

## Minutes of Churchstow Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2016 – 19.30

**Present**        **Roger Hind - Chairman**

**Yanine Tarr**

**Paul Williams**

**John Woodley**

**Geoff Stewart**

**Ian Bramble – SHDC**

**Rufus Gilbert – DCC**

**Jody Fendick – Clerk**

**Apologies**     **Eddie McLaney**

1. **WELCOME, APOLOGIES** Cllr Hind welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr McLaney.

2. **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING.** The minutes from the previous meeting were approved and signed by Cllr Hind.

3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MINUTES.** Cllr Hind has yet to receive a response from St Austell Brewery, following our request that they help with the cost of installation – Clerk to make a final request. Clerk also to contact Business Park to liaise with its management to tackle the ongoing issue with untidy signage at the park entrance.

4. **CLERKS REPORT.**

New Website – Is up and running. The Parish Council are working closely with local resident Malcolm Toone, who is designing the site. It will be a Churchstow Parish Council and Community Website. It will fulfil the Transparency Code obligations and cover all aspects of the Parish Council - Minutes, Financial, Agendas and such as well as featuring community events, businesses and stories. Parish council is happy to pay for the website domain – approximately £25 per year.

HeartStart Training – PC are holding a Heartstart Training Session with Kingsbridge Estury Rotary Club on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm in the Church Hall in Churchstow. We aim to have around 20 attendees and will advertise through local press, our website and facebook and with posters in the local area. Parish Council agreed to make a £100.00 donation to the Rotary club for their efforts.

Kingsbridge Caring Meeting – The Clerk and Cllrs Woodley and Tarr attended this meeting last month and are keen to promote Churchstow as a Dementia friendly village and look at ways to create further awareness and improve local facilities for those with dementia and their carers.

**5. REPORT FROM DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL – RUFUS GILBERT** Cllr Gilbert confirmed that the potholes are being dealt with slowly but surely and to continue to bring any problem areas to the attention of DCC. He also asked that we keep an eye out for unsheeted Viridor lorries driving around, especially along the A38. Plastic bottles left remaining in the bottom of the bins are being blown out if the bins are not covered during transportation. This is causing an unsightly littering issue. If anyone sees this, they need to note the time and the registration number of the vehicle in question and report it to DCC.

**6. REPORT FROM SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL – IAN BRAMBLE**

Cllr Bramble will step down as chairman of SHDC and the PC would like to thank him for his time and efforts over the last year.

Cllr Bramble read the PC a statement regarding significant changes to how SHDC is operated. It involves the formation of a profit making company. Cllr Bramble has significant concerns regarding the long term implications of this and we await further information regarding these plans. The PC requested that this statement be made available to the public, via our minutes and our website to allow our local residents an insight into the district council's plans. (See Below)

*Dear Members,*

*As requested at the LACC session last week, please find briefing note below in respect of the Local Authority Controlled Company which you may wish to share at Parish meetings*

*South Hams District Council continues to undertake a significant change programme in addressing the £1 million budget gap predicted by 2020 in the Council's funding position. The Council currently shares the majority of staff & systems with West Devon Borough Council which has resulted in significant savings for both Councils.*

*South Hams and West Devon have jointly commissioned Pricewaterhousecoopers to explore the detailed business case for developing a Local Authority Controlled Company. PWC's costs are approximately £120,000 and this is the amount that will be an abortive cost if the decision is not to proceed with the LACC. The element to be funded by SHDC is half of this i.e £60,000.*

*A Local Authority Controlled Company enables the Councils to be able to bid for contracts to deliver services for other organisations and to be able to charge a profit margin for those services.*

*Councils themselves are only allowed to charge for their services on a cost recovery basis.*

*If successful, the profit can be used to reinvest in services to South Hams and West Devon – and help us to reduce the funding gap.*

*The Councils would retain full control and ownership of the company and could invite other Councils to be part of the company in the future.*

*If the business case recommends that a Local Authority Controlled Company has the potential to be successful, the proposal is that many of the service delivery staff employed by the Councils would transfer into the new company. Residents and parish councils should notice no difference with services continuing to be delivered by the same staff from the same locations as they do now.*

*The detailed business case will be considered at Full Council Meetings in June 2016*

## **6. ADDITIONAL MATTERS**

**AGM** – Our AGM will be on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2016 in the Abbots Room at the Church House Inn. To start at 19.00. Cllr Bramble to speak at the meeting. Jody will advertise the meeting via our website and social media.

**South Hams Business Park Signage** – Ongoing. We have some alternative contact details that we will use to contact the management at the business park – Jody to action.

**Traffic Calming Sign - VAS** - Ongoing, we know where we would like it to be positioned and we also still have the necessary wiring in place. Jody to talk to Marlborough Parish Council to see if they would be interested in sharing one and splitting the cost etc.

**Planning applications** –

South Hams Business Park – Unit 2a - Approved

## **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Cllr Hind signed our annual report.

We would like to record our thanks to Cllr Stewart for his efforts in keeping our accounts.

Jody to contact P. Burridge from Ground Maintenance South West to ask for an update on grass cutting.

***Meeting Ended 20:55***

DRAFT