

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 9th May 2013:

Annual General Meeting:

The Parish Council met in the Village Hall at 7.00pm. There was an attendance of 7 Parish Councillors, 6 Parishoners and Mr A. Lethbridge.

Apologies for absence: There were no apologies.

Open Forum:- Mr A. Lethbridge representing Mr and Mrs Horton spoke about a potential planning application they would like to submit. The site is behind the Ring O'Bells and is known as Homefield. Mr and Mrs Horton were not happy with the way TRAND were dealing with their original plans and felt that they were not supporting their application in the way they would have liked. They have decided to go ahead with a departure site comprising of affordable housing and open market developments. Comprising in total 8 affordable units and 7 open market units. They will be a mix of 2 and 3 bedroomed dwellings, and the open market will be a mix of 3 and 4 bedroomed, attached and detached. There will landscaped areas, good pedestrian links and suitable vehicular access. There has been a couple expressions of interest from developers. In a pre application consultation Homefield was the preferred site for development in West Alvington. The affordable homes will be offered firstly to the most local families on the housing list and will remain as affordable homes permanently. In addition there will be funds available from SHDC using a ring fenced scale for local usage. Mr Lethbridge produced drawings and explained the proposal. There were queries as to whether the 2 storey dwelling could affect the dwellings behind them? Mr Lethbridge explained that the next stage would involve a measured survey to be carried out. It would also be a requirement to keep a degree of amenity for those using the footpath. Mrs Rossetti asked whether it would be beneficial to push back the gardens on the affordable homes to maximise the amount of solar gain. Would the other homes be built into the hillside? Mr Lethbridge said that this would be down to the local authority and viability studies. There will of course have to be an element of renewables etc but this will be down to the developer and of course cost. The Chairman ask the Councillors if they were minded to support a public presentation? Mr Lethbridge said he would be more than happy to do that on the basis of an informal drop in session rather than a public meeting which can turn into a shouting match and little information is gained. The Chairman thanked Mr Lethbridge and Mr and Mrs Horton for coming along and putting the Council in the picture.

Headmasters Report – West Alvington Primary School: Mr Medway was unable to attend so no report given.

District Councillors Report: The Chairman reported that there was a new Chairman elected at SHDC, Mr Brian Carson who just happened to be our Santa at the Carol Singing Evening a couple of years ago has taken up the post. Our Chairman has been given a new position at the District Council, he is now a member of the Executive responsible for Audit and Finance.

Declaration of interests- personal or pecuniary: Mrs M. Kitt declared a personal interest on item 10 of the Agenda. The Chairman declared an interest on item 14.

Appointment of Chairman and Vice Chairman: It was resolved on the proposal of Mrs M. Kitt and seconded by Mrs A. Smith that Mr S. Wright should be re-elected as Chairman. All in favour and Mr S. Wright was duly elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

Mr S. Wright in the Chair.

It was proposed by Mr S. Wright that Mrs M. Kitt should be elected as Vice Chairman, Mr M. Norsworthy seconded this proposal. All in favour and Mrs M. Kitt was duly elected as Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.

Appointment of representatives on committees/sub committees:

Best Kept Garden Competition – Mrs M. Kitt and Mr M. Norsworthy

Footpaths -

School Liaison – Mrs A. Smith

Salcombe Estuary Conservation Group – Mr J. Stevenson

Horticultural Society – Mr M. Norsworthy

Fun Day – Mr J. Stevenson

Village Hall Representative – Mrs J. Johns

Coffee Club – Mrs M. Kitt

Entertainment – Mrs S. Jones

Parish Map -

Web Site – Mr S. Wright

Carol Singing Evening – Mr S. Wright

Approve the Minutes of the last meeting: The Minutes of the last meeting held on Thursday 4th April 2013 were confirmed and signed. Copies thereof having been given to the Councillors prior to the meeting.

Matters Arising:

a. Grass Cutting:- Mr C. Lee has been doing some clearing up around the Village and outside the Village Hall, we may have to consider giving him some sort of financial contribution as he has been doing a very good job.

b. Playing Field Gate/Fence:- The new gate has been fitted and looks very good, the contractor has been paid as agreed. We do need a new sign put in place, mainly for legal reasons. Mrs M. Kitt suggested in the mean time we should put up a sign stating no dogs in the field. The Chairman also reported that the fence will need some attention soon, the poles have rotted out and the fencing wire has stretched, it could be potentially dangerous. We should seek a price for this. Mrs M. Kitt reported that she had spoken to someone about coming and giving us a price for play equipment.

c. Affordable Homes Update:- Following up from the Open Forum conversations it was suggested that we hold a presentation afternoon to present Mr & Mrs Hortons plans. Should we invite TRAND? Mrs Horton objected to this idea, what is to be gained by having them there, as this is now a private application, she was however happy to have a presentation. It was proposed that we should at least inform TRAND and see what they have to say. It was agreed to liaise with Mr and Mrs Horton and Mr Lethbridge as to when and what time this presentation will be held.

Co-option of Parish Councillors: The Chairman welcomed Mrs Gilly Rossetti and Mrs Laura Gritton to the meeting. Both ladies have expressed an interest in becoming Parish Councillors. Each lady gave a brief insight into their lives and their connections with the Village. All were in favour of their co-option and they were duly elected and welcomed to the team. They will be given the official papers to sign as legally required.

Chairmans Report: The Chairman did not have much to report this meeting. However, he did explain that Mr M. Norsworthy was attending Planning Enforcement Training. It was also commented that Thornfield seem to have opened up an exit onto the main road. This will be looked into.

Representatives Verbal Reports:

Mr J. Stevenson will once again head up the Fun Day Committee, this is provisionally booked for Saturday 21st September. He would however, like to hand over the role of Play Equipment Funding seeker, it was proposed by Mrs. M. Kitt and seconded by Mr M. Norsworthy that Mrs L. Gritton take over the position as she is in close contact with the school having children attending and as she is also a school governor, all were in favour. She will talk to the headmaster and she feels sure the school would be willing and able to contribute from the school budget.

Financial Report: The Clerk had prepared the Annual Accounts and a copy was given to each Parish Councillor present for their approval. All were in favour.

The auditor for the year was suggested as Nicola Fox once again, if she so chooses to do it, before sending the accounts to the Audit Commission.

Correspondence: The Chairman has met and spoken with Mr A. Bullen, he very generously has offered to pay for the Village Hall roof repairs. Mrs L. Gritton also said that he would be willing to also pay for new play equipment for the Village too, this is extremely generous.

A.O.B by Direction of the Chairman: Mrs A. Smith once again raised the concerns about dog mess, more notices are needed. The ones on the footpath have been removed on numerous occasions. We need to follow this up again. Mr C. Lee has also had thefts from his property, Mrs Smith has reported the incidents to PCSO Dave Gibson. Is this just kids having fun and taking it too far or is

it malicious unpleasantness? Perhaps we should put the incidents on the web site?

Confirm the date of the next meeting: There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm. The date of the next Meeting was confirmed as Thursday 6th June 2013 at 7.00pm.

Signed..... Dated.....