

Minutes of Churchstow Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 8th February 2017 – 19.30

In the Churchhouse Inn, Churchstow

Present Roger Hind - Chairman

John Woodley

Geoff Stewart

Eddie McLaney

Paul Williams

Rufus Gilbert - DCC

Ian Bramble – SHDC

Jody Fendick – Clerk

Members of the Public

Mr Michael Cooper

Mrs Louisa Pepperell

Apologies Yanine Tarr

1. **WELCOME, APOLOGIES** Cllr Hind welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Tarr. The PC also welcomed Louisa Pepperell to our meeting. Louisa will be joining the PC in the next few months.
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.** There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

CLERKS REPORT. The Clerk reported that the company we have asked to supply our VAS sign, were not prepared to extend the warranty past one year. After this was challenged they said should there be any problems with the device then it would be repaired free of charge. We have asked them to confirm the prices they gave us following a meeting with

the suppliers last month. Clerk is also to investigate the possibility of us purchasing the sign without added VAT. Cllr Gilbert suggested speaking to Mark Gayler at DCC to see if this would be possible. The VAS should be in place fairly soon and we plan to purchase one sign to move between two locations in the village. The sign will have a data collecting facility which we can analyse on a regular basis and pass our findings onto the local police and Devon County Council.

It has also been decided that we will run a local initiative for locals to submit designs for our new village sign. Which we will hopefully be purchasing with the money we received from the latest TAP fund.

REPORT FROM DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL – RUFUS GILBERT – Devon County Council have to take out £22 million from their half billion budget. £8 million has been allocated for additional potholes requiring repair. The budget for highways will not be reduced.

94% of the Devon schools have been rated good or outstanding. The education budget for children in Devon is £290 per child per annum this is £264 less than the national average.

Councillor Gilbert also reported that none of the waste generated in the South Hams goes into landfill.

The road between Totnes Cross and Halwell will hopefully be receiving extensive repair in the near future.

REPORT FROM SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL – IAN BRAMBLE. South Hams District Council are still committed to building around 400 new homes per year. The overview and scrutiny committee have agreed on a £5 per month council tax increase. There are also plans to increase carpark charges by 2%. £1.8 million has been received to put towards affordable housing and the joint local plan with Plymouth and West Devon is reaching completion.

7. ADDITIONAL MATTERS

Potato Plant Compensation - With regard to the Potato Plant compensation letter written by Cllr McLaney, it has been decided that we will possibly contact the local press and ask them to report on the potato plant compensation request and examine the parallels between this case and the wind turbine story that has featured in our press locally. The PC have so far been disappointed by the response from our elected councillors. To be discussed further at our next meeting. The Clerk is to send a further letter to Cllr Baldry and Cllr Tucker.

Progress of car park site – The PC had a promising response from the Law Society, following our complaint regarding the disputed land in Churchstow (Adjacent to Reeves Way) Cllr Hind to contact Becky Fowles at SHDC to see if any further progress has been made.

Planning Issues – A concerned resident ask if he could speak to the PC regarding his concerns surrounding a planning proposal for Rake Farm in Loddiswell. The PC discussed these concerns after he had departed from the meeting and voted to support the Plans but to ask the planning department to review:- Safety Issues (Area where children playing will be subjected to an increase in traffic), Light Pollution, Visual Amenity and the Restriction of Lorries

New Housing Development Proposals – The PC have decided to hold a consultation to seek further opinion from the villagers. Venue and date will be advertised shortly.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Finances. Cllr Stewart showed the PC a letter he had received from Mr Seager-Berry. This was concerning the contribution the PC makes towards the maintenance of the Churchyard.

Our next meeting will take place on 8th March at 19.30

Meeting Ended 21:45

Signed: Cllr Roger Hind _____(Chairman)

Date: 08/03/17

