

Minutes for Churchstow Parish Council AGM
Thursday 12th July 2018 – 7.00pm
Church Hall, Churchstow

Present

Cllr Hind (Chair)
Cllr Williams
Cllr Barrett-Burn
Cllr Stewart
Cllr Tarr
Cllr Bramble – SHDC
Cllr Gilbert – DCC

Jody Fendick - Clerk

Apologies

Cllr Mclaney
Cllr Woodley

WELCOME AND APOLOGIES Cllr Hind welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received.

Chairman's Report – Cllr Hind gave everyone a Parish Council update. He said he was keen to keep the meeting positive and referred to a letter he'd been given that evening containing a number of complaints about Churchstow. Cllr Hind will address the issues in the letter and reply to the resident who sent it. There was no recent news regarding the community land or the new housing proposals.

Rufus Gilbert - Devon County Council

Currently under review are the following: 20mph speed limit and the necessity of them, Bus Lane violation, Fines – DCC are considering the possibility of enforcing anyone with more than 3 unpaid fines will have their vehicle removed, utility companies permits for work being done - shortening the length of time and incentives for work to be done at night i.e making the permits cheaper to cause less inconvenience to the public.

Ian Bramble – South Hams District Council

Cllr Bramble reminded the AGM of SHDC's new lottery and explain how it works and who would benefit. You can nominate a charity to receive funds from the lottery and the venture is completely self-funding and non-profit making.

CLERKS REPORT

The VAS has been helping reduce the speeding on the road through the Village – We have had some initial teething problems but we are working to overcome them. The speed camera signs are going up any day now.

There are going to be some community gardening days. (The 4th and 18th August) Locals are invited to come along and help mow and strim some of the local grassy areas.

A community BBQ is being organised between ourselves and the Churchhouse Inn pub. It is to take place on 28th September and we will be distributing tickets, on a first come, first serve basis, from September 1st.

Neighbourhood Plan. Churchstow PC have been asked to produce our neighbourhood plan jointly with Kingsbridge. They have also approached other smaller parish councils. Churchstow Parish Council are undecided at this point and several of our councillors have severe reservations. Some concerns are that Kingsbridge may sideline Churchstow. Particularly over planning issues, Churchstow may lose its identity and a town council driven neighbourhood plan may not reflect the wishes of a smaller parish. This is still under much discussion and the PC are attending meetings with Kingsbridge TC to look at how they intend to proceed and how Churchstow and its locals will benefit.

Our Parish Magazine 'The Churchstow Chimes' is due to be published in the next few weeks. Huge thanks to Nick and Jill Bremer who are behind putting it together and coming up with the original idea. Please remember that all submissions would be greatly appreciated. The idea of the magazine is that it's a forum for locals to share their knowledge, opinions and interests. It will be available in small number as a paper copy but also on our website, mailing list and Facebook Page.

Those attending were invited to ask questions

A local resident asked why we couldn't encourage locals more to keep the land around their properties tidier, trees cut back etc. Who was actually responsible. Cllr Hind said that it is the responsibility of the home/land owner to keep their own land tidy.

One of our new residents spoke to us at length regarding an issue they have with antisocial behaviour in the layby next to their house (The layby belongs to DCC) Drivers are using the layby to pull into, leave their engine running, urinate, leave litter and are using abusive language if asked to leave, To make matters worse, this behaviour is often in front of their grandchildren who play in the garden. The Parish Council are going to look into the matter straight away and see what can be done about it.

There were no more questions

Councillor Hind thanked everyone for attending and the meeting ended at 20.10

DRAFT