council Brave new vision for Children, Green Flags Flying, Parish & Town Highway newsletter, Devon is going Greener. iv) Torridge District Council -Jobs & Careers Bulletin, Oak Trees, Northern Burrows Summer Event, Grant funding, Northern Burrows Toy Library, Council Tax Reduction.

v) Kieran Stanbury re roads. vi) Royal British Legion Queens Green Campaign.

vii) Councillor Dart- Adoption Notification SPD & SCI. viii) North Devon Healthcare update newsletter

viv) S.C.C Check your covid 19 pass x) C.A.B August Advice Column xi) Paul - Dream A Way

xii) SAAA- 2022 opt out xiii) T.D.C Council tax reduction consultation xiv) P.C. Frank Morgan

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

1) The Clerk raised the issue regarding emails, as at times requests for replies to emails had not been forthcoming. The problem of personal email addresses used for Parish Council business was also raised and the Clerk said this was not a good idea. Councillor Shepherd asked whether the IT people could be approached as to whether it would be possible to change all Councillors email address in line with the website. The Clerk agreed that this was a good idea and would approach ITC.

2) Newsletter- Councillor Furse will speak to Faye regarding getting this done in the near future, hopefully By the end of September. Enquiries will be made to ensure Faye has a list of the contributors who have sent reports/articles in the past

The next Parish Council Meeting was arranged for the 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Signed .....

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