

SUTCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Sutcombe Parish Council Annual General Meeting held at Sutcombe Parish Memorial Hall, on Monday 15th May 2017 commencing at 7.45pm and Parish Council Meeting which commenced at 7.55pm.

Members of the Council Present: Councillors S Horn (Chairman), C Quance (Vice Chairman), J Daniel, C Furse, M Wannacott, B Galbraith-Marten, J. Shepherd and Mrs L Buttery (Clerk)
Also in attendance was County Councillor Barry Parsons.

1) Apologies

Councillors Ken Carroll and Ian Parker

2) Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

B Galbraith-Marten proposed and it was seconded by Councillor C. Quance that Councillor S Horn be elected Chairman for the forthcoming year, the proposal was unanimously carried.

Councillor S Horn proposed and it was seconded by Councillor J. Daniel that Councillor C. Quance be elected as Vice Chairman, the proposal was unanimously carried.

Declaration of Acceptance of office forms were completed by Councillors Stephen Horn and Councillor Chris Quance, both signatures were witnessed by Councillor Mike Wannacott.

3) Any other business relating to the AGM

There was none.

The AGM closed at 7.55pm

Ordinary Meeting

1) Chairman's announcements

There were none

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 John Daniel declared an interest in Planning Application 1/0110/201/FUL*

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

Apologies were received from Councillors Ian Parker and Ken Carroll,

4) Public Comment Session and District and Local Councillors reports

No members of the public were present. Chairman Councillor Stephen Horn welcomed Councillor Barry Parsons and congratulated him on his excellent results in the recent elections.

Councillor Parsons thanked everyone for their support and reported that there are now 60 Councillors for Devon County Council of which 42 are Conservative, 7 Labour, 7 Lib Dem, 3 Independent and 1 Green Party.

He has now 30 Parishes assigned to him, and intends attending as many meetings as he possibly can. If he cannot attend he ensure a monthly report will be received by all 'his Parishes'.

A discussion followed regarding the school playing field, and the question was asked 'Why is it taking DCC so long to sort out the question of the covenant and trust document'?

Councillor Parsons explained that with the retirement of Charlotte Reynolds, due to staff shortages it has taken while to hand over her workload. He suggested that the Playground Committee put a break on proceeding with ordering the play equipment to give Matthew a chance to study the paperwork. He will contact Matthew and get an update. Councillor Chris Quance asked that the question be raised as to why a copy of the covenant or trust document has not been made available to the Parish Council, as they had asked to see it several times?

Councillor John Daniels commented that he felt sure that the playing field was a separate issue than the school, as it was given for the benefit of children of Sutcombe. Councillor Parsons said he would check with DCC and report back to the Parish Council as soon as he had heard.

Barry went on to comment that he was very unhappy regarding the closure of beds at Holsworthy Hospital, There are three Councillors working with N.D.H.T., but due to the by elections they were unable to engage with them, this will be the case until after the General Election in June.

Signed..... Date:.....

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5) Approval of Minutes

All members of the Council had received a copy of the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council meeting held on the 24th April, both sets were unanimously agreed as true and accurate. They were duly signed by the Chairman Councillor Stephen Horn.

6) Matters Arising

1) **School Playing Field Educational Trust;** this had been discussed during Councillor Parsons report, but Councillor Stephen Horn asked what the intentions of the Committee were now? Councillor Michael Wonnacott stated that they were not prepared to spend public money on the preparation of the site and erection of the play equipment only for someone from the past to come forward and demand ownership of the site, in these circumstances who would pay for the site to be put back to its original state if requested? Councillor Chris Quance asked that if there was a deadline for the grant money to be spent whether the equipment could be ordered and then put into storage. Councillor Claire Furse suggested waiting to make any decision until Councillor Parsons reported back to the Parish Council. This was agreed to be a sensible idea. Meanwhile as the grass had been cut would the children be allowed to play on the field, the reply was that the committee could not see any reasons against this suggestion. The Clerk was asked to contact Torridge Legal Advisor Jamie Hollis and DALC representative Lesley Smith to ask them if they could help with obtaining the trust documents and what the legal situation could be.

2) **Bench Repairs:** Councillor Chris Quance reported that the repairs had almost been completed

3) **Web Site:** The clerk reported that there had been a problem sorting out the 'domain' name but it was hoped that the problems had been solved and that the site should be up and running within a few weeks

7) Planning Applications

1) 1/0110/2017/FUL

Proposal: Agricultural Silage Clamp

Location: South Lane Farm, Sutcombe, Holsworthy, Devon.

This application was received between meetings, the Parish Councillors informed the Parish Clerk by email that they had no objections to the applications and unanimously supported the proposal. Councillor John Daniels declared an interest and did not pass any comments. The Clerk passed on the Parish Council's decision to Torridge Planning.

Planning Appeals

None have been received.

Planning Decisions

None have been received.

8) Finance

- 1) The first half of the annual precept was acknowledged as being received- £2280
- 2) A new quote for the insurance had not been received, the original being incorrect as it did not contain the play equipment that was in the playing field. The clerk will inform the Chairman when it arrives. It was the unanimous decision that a cheque will be signed between meetings
- 3) A cheque for Clerks quarterly salary £256.00 was signed by two Councillors
- 4) The Annual return was explained to the Parish Councillors and the Chairman duly signed with the Parish Clerk Countersigning
- 5) A cheque for £50 was signed for the internal Audit.

9) Correspondence as below and as available at the time of the meeting

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| i) Torridge CAB | ii) Rural Network Newsletters | iii) Peter Angel- Grass Tender |
| iv) Torridge DC Flood risk management. | | v) Torridge DC Flood Risk Management |
| vi) Harry Roper – One small Step | | vii) Neighbourhood Highway Officers |
| viii) Highways Dept. - Community Self Help update | | |
| ix) Devon Communities- reference invite to Wales and West Utilities Conference | | |
- The above communications were emailed to all Councillors as received and no further action is required.

10) Matters for discussion or to be noted and matters brought to the attention of the Chairman

The Chairman reported that a Tender for the Grass Cutting had been received from Peter Angel but as it was Received after the deadline. It was the unanimous decision that when the TAP fund application was available It would be once again applied for to cut the hedges and verges. The next meeting was set for the 10th July 2017

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05 pm