

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 26th November 2008:

The Council met in the Village Hall @ 7.30pm. There was an attendance of 9 Parish Councillors, 4 Parishoners, District Councillor Mrs D. O'Callaghan and Community Police Officer Steve Mullen.

Mr S.A.E. Wright in the Chair.

Apologies for absence: Mr D. Horton.

Appointment of new Parish Councillor: Mrs Sally Howells was nominated by the Chairman Mr S. Wright, proposed by Mrs G. Doyle and seconded by Mr A. Clarke. All in favour. Mrs Howells was welcomed by the Council.

Open Forum: There were topics for discussion.

Community Police Officer : Steve Mullen introduced himself to the Meeting as the Community Officer for West Alvington and Salcombe. He reported that in the last twelve months there had been 13 offences in the Parish, this accounted for 1.4% of crime in the area. There had been 1 non domestic burglary, 1 theft, 2 assaults, and 9 miscellaneous offences. He reported that the police try to work closely with such societies as Tor Homes to cut domestic offences. Mrs Doyle asked whether he thought that the double yellow lines proposed for the Village would be valuable, PC Mullen felt that any improvement on safety would be a plus and the police would then be all for it. The Chairman thanked PC Mullen for attending the Meeting and keeping us informed of events in our Parish. PC Mullen gave his Salcombe number and welcomed calls from residents with any concerns.

District Councillor – Mrs D. O'Callaghan: Reported that South Hams Council had had a meeting to discuss car parking charges. Many Councillors believe that the charges should be frozen. A letter is to go into the Gazette from the Information Centre regarding the damaging consequences of car parking charges being increased. Teignbridge Council are to freeze car parking charges and leisure centre fees. She also reported that there is to be a meeting about the need for affordable housing and employment sites, as these issues are mentioned in our Parish Plan she wondered if we as a Parish wished to be included in the remit or did we wish to be independent.?

There are to be changes in Play Ground Maintenance, we could be charged for any maintenance under taken under the new scheme, this could be in the region of £200. Our equipment is reported to be in a fair state.

The free Kingsbridge bags have all been allocated, but are still available to purchase at £2.95 each.

The planning application for Gerston Point has been selected to go to committee for the decision.

The Parking Permit Scheme is to go ahead with tickets to be purchased at £10 per annum this will allow residents to park in the car parks between 4pm and 10am.

The request for disabled access on the footpath has gone to Mr Pope the Engineer who will give his report shortly.

Minutes of the last Meeting: The Minutes of the last Meeting held in September were confirmed and signed, copies thereof having been supplied to each Councillor prior to the Meeting.

Matters Arising:

Church; Mr D. Dainty reported that the gift aid day raised an extraordinary £1.250. There are to be changes in the Exeter Diocese with a reshuffle. More information will be available at a later date.

School: Mr D. Dainty reported that the school children gave an excellent presentation on 11th November. They are once again doing the Operation Christmas Child boxes. The school also held an anti bullying week which was informative. The numbers are stable at present. And Bill Crispin is to be nominated as Lollipop Person of the Year.

Village Hall:

Mrs G. Doyle reported that at a Meeting held last week, attended by Mr Butler from the school concerns were raised about cars parking in the area outside the village hall, so preventing hall users from parking directly outside when they need to unload etc; It was asked whether 3 parking bays could be marked against the fence in order to keep the entrance to the door clear and the gate to the playing field. A discussion was held regarding painting a box preventing parking in front of the playing field gate, however, it was decided that perhaps a small sign would be more appropriate.

Lower Street Car Park Update: Tor Homes tidied up the area in the car park, as for the footpath this was apparently closed for Health and Safety reasons. It was asked whether they could create an alternative footpath, they are looking into this but there are no definite plans afoot. The resurfacing of the car park area is a non starter as we are not officially tenants of Tor Homes! The Chairman suggested an offer to purchase it for a £1, surprisingly we have had no response!

Mr A. Clarke asked who the residents would sue if they had an accident on the footpath, the Chairman said it would be Tor Homes responsibility.

Disabled Access on West Alvington Hill: This was covered by District Councillor Mrs D. O'Callaghan in her report.

Burial site Update: The Parish Council had received from the Churchwardens a letter about a contribution of £100 towards the cost of the upkeep of the lawn mower etc, the PCC had recently received a bill for £900 for the maintenance. After consultations with various people about the grass cutting in the now closed Churchyard, which is undertaken by contractors approx 6 times a year which the PCC felt wasn't adequate, hence why they still use their equipment. It was felt paying the full £100 was a bit excessive so a suggested contribution of £50 was made. All the Councillors were in favour of this proposal. The repairs to the Church wall have been delayed until December.

Working Party Update: A work party was held to coincide with the hedgecutting, the Town Park Car Park was tidied up with the hedges being cut and the rubbish picked up. The hedges were cut in Lower Street and down towards Longbrook. The walled areas were weeded and rubbish bagged up for disposal. The Chairman thanked those who helped for their hard work.

Car Parks: The Chairman painted lines to create bays in the Town Park Car Park to enable cars to park easier and make things much clearer. The untaxed cars have now been removed and we will continue to monitor the situation on a regular basis. We do still however need to approach Western Power about having a street light put up in the new section as it is rather dark there and not nice for anyone parking there in the evening.

Parish Correspondent: Following the last meeting the Chairman was going to approach the correspondent. But in the meantime he contacted the Chairman to say that due to work commitments he felt he would be unable to continue with his column as Parish Correspondent in the Gazette. He was therefore going to resign his position. The Chairman wished him well in his growing business and a new parish correspondent should now be sought.

Clerks new laptop: Following permission at the last meeting the Clerk purchased the agreed laptop and it is now in working use!

Disabled Parking Space: The Clerk obtained the application form for the resident in question and she had duly filled it in and returned to the Clerk who will forward it onto the relevant authority.

Parish Plan: Mr A. Clarke reported that most of the Parish Plans have now been delivered, with only about 25 left to be handed out. It was suggested that we now set a date for the follow up meeting, it was agreed we try and book the hall for the 28th January.

The Chairman has drawn up a list of jobs to be allocated to each Councillor with the aim of giving them a more pro-active role. It has been suggested as follows:

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| Parish follow up meetings | - Mr A. Clarke |
| Working Parties | - Mr A. Palmer |
| Parish Fun Day | - Mr A. Clarke & Mrs L. Lawrence |
| Best kept garden/hanging basket | - Mr D. Dainty |
| Footpath maps | - Mr S. Wright |
| Allotments | - Mrs F. Newsham |
| Communication | - Mr S. Wright |
| More use of Village Hall | - Mrs S. Howells |
| Parish Open Spaces | - Mr D. Horton |

(recreating an area within the Parish, ie: park, orchard, pond etc; etc.

Results of the double yellow lines survey: as a result of the survey carried out it appears there were no speeding issues in the village if anything there was a drop in speed after the cones were put in place, as a result Devon County Council are now happy to move forward. The Chairman asked the Councillors if they were now happy to ratify the original plans. Mr A. Clarke again said he would like to see seasonal single yellow lines rather than the double yellows from the pub to no. 3 Phoenix Place.

Mr Adams – parishoner present felt that the original plan for double yellow lines was desperately needed for the safety of Town Park residents because of the poor visibility at the entrance. Mr A. Palmer and Mrs G. Doyle felt that the double yellow lines only needed to run on the southside of the Village as you approach from Kingsbridge and were not necessary throughout the whole of the northside. The Chairman reiterated the need to go for as much as possible with the option of cutting back if necessary.

After more discussion it was voted 7 in favour, and 1 abstention that double yellow lines will run from the pub to no. 3 Phoenix Place and from Lower Street junction to the far end of the Well area outside Elmfield. They will also run either side of the junction to Town Park and the road leading upto Town Park.

Chairmans Report: The Chairman reported that he had attended the A.O.N.B Annual forum on 17th October. The forum was also attended by Gary Streeter MP and Tom Oliver, Andrew Rew from the DNFU and Stephen Munday from SHDC. At the meeting the Matthew Taylor report was discussed, this was about rural housing, second homes and their effect on the community. Planning also featured highly on the agenda.

The Chairman had also attended a Saltstone meeting, where Mr Phil Norrey Chief Executive of Devon County Council was present.

On the 12th November he also attended a budget meeting, which was in his words “appalling”. He asked SHDC to explain what they actually did this year for the money that we pay, for example how many times a year they cut the verges, emptied our bins etc. but no one can furnish you with this type of information. This leaves one feeling very dissatisfied with the services you receive from your local council. However, on a brighter note, the Family Fun Bus that comes to the Village Hall is very well supported, they provide an excellent service with plenty of play equipment for the children and is free to use.

Planning Applications:

a. Arqiva Ltd: Application for installation of 1 x 0.75m VSAT Antenna and Cable Tray for Digital Television Switchover - All in favour.

Planning Decisions:

a. Arqiva Ltd: **Grant of permission** for installation of 1 x 0.75m VSAT Antenna and Cable Tray for Digital Television Switchover.

Parish Web-site: The Parish website is up and running, thanks to the Chairman, on it are the minutes of previous meetings, agendas, local information, historical information about the village, photographs, the regions weather and much more, there are hopes to sell advertising space to help finance the small costs of the website.

The Digital Switchover: The proposed dates for the switchover are the 8th and the 22nd April 2009.

Financial Report:

The Clerk reported the following balances:

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|---------------------------|------------------|---------|
| Lloyds TSB | Current Account | 1925:55 |
| Lloyds TSB | Savings Account | 112:26 |
| Lloyds TSB | Parish Plan Fund | 12:55 |
| Abbey National P3 Account | | 374:37 |

Cheques to be drawn:

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| Village Hall | 10:00 |
| Mr Manisty – Car Park Rental (standing order) | 350:00 |
| Laptop | 349:99 |
| Laptop bag | 9:99 |
| Chairmans expenses – purchases | 80:40 |
| PCC- re: donation towards grass machinery usage | 50:00 |

Cheques to be drawn when invoices come in.

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| Mr J Rhymes - Grass cutting | 150:00 |
| Mr G Hallett - Hedgecutting | 60:00 |

The Clerk has received the Audit form back and there are a few minor items to be amended. This will be done and re-signed by the Clerk and the Chairman for re submission to the Auditor.

A.O.B by direction of the Chairman: There has been a vehicle going around the lanes clearing the mud on the roads. Some areas have been in quite a mess recently so this is a welcome improvement. Councillor Toms remarked the area around Longbrook required attention. The Chairman agreed to make contact with Devon Highways.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 8.57pm.

The date of the next Meeting being confirmed as Friday 23rd January 2009.

Signed Dated.....

Meeting Dates for 2009:

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| Friday | 23 rd | January |
| Wednesday | 25 th | March |
| Friday | 22 nd | May |
| Wednesday | 29 th | July |
| Friday | 25 th | September |
| Wednesday | 25 th | November |

