

SUTCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Sutcombe Parish Council Meeting held at Sutcombe Parish Memorial Hall, on Monday 20th May 2019 which commenced at 8.00pm

Members of the Council Present: Councillors S. Horn (Chairperson), C. Quance (Vice Chairperson), C. Furse, M. Wonnacott, B. Galbraith-Marten and J. Daniel.

Also present were Devon County Councillor Barry Parsons, District Councillor Richard Boughton and Mrs L Buttery (Clerk)

1. Chairman's announcements

The Chairperson Councillor Stephen Horn 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. *Councillors Claire Furse, J. Daniel and C. Quance declared an interest in item 7. 3*

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

Councillor J. Shepherd, District Councillors Steven Harding, and PCSO Emma Tomkies.

4. Public Comment Session and District and Local Councillors reports.

Councillor Richard Boughton introduced himself to all, and was very pleased to be elected, he did not have anything to report at this time but said that if he can be of any help at any time please contact me. He stated that the new leader of Torridge was Councillor Anna Dart; the Council was now Independent and not Conservative run, Anna would try to get to this meeting.

Devon County Councillor Barry parsons commenced his report by congratulating the Chairperson and vice-chair he was very pleased that they were still in post, and thanked the Councillors for their on-going support.

Barry commented that he was pleased to see Richard in post as he was a very good Councillor.

Barry reported on the following:

- i) The Community fund which replaced the TAP fund will not continue after this year, but there is still the locality Grants available, but he has 30 parishes to support with a budget of £10,000.
- ii) We do not always hear positive reports regarding Devon, but a recent survey across 152 Counties on the "Thriving Places Index", Devon came out on top on 'how we treat people', look after them better, and a good place to live.
- iii) Although we do not have the same issues as Inner Cities, there is still a rise in knife crime, in most instances drug related. Unfortunately, Youth services have been taken away, there being little support to help the youth of our communities.
- iv) In the education sector it is quite worrying that Devon children receive on average £294 less than the rest of the UK, the funding is far too low and we are trying to get the extra funding.

Councillor Stephen Horn thanked Barry for his report and continued support of the Parish Council, he asked whether he could contact Devon County Council regarding the purchase of the School Playing Field?

Barry replied that he would contact them to try and move things along.

5. Approval of Minutes

All members of the Council had received a copy of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 8th April 2019 by email, with the unanimous decision of the Councillors, the contents were deemed true and correct and were duly signed by the Chairman Councillor Stephen Horn.

6. Matters Arising

1) Dogs waste Bin, the bin has now been erected.

7. Planning Applications

1) 1 /0368/2019/FUH: Proposal: Single Storey Extension

Location: Magnolia Barn, Sutcombe, HOLSWORTHY, Devon

No objections were raised and the Councillors unanimously supported the application. The Clerk will Convey the decision to Torridge Planning Department

Planning Applications Continued:

- 2) 1/0199/2019/FUL: Proposal: Agricultural Building
Location: Land west of Freisland, Sutcombe, HOLSWORTHY, Devon
No objections were raised and the Councillors unanimously supported the application. The Clerk will Convey the decision to Torridge Planning Department
- 3) 1/0305/2019/FUL: Proposal: Residential conversion of four agricultural Buildings with associated landscaping.
Location: Barns at Billhole, Sutcombe, HOLSWORTHY, Devon
*Councillors Claire Furse, J. Daniel and C. Quance declared an interest and took no part in the discussion. Councillor Furse left the room
No objections were raised and the Councillors unanimously supported the application. The Clerk will Convey the decision to Torridge Planning Department*

Planning Decisions: *There were none*

Planning Appeals: *There were none*

8. Finance.

- a) The councillors acknowledged the receipt of: i) the first half of precept £2925.00.
ii) £3150 from DCC (Fence). iii) Locality Grant £1000, Councillor Horn thanked Councillor Barry Parsons for his approval and help in obtaining this grant.
- b) Three Councillors signed cheques for: i) Clerks quarterly salary £313.40. i) Admin Expenses £35.72
iii) Internal Audit fee £50. iv) The Councillors acknowledged that a cheque was signed between meetings for newsletter printing £37.57
- c) The Annual Governance statement, each section was read out by Councillor Horn and all were Approved, the statement was duly signed by the Chairperson and the Clerk.
- d) Annual Accountancy statements were approved as correct, the statement was duly signed by the Chairperson and the Clerk
- e) The Annual return and annual accounts, were studied and were duly signed by the Chairperson and the Clerk
- f) Annual Audit Exemption certificate was explained by the Clerk and duly signed by the Chairperson and the Clerk
- g) Financial report to date, the clerk apologised that she had left the report at home, but hoped that the Councillors had had a look at the report sent by email.
- h) The annual insurance quote was unanimously accepted and three Councillors signed the cheque for £339.06.
- i) It was decided to put the loan Application on hold until the purchase of the field had been finalised. Information flyers for residents would be sent out when it was appropriate.

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

- i) Devon Highways ii) Rural Services Updates iii) DALC Newsletters x 2
iv) NDHCT Stakeholder Briefing v) PCSO Emma Tomkies – Rural Update
vi) Devon Community Together-learning Academy
vii) Email from Zoe Uglow- Reporter re Planning application viii) CPRE Best kept Devon Cemetery
The above were all received by email, no further action require except:
vii) The Clerk, had with the approval of the Parish Councillors sent a reply to Zoe informing her that the Parish Councillors have no further comments to make apart from stating that “as far as they were aware The outline planning application in question had not been approved by Torridge”

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

- 1) The emails and replies to Helen Brookhouse were discussed and the unanimous decision was that no further Communication was necessary.
- 2) Councillor Stephen Horn requested that permission be granted that the annual verge/hedge cutting be approved, The unanimous decision was to approve the usual hourly allowance, Councillor Horn will obtain three quotes for the work to be carried out.
- 3) Councillor Michael Wonnacott asked whether there is the possibility of the 30 mile an hour speed restriction in the village being extended? The ideal extension would be from its present site to beyond Brightwater Farm up to the grass bank just before Middledown. Councillor Horn gave agreement if it was possible
The reasons for the request are that the children that reside at Brightwater Farm have a disability that renders them unable to see any danger and they have no road safety awareness, there has already been several 'frights'. There is also registered caravan/camping site with the ensuing extra traffic.
Councillor Barry parsons requested that the Clerk send a formal request to him and he would forward this to the Highways department with his full support.

4) Councillor Claire Furze asked whether the Parish Council should be writing to the residents of School House as the continual parking of vehicles in the access area of the Play field is causing problems, the Clerk will write a letter.

Councillor Michael Wonnacott asked whether the Parish Council should also ask DCC to write, as hadn't they a duty of care to keep the entrance clear? It was decided that DCC should not be contacted.

There being no further business the meetings closed at 8.40pm

The next meeting will be held on the 22nd July 2019.

Just after the meeting closed District Councillor Anna Dart arrived after being delayed at another meeting, she apologised that she had missed the meeting, Councillor Horn welcomed her, Anna went on to say that this was her third term at Torridge and to begin with was unsure whether to stand, but she is very glad she did.

The Council is now not so 'blue' with the Independent Party winning overall control.

It is hoped to work together inclusively without Party Politics getting in the way. Do not hesitate to contact me at any time, I am only a phone call away.

Realistically not all of the District Councillors can attend Parish Council Meetings, ideally one of the three of us will try to attend.

Councillor Stephen Horn thank Anna for dropping in, and looked forward to seeing her at a future meeting.