

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON MONDAY 7th DECEMBER 2009 AT 7.30 P.M.

PRESENT: Cllr. T. Davey (Chairman), Cllr. J. Grimble (Vice Chairman), Cllr. A. Williams, Cllr. C. Morgan, Cllr. M. Bryan Cllr. Mrs Pepperell, Cllr. J. Jenner, Cllr. I. White, Cllr. R. Hunt, Cllr. D. Hourahane, Cty. Cllr. Clarence, P.C.S.O. Colin Rider together with 6 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Cllr. R. Bailey.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming Simon Barnes from TDC who had come to talk on the requirement of providing allotments.

STANDING ORDERS were suspended.

Simon Barnes explained that there was a general obligation on Parish, Town and District Councils to provide allotments and that if a number of council tax payers petitioned for allotments, the council had an obligation to consider if there was a demand and would need to take into consideration other demands such as affordability, but could not ignore the request as the petitioners could then enforce a Judicial Review as the council acted in an unreasonable way. He explained that the District Council were in favour of providing allotment as they promoted fitness and allowed people to engage in the community as well as providing a food source. Mr Barnes explained that often the District Council provided the land and then transferred this to the Town or Parish Council who then gave a tenancy to an allotment association to manage the allotments and a recent example of this was at Coach Road, Newton Abbot which had been transferred to the Town Council. He explained that in the case of Bishopsteignton, Michaels Field had been identified as being suitable for combined use of allotments and football pitches and that a planning application for change of use would be submitted in the near future. Mr Barnes asked the Bishopsteignton Community Allotment Association(BCAA) how many allotments were required and was informed that there was 25 on their waiting list. Concern was raised that the area identified at Michaels Field would not be sufficient to provide the number of allotments required of 1/8 acre, as recommended by the Allotments Act 1950, but that this could be divided into half plots which would go some way to meeting demand. Sarah Lord from the BCAA informed the meeting that they had been in touch with Jacks Patch regarding use of some of their land as allotments but this now looked unlikely due to pending major development plans.

Cllr. Grimble asked if once the land had been designated as allotments this could be reversed and was advised that consent would have to be obtained from the Secretary of State who would need to be satisfied that there was no longer any requirement and any tenant would have to be given 6 months notice and compensated for any loss.

Cllr. White asked what the situation would be if Devon was to become a Unitary Authority and Simon Barnes advised him that the obligations would stay the same.

Mr Barnes was asked if there was any control on what could be placed on allotments as they could look very unsightly and this was of particular concern at Micheals Field which was in a CPA and he advised that this should be done within the planning process with special conditions or possibly an Article 4 directive. Ian Brownless, Treasurer of BCAA, asked about security of the site if it was to be shared with football clubs. Concern was raised over the use of fencing in this sensitive area and that this could have a tremendous influence on the planning decision. This was discussed and it was felt that TDC should be advised of the specific requirements of the BCAA which could then be incorporated into the plans prior to the planning application being submitted. Simon Barnes agreed to ask TDC Officers to contact Sarah Lord direct.

Mr Barnes was asked about the demand for football pitches and the need for Michaels Field if, as reported, some of the pitches at Broadmeadow were brought back into use. Mr Barnes reported that he had been told that there was a demand and although not a Statutory Obligation, it was a matter of discretion for the local authority to provide pitches. Cty. Cllr. Clarence reported that an open invitation had been made to Broadmeadow Football Club to use the pitches at Hazledown, but they had not responded and he felt that they had their sights set on using Michaels Field for any pitches lost at Broadmeadow. This matter was discussed and concerns were raised that the pitches at Broadmeadow had not been re-instated. Simon Barnes explained the difficulties in doing this and agreed to forward a copy of the engineers report to the Parish Council.

The Chairman thanked Simon Barnes for coming to the Parish Council meeting and giving a very informative report.

DATED

CHAIRMAN

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7.12.09 (Continued)

STANDING ORDERS WERE RESUMED

THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING were duly approved and signed.

1085 **PARISH PLAN**

Cllr. Hunt reported that he had gone back to TDC and DCC and was fairly confident that the total package was now there with TDC contributing £50000/£60000 dependant on need and that the £30000 agreed by the Parish Council had broken the log jam. He explained that TDC were now writing to DCC to confirm the actual costs but that these figures would go into the budgets for approval in February 2010.

THE CHAIRMAN SUSPENDED STANDING ORDERS to allow Cty. Cllr. Clarence to speak.

Cty. Cllr. Clarence reported that he had spoken with Alan Connett, TDC who had told him flatly that TDC would only contribute £20000 and no more and he had written to the portfolio holder and was awaiting a response. He also reported that he had spoken to John Halliday who had informed him that the scheme was creaking at the seams.

Cllr. Hunt reported that he had spoken to Alan Connett and that TDC were going to check the amount with DCC and that Colin Day had spoken with Ed Chorltons' replacement.

STANDING ORDERS WERE RESUMED

After discussion it was agreed to leave it to the BEG to sort out.

1086 **CEMETERY**

THE MINUTES of the Cemetery Site Meeting held on the 17th November 2009 were duly approved and signed and the proposal to lay concrete bases underneath the cremation tablets in the Garden of Rest was agreed.

The Chairman reported that he and Cllr. Williams would be attending a meeting with Alan Connett, Leader of TDC on Tuesday 8th December 2009 to discuss the situation regarding the closed churchyard at St. John the Baptist Church.

1087 **MAINTENANCE**

The Chairman and Cllr. Pepperell raised their concern over blocked drains and the lack of road sweeping which was causing the drains to block. The Chairman reported that between Gunn Cottage and Forder Lane, DCC had paid to have a concrete channel put in but because no sweeping had taken place it had got blocked and a gully sucker had had to be used which was considerably more expensive than if the road had been swept. Concern was raised that this was not just individual incidents but affected the whole county and that maybe policies should be looked at. After discussion it was agreed to write to TDC and encourage them not to just respond to an emergency but to build regular road sweeping into a programme. Cllr. Williams to speak to TDC on this matter.

Cllr. Jenner reported that a resident had volunteered to clear the drain at the top of Berry Hill if he could be provided with a long handled fork and he agreed to source one.

1088 **TRAFFIC CONDITIONS**

The report from Brian George, Area Engineer, DCC, on the meeting held in August had been received and copies sent to all councillors. The Clerk reported that she had found two discrepancies, No. 7 where the request for a virtual pavement had been omitted and No. 12. where the Parish Council had asked for the pavement to be narrowed and a parking bay installed. Cllr. White reported that the request for double yellow lines at the junction of Clanage Street/West Street had also been omitted. A letter to be sent to Brian George advising him of these amendments and councillors to look at the maps sent with the report to prioritise items after the Planning Meeting on 18th January 2010.

DATED

CHAIRMAN

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7.12.09 (Continued)

1088 TRAFFIC CONDITIONS cont'd.

DCC A copy of an email from Nick Boulton to Cty. Cllr. Clarence regarding the request for crash barriers on the bend between the two entrances to Wear Farm. This was discussed and concern was raised that did not appear to want to take any action to prevent a fatality. Cllr. White raised his concerns that a crash barrier could actually exacerbate the situation if a vehicle bounced off it into oncoming traffic and after further discussion it was agreed to request that a coloured anti skid surface be put on the bend to prevent drivers losing control.

Cllr. Hourahane reported that the potholes in Forder Lane reported at an earlier meeting had been filled, but further pot holes had appeared lower down. DCC to be advised.

Cllr. Pepperell reported that there was no bus stop sign outside the village stores. Councillors were unsure where the bus stop signs should be and if the bus could be flagged to stop anywhere on route. The Clerk to contact Country Bus.

Cllr. Jenner asked PCSO Colin Rider on the legal position if a skateboarder slammed into you and PCSO Colin Rider agreed to look into this matter.

P.C.S.O. Colin Rider reported on the crime figures from 1.11.09 to 6.12.09 which included stop checks on the A381, drugs offence arrest, boat theft and a burglary at Grange Park which he felt could have been prevented as the owners were away and the house had been left in darkness. He went on to report that there had been 5RTC's on the A381, parking on pavement issues including the top of Bishops Avenue during the Street Market, obstructions on Smith Hill and Fore Street, a vehicle with false plates seized in Mitre Close, a suicide in Little Haldon, a drunken youth in Cockhaven Close and some phone scams with callers trying to obtain bank details. PCSO Colin Rider also reported a potentially serious incident between a young lad on a bicycle and a vehicle coming out of Bishops Court and the driver of the vehicle had been spoken to and sent for an eye test. Cllr. White asked if an article could be put on the website to make people aware of the increase in car break-ins at this time of the year and PCSO Colin Rider agreed. Cllr. Morgan reported that a car on Berry Hill had had the tyres slashed and Cllr. Williams reported that he had been victim of a credit card fraud and asked if the police would be involved in this and was informed that Banks worked with CID and that Credit Card companies carry out their own investigations into fraud. Cty. Cllr. Clarence advised that there was currently a scam involving a fictitious parcel which could not be delivered and asking people to phone a 09 number to arrange collection.

1089 COUNTRYSIDE & RECREATION

Cllr. Hunt reported that the Management Committee had held a meeting last week and that the sports area was going well at present. He reported that there were a few issues which the committee felt should be addressed such as to improve signage and also to improve the area between the toilets and the courts which was currently very muddy. The Clerk to look at the signs and the Chairman agreed to look at the muddy area to see what should be done. Cllr. Hunt also reported that there were now two new football clubs using the facility on a Wednesday and Friday evening and he was hopeful that the sports area would be very close to breaking even this year.

The Clerk reported that she had written to TDC to inform them of the submission of the application for a Village Green which was being advertised in the Mid Devon Advertiser on 13.11.09 and that DCC would advise the Parish Council after the 8th January 2010 if any objections had been received. The Chairman reported that there was a compound to store equipment on this land and asked Cllr. Williams to speak to TDC to find out if permission for this had been obtained.

Cllr. Williams reported that he had spoken to Louise Pyrwata, Head Teacher, Bishopsteignton School, regarding the children planting trees to replace the felled oak trees and she was very happy for the school to be involved although it would not be practical for the whole school to be out at once. Cllr. Williams suggested that representatives from each class could attend. Cllr. Davey reported that he had ordered six trees which would need to be planted by March and agreed to look at suitable sites. Martin Weaver, TDC, to be contacted regarding the possibility of planting one or two at the junction of Forder Lane/A381.

DATED

CHAIRMAN

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7.12.09 (Continued)

1089 COUNTRYSIDE & RECREATION cont'd.

Cllr. Hunt reported that he had been invited to a meeting regarding the Cycle Path which was aiming to start again with the basic principles and set up proper procedures. Cllr. Davey declared an interest. Cllr. Grimble raised his concern at the lack of notice of such a meeting and the need to involve the Parish Council and residents and asked that Cllr. Hunt give a comprehensive report at the next council meeting.

1090 PLANNING

THE MINUTES of the Planning Meeting held on the 16th November 2009 were duly approved and signed.

Confirmation had been received the Ian Perry, TDC would be attending the meeting on 1.2.10 to report on the changes to Permitted Development Rights October 2008.

09/03489/FUL 9 Grange Park Extension to form lounge - no comment.

09/03517/FUL 37 Great Furlong Erection of a single storey extension at upper floor level to form bedroom with en-suite, utility room, w.c. and new garage plus enlarged kitchen/dining and study including raised deck - no comment.

09/03635/FUL 36 Newton Road Two storey extension to side and alterations to dormers, balcony and new decking to rear the Parish Council object as this is overdevelopment and they have concerns over access.

09/03693/FUL 54 Newton Road - Replacement Garage - no objections.

1091 MEMBERS REPORTS cont'd.

Cllr. Hourahane reported that a record £2,138 had been collected for the Poppy Appeal this year with a further £500 from a golf club tournament and £550 donations for wreaths and thanked all those involved.

1092 CORRESPONDENCE

A further letter had been received regarding the Sustainable Communities Amendment Bill, which had been forwarded to councillors, asking them to write or email the draft letter to at least one of seven MP's to adopt the Sustainable Communities Amendment Bill.

An invitation to meet John Hart, Leader of Devon County Council at Newton Abbot Racecourse on Monday 14th December 2009 from 6.30pm.

A letter had been received from A/Insp Fran Bennett, Devon & Cornwall Constabulary, to update the council on current affairs, advising that there had been no report of anti social behaviour during Halloween and that the new shops in Teignmouth and Dawlish were due to open in Spring 2010.

A report on the main points following the DAPC AGM had been received these included agreement to increase the inscription 2% for 2010/11 and that the Association would change its name to Devon Association of Local Councils.

Letters had been received from CAB and Victim Support thanking the council for their donations.

THE CHAIRMAN THEN SUSPENDED STANDING ORDERS to allow members of the public to speak.

Reg Pepperell reported that there was flooding on Manor Road although there was a gulley just down from the old White Lodge. DCC to be advised.

DATED

CHAIRMAN

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7.12.09 (Continued)

CHEQUES SIGNED

000931	L.M. James - reimbursement for Sports Area	£ 34.53 (VAT £4.50)
000932	SLCC - annual membership	£ 118.00
000933	Viking Direct - Stationery	£ 72.06 (VAT £9.40)
000934	R.D. Edwards - Lighting Inspection Sport Area	£ 261.80
000935	HM Revenue & Customs – Tax & N.I.	£ 177.29
000936	Mrs C. Colyer - Salary & exps + Sports Area Shed Paint	£ 819.89

FINANCIAL STATEMENT (UNTIL 30th NOVEMBER 2009)

Lloyds TSB (Treas. A/C)	£
Lloyds TSB (Prem.Int. A/C)	£
Bank of Scotland	£
TSB	£ 935.98

PAYMENTS £
RECEIPTS £

DATED

CHAIRMAN