

**STOKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD ON 8TH DECEMBER 2016 IN THE
STOKENHAM PARISH HALL**

PRESENT:**COUNCILLORS:****P. SPENCE (Chairman)****MRS S. ROWLAND****MRS C. PEARCE****T. LYNN****J. ANSELL****J. BRAZIL (District and County Councillor)****J. GARDNER****MRS P. DOUST****C. ROGERS****MRS C. PACK****Also in attendance:****Clerk – Mrs G. Claydon****APOLOGIES:****COUNCILLORS:****A. GOODMAN****L. COWLEY**

The Chairman advised that Mrs O'Dwyer had tendered her resignation due to her health and family commitments. He also acknowledged that with the impending birth of her first child and a proposed move to Churchstow Cllr Mrs Pack would step down in January 2017. He had thanked both personally for their contribution to parish council.

1. OPEN FORUM

POLICE – WPC Jane Gerrard Neighbourhood Beat Manager was in attendance and noted the spate of house burglaries which had occurred in Chillington. There were three in total and two attempted break ins. The police believed these all occurred over the same weekend. All houses broken into/attempted to be broken into were empty with the residents away for the weekend or were holiday homes. They urged parishioners to be vigilant and look after neighbours' property if they were away. Entry was gained via rear UPVC doors which were forced. Small items such as jewellery and cash were stolen. In the past when there had been burglary spates they had occurred on the A379 corridor and had been Force wide. They were currently awaiting forensic examination results to see whether they identified an offender. During the weekend of the burglaries a Hungarian registered vehicle was seen in the area. This was a white Vauxhall with blacked out windows. The police would be keen to speak to anyone who could identify the vehicle or occupants.

Other crimes reported in the past month were two criminal damages which they believed were targeted to the victims; one person was arrested for drink drive and a crime of harassment which was also linked to the criminal damage report. In the run up to Christmas she noted that lots of lovely presents would be purchased and placed under trees. Parishioners were advised to make sure doors and windows were locked if they went out as burglaries did tend to increase at this time of the year. Finally she asked Please keep your eyes peeled and report an suspicious behaviour to the Police.

Ticketing vehicles on the pavement but same vehicle parked back on pavement. Police have no authority this was parking enforcement. Police can only do obstruction.

WPC Jane Gerrard left the meeting.

DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Brazil was not in attendance and no report was received.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors were invited to declare any disclosable interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they had in any items to be considered at this meeting. They were also reminded to consider whether in the light of recent activities any items within their Register of Interests should be updated. It was advised that any unforeseen request for a Dispensation would be considered by the Clerk at this point only if there was no way a councillor would have been aware of such before the meeting. Cllr Rogers declared an interest in 3661/16/VAR Taffrail.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the:

- (a) full council meeting dated 17th November 2016 were approved by all present with the amendment that Cllr Mrs Pearce was not in attendance and then duly signed as a true and correct record.
- (b) Planning Committee meeting no meeting held December.

4. PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS

The applications below were considered at this meeting and the following observations submitted to District:

- 3599/16/CLE Application for lawful development certificate for breach of planning condition of consent 53/0071/75/3 that the dwelling house must be used by someone employed in the agricultural or forestry industry Greenhay, Beeson – Nothing further to add to the information supplied.

Cllr Rogers left the meeting whilst this was discussed.

- 3661/16/VAR Application for variation of condition 2 (Drawings) on planning application reference 53/0528/15/F Taffrail, Bickerton, Hallsands – The ten or so different drawings had tiny but material variations making the District Council online system totally unsuited to make any reasonable critique to assess such level of change. Therefore a site meeting took place with the following decision. Objection. By virtue of the nature and scale of the lower extension it appeared out of keeping with the setting of this sensitive coastal area. The mass of concrete for the sundeck open space measuring at 20m x 5m was overbearing and imposed on the coastal landscape and rural neighbours producing a highly visible dominant landscape in this streetscene which sits within the heritage coastline.
- 3791/16/HHO Householder application for planning permission for erection of a garage/store Andryl Court, Beeson – No objection.
- DEFERRED till January 2017 meeting as no paper plans received 3688/16/HHO Householder application for side extensions to east and west elevations, removal of garage and rebuild in new location including extension of the driveway Ashcross, Kiln Lane, Stokenham

PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing further discussed.

5. REPORTS

Various issues raised around the parish:

- Brooking Wood to Summerye Lane a new kissing gate and 300mm drain was recently installed which Cllr Mrs Rowland noted had made a superb difference already. Whilst doing these works Cllr Rogers took his digger up the lane and cleaned two buddle holes into Nick Tolchards field which had not worked for years. He and Cllr Goodman then

spoke with Mark Brooking who agreed and was content to have two or three more buddle holes along his boundary from the kissing gate on down around the corner to take the lane water into his field. Due to these improvements the lane could be brought back into use even during inclement weather.

- The residents in Beeson wished to retain their telephone box. Cllr Rogers had an email from someone who stated that it must be taken on by the parish council and the village wanted to install a defibrillator therein.
- Cllr Rogers had spoken to Richard Darke at Coleridge and advised him of a forthcoming Devon County meeting to discuss drainage in Coleridge. In the meantime the Darke family had cleared the inside of the field with a digger to alleviate highway surface water.
- Hallsands beach shingle was back and preparation for the commemoration was going ahead to be held 26th January 2017. The old village would be open for most of the day and Cllr Mrs Pearce advised she had emailed a letter requesting grant funding from parish council. The lantern walk would take place about 3p.m. when it was dark and there would be an exhibition from Tuesday morning all week. Tally Ho had been asked to supply transport from Beesands to Hallsands and David Furson Lord Lieutenant of Devon would attend to unveil a plaque.
- Attending the meeting with Dr Sarah Wollaston MP she had brought along someone who talked about Broadband Connect Devon and Somerset. Cllr Mrs Rowland spoke to this representative who advised that anybody with lower than 2mgb internet was eligible for support so long as they applied by 30th November. She therefore wrote a letter to everybody in Kernborough, East Portlemouth and Prawle explaining this. Initially the funders declined and said she had fibre optic but she objected as this did not cover her property and last Friday a £500 free satellite dish was installed to boost their signal. They paid a monthly subscription which was £30 for 10gb per month but if they downloaded overnight this cost did not count. She was therefore thrilled and believed her next door neighbours had also applied but was not sure on anyone else around the locality.

SLAPTON LEY RESEARCH SEMINAR

Cllr Ansell noted this seminar was always well worth attending as everything discussed was fascinating. They covered badgers, horse shoe bats and were investigating bumble bee navigation and these topics were briefly outlined. Of high interest was the interpretation of the loss of Hallsands due to the North Atlantic oscillation. The difference between points where there was a positive oscillation and depressions were being studied in line with shingle movement. The Professor presenting this paper had made a plea for any photographs of this section of coast over the years. The Chairman further explained that the Professor from Plymouth University was studying the closed circulation of Start Bay Shingle and plotting the shingle heights at various points along mostly Slapton and such beach profiles against various data. To validate this they needed dated photographs all around the area. Cllr Lynn advised that the forthcoming Hallsands exhibition had pictures of Hallsands pre the storm and then when the engineers at that time came and painted heights etc on the rocks. The seminar also mentioned ferries that travelled round from Torbay and dropped people at the Skerries and then took them back again all adding to a picture of back at that time. Alan Denbigh then ran through the story of the Slapton Line Partnership and there were further talks on the Field Studies Council and other topics.

DISTRICT COUNCIL AONB MEETING

The Chairman attended the steering group committee of the AONB at Follaton House. The National Trust had produced their report that stated that planning authorities had generally not given such areas the protection they should or could have and the legislation should be used to work harder for AONBs to have more voice. However the AONB steering group was made up of

more than half officers from District Planning. Bob Harvey was present on behalf of amenities groups and others had attended to support him. Unfortunately the meeting was a shambles. Bob Harvey wanted to raise a Point of Order that they had not been consulted properly and the AONB were not properly engaging to ensure the area was protected. A Devon County Council Environment representative was not helpful with his comments and the meeting achieved nothing.

CLERK'S REPORT

- Contact had been made with the Helmers Trustees and confirmation was awaited that all trustees were in agreement to proceed with solicitors to rectify the covenant on the Chillington Hall.
- The issue of the Coast Path at the northern end of Hallsands Beach had been reported. It was a Devon County matter as it was just off the National Trust land. The bottom steps were on the legal line of Stokenham Footpath 6 and had been washed away. However there was a fairly easy alternative route just inland as it was acknowledged that there was little point trying to repair the steps at the beginning of another winter. The alternative route was acceptable so the advice was that anyone organising an event (Hallsands Commemoration) should check the route nearer the time. If they felt there were any places where their walkers needed direction they needed to make sure they had leaders who can do that. This was a route across a beach subject to storm damage and if use of the route became realistically dangerous that section would be closed and people sent round on a diversion, using the road, the green lane to Middlecombe and the NT permissive path back to the coast path.
- Both TAP Fund grant applications had been emailed today with hard copies being posted. Community Reinvestment Projects were awaiting quotes.
- Coleridge Bus Community had advised of concern with regard to hedges increasing in width into the highway along with overhanging trees forcing their larger vehicle to move into the middle of the road/A379. The Village Green perimeter had been acknowledged by that committee and cutting back arranged for January. With all others due to the amount of vegetation these had been passed to County Council although the tree in the County car park adjacent to the Church House Inn was not deemed a nuisance. Meeting with the Highway Engineer next week to cover these points also.
- Fine Shine was booked to clean all parish signs on Monday 20th March 2017.
- District Council had written advising of their wish to provide more outlets to supply recycling bags to residents. It was suggested that Stokeley Farm Shop would be a point and Cllr Mrs Doust would ask Chillington Post Office.
- Responded to Devon County that Stokenham Parish Council would continue to carry out highway visibility cuts from April 2017 and Devon County had allocated £425p.am. for these cuts.

6 FINANCE AND CHEQUES

Balances were provided and the below were noted and agreed for transfer or signature:

Current £609.59
 Instant savers (1) £62912.26
 Instant savers (2) £4928.42
 Transferred £2740.

Received – Nil

Payments to be made in October:

Wages £1077.96

HMRC £190.63

DCC Pension Fund – Pension payment £334.11

Eclipse – Final payment to 3rd December 2016 £17.71

SLCC and ALCC half subscription shared with Salcombe £117.50

7. NEXT MEETING

The next full parish council meeting would be held on Thursday 19th January 2017. A planning committee would be held on the first Thursday in January 2017 if applications were received that required consideration before next full council. Both meetings commenced at 7.30p.m. in the Wesley Smith Room at Stokenham Parish Hall.

Meeting finished: 8.45p.m.

Signed Chairman Dated: 17th January 2017.