

SUTCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Sutcombe Parish Council Meeting held in the Memorial Hall on Monday 10th September 2022 which commenced at 19:45.

Members of the Council Present: Councillors C. Quance (Chair), B.Galbraith -Marten (Vice Chair), E.Horn J. Daniel and J. Shepherd. District Councillor Richard Boughton, 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 District Councillors Stephen Harding and Anna Dart.
Parish Councillor C. Furse
4. **Public Comment Session:**
No members of the public were present.
5. **Reports from Devon County Councillor and District Councillors:**
District Councillor Richard Boughton stated that although not a lot to report there are serious issues regarding Torridge District Finances which are well behind budget.
The cost of temporary homes for the homeless was escalating, staff costs are more than was budgeted for, General inflation has a real influence on all budgets. It was very difficult getting staff for refuse collecting, It is very challenging times, but sooner or later the budgets have to get back in line.
The Council is looking at what cutbacks can be applied to 'discretionary things', as many things we are Legally obliged to supply. Councillor John Daniels remarked that it was obvious that grass/hedge cutting was not being done. Richard went on to report that house building continues to escalate with 750 houses to be built in Bideford and 400 in Northam. Councillor Emma Horn asked whether these new builds would have the appropriate infrastructure included? Richard replied that yes they would be Policy compliant, with affordable housing and a school included. Councillor B.Galbraith -Marten asked whether there would be houses across the range, Richard replied that as far as he was aware there would be a good mix.
Councillor Chris Quance thanked Richard for his report and invited him 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 22nd August 2022 by email, the contents were deemed true and correct by a show of hands 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, no developments to date, Councillor Barry Galbraith -Marten commented at The time that it is taking to sort this out, the Clerk was requested to write to Michelle Ellis and voice the Councillors' concerns.
 - 3) email addresses, the Clerk had been in contact with the IT company and was informed that generic email Address would cost £28 per address per year. It was the unanimous decision of the Councillors to leave Things as they were and ensure Parish Council Business was not sent to private email addresses.
 - 4) New Councillor, the Notice supplied by the elections offices was on display, as soon as the notice period had elapsed the election office will inform the Clerk, who will then prepare notice advertising the vacancy.
8. **Planning Applications:**
There were none

Planning Decisions:

1) 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

The above application has been approved

The Chairperson Councillor Chris Quance remarked that now the application had been approved there isn't a lot we can do, the provision is that 2 more house could be built in time, it has been very confusing with two applications for the same site, Councillor Shepherd commented that he thought the developers had been very clever in confusing the issue, he thought that both applications had been 'called in' Councillor Boughton commented that yes, it was all very confusing, our concerns regarding applications are not always taken into account and they do not influence their decision.

The positive outcome was the road improvements

Planning Appeals

There were none

9. Finance.

- a) financial report to date the bank balance of £23,180.58 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 £7,444.00 being Parish Council general funds.
- b) It was the unanimous decision to approve the following cheques, two councillors signed
 - ii) Clerk's quarterly salary £430.95
 - ii) Admin expenses £38.71
 - iii) Visionict £42.00
- c) The Councillor acknowledged the receipt of Wayleave Payment £3.27 and Second half of precept £3125

10. Correspondence as below emails 23rd August – 4th October

- i) Rural Network Bulletins x 5 Aug/Sept and Funding Digest, Community Village Hall Survey
- ii) DALC Newsletters 38-47
- iii) Devon County Council Free Trees/ Avian Flu
- iv) DCC Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11 Death, King Charles 111 proclamation.
- v) Torridge District Council -Jobs & Careers Bulletin, Grant funding, Bucks Mills Lime Kiln, Great Big green week, Free Workshops
- vi) DCC Covid Boosters/Flu Jab/Unpaid Carers
- vi) Royal British Legion get ready for Remembrance Day.
- vii) Tom Vanstone- Condolences Books
- viii) North Devon Healthcare One Devon Bulletin
- viv) Devon Communities together -new funding
- x) C.A.B September Advice Column
- xi) Paul - Dream A Way
- xii) Holsworthy Transport Grant request

The above emails had been received by email; no issues were raised except for xii) it was remarked that The Parish Council could not commit to donating every year but the request would be considered during the November meeting, as will the request from David Quance received in the post.

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

- 1) The Clerk reported that the notice board had been damaged, permission was given to contact Jag signs to ask them to look at the door and give a quote for its repair.
- 2) Councillor Quance requested that the Clerk contact Holly Rowlands thank her for her contribution to The Parish whilst a Councillor, whilst writing to ask her if it was possible for her to let the Parish Council any photographs she had taken at the late Queens Jubilee Celebrations, a USB/memory stick would be supplied if required.
- 3) Councillor Barry Galbraith -Marten stated that he has the Poppy Wreath from last year, he will clean it up to see if it was still suitable for this year's services, It was the unanimous decision of the Councillors to donate £25 to the Royal British Legion as a wreath would not be purchased this year. Councillor John Daniels commented that due to ill health he would not be able to take part this year.

The next Parish Council Meeting was arranged for the 29th November 2022

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Signed

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