

Churchstow Parish Council

MINUTES

Of the meeting held on Thursday 11th April 2019

Held at Churchstow Church Hall @ 7:30m

Present: Cllrs Hind (Chair), Stewart, Woodley, Barrett-Burn, Williams, Green, Cllr Rufus Gilbert (DCC), Cllr Ian Bramble (SHDC), Louisa Pepperell (Clerk).

Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies: Cllr McLaney.

Minutes from the last meeting (14/03/19): These were approved. Signed by Cllr Hind.

Matters arising from last minutes: Cllr Green reported that he had visited the resident who had approached the Council with a query regarding the boundary of his property and erecting a fence, Cllr Green gave the resident the information that it was DCC land and to approach them, the resident accepted this advice.

Cllr Stewart had spoken with Solagen and confirmed that the solar panel would be movable, it was agreed that the Council would therefore proceed with the purchase of the solar panels. Cllr Stewart also reported that the Council should be in possession of a computer programme which will enable the downloading of information on traffic in the village via the speed sign, believed to be on the laptop used by the previous Clerk, the current Clerk is to follow up on the return of items from the previous Clerk.

Cllr McLaney had sent an email prior to the meeting in which he reported that he had approached a resident to see if they would be interested in writing the Village Voice article for the Gazette but that the resident did not wish to do so. It was decided to leave this matter for now but to approach the Gazette if there is ever anything of significant interest occurring and ask if they would accept an entry then.

Cllr Hind is still looking in to how best to add a third signatory to the bank account.

The Clerk reported on her communication with the Highways Department regarding the possibility of new village signs, that if the Council wish to erect a sign at the A381 end of Pump Lane in a similar style to the existing ones in the village that Highways would be able to proceed with this and organise the offered funding as mentioned by Cllr Gilbert at the last meeting. It was agreed that there was still interest in designing new village signs, Cllr Stewart showed an image of some signs he had seen recently and it was agreed that all councillors interested would look in to alternative styles, designs and costs and report back at the next meeting for further discussion.

Cllr Stewart received a receipt for the Church Hall hire payments up to and including March 2019. Payment is next due after the September 2019 meeting.

Agreement was made on the wording for the defibrillator location signs, the Clerk is to get them laminated, along with the defibrillator key code for the defibrillator case, and ensure they are put up in the agreed places in the village.

Cllr Woodley had been monitoring the rat situation on Pump lane and reported that it no longer seems to be a problem.

Cllr Ian Bramble gave his latest report. He told of three specific projects that are currently going ahead, firstly the development of a national chain hotel in Kingsbridge which SHDC are in support of, secondly the acquisition of 10 acres of commercial land near the A38 at Sherford that will be for small business use, and thirdly of a parking deck in Shadycombe car park in Salcombe to create additional public parking. There are also a number of other projects

being investigated such as a business development in Totnes, 7 chalets to be built at Beesands and 5 employment units in Batson. It is intended that all the projects will bring back employment and revenue to the area.

He confirmed that the Joint Local Plan has been adopted. That SHDC has enough land quota for the next 5 years. That Marlborough, Stoke Fleming and Bickleigh have all adopted their own Neighbourhood Plans and that the new Waste Service is up and running and is expected to save £250,000 in its first year of running costs, he also reported that just under 4 million pounds is being saved per year in admin costs within SHDC.

Cllr Rufus Gilbert reported that there would be an announcement soon regarding the delivery of super fast broadband.

Clerk's Report: The Clerk confirmed that only 7 candidates were received for 7 available Council seats meaning there would not need to be an election. Cllr McLaney is to be replaced by Cllr Johnson as of May 2nd while Cllrs Hind, Stewart, Williams, Woodley, Barret-Burn and Green retain their seats.

The Clerk and Chairman are to research the chosen Code of Conduct to be adopted. The Clerk is to print copies of the Register of Interest and Declaration of Acceptance documents and bring to the May meeting for all councillors to sign. The Clerk is to research if any expenses are to be claimed.

The Clerk presented invoices to the PC for payment and a cheque previously written to the Rotary Club was amended due to an error in date being written originally.

Additional Matters: Cllr Hind had attended a Neighbourhood Plan meeting for the Business and Economy focus group where they had discussed desires for Kingsbridge which had a theme of wanting to encourage more commercial business, Cllr Hind had stressed the point that Churchstow did not want any more commercial building within the village and its desire to protect its rural village aspect.

Cllr Stewart had attended a Neighbourhood Plan meeting for the Roads and Transport focus group where he had stressed the point that Churchstow is to have different consideration to Kingsbridge, that there is no footpath between the village and town and that car parking and speeding are issues in the village. He reported that specific solutions to the speeding on Pump Lane would be looked in to. He had also made the point that if any further development was to take place in the village then infrastructure and footpaths need to be of serious consideration including the provision of a safe crossing on the A379 such as pelican crossing. Cllr Stewart had also received the contact details of a planning lawyer who may be able to assist the Council in regard to the area of land adjacent to Reeves Way, Cllrs Stewart and Hind are to look in to this.

Any Other Business: Cllr Stewart provided the Clerk with a signed copy of the Accounts 18/19. Cllr Stewart was to deliver the account paperwork to Parrot & Parrot Accountants and the Clerk was to contact PKF Littlejohn Accountants to ensure the correct procedure for filing is adhered to.

The Council received a presentation regarding a proposed planning application for a 2 acre leisure facility within the parish, Cllr Hind is to give feedback, it was agreed that more detailed information would be requested.

The meeting closed at 9:25pm.

Next meeting to be held in the church hall at 7:30pm on Thursday 9th May 2019 with the AGM to be held prior at 7pm.

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