

**STOKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2014 IN THE  
STOKENHAM PARISH HALL**

**PRESENT:****COUNCILLORS:****C. ROGERS (in the Chair)****J. ANSELL****P. SPENCE****T. HOEKSMAN****P. MOORE****J. BRAZIL (County Councillor)****J. GARDNER****L. COWLEY****MRS L. WINROW****MRS P. DOUST****Also in attendance:****Clerk – Mrs G. Claydon****APOLOGIES:****COUNCILLORS****A. GOODMAN - Personal****MRS A. LOCKWOOD - Personal****J. BAVERSTOCK (District Councillor)****MRS. C. NUTTALL-SMITH - personal****R. FOSS**

Congratulations and welcome to Paula joining council.

**1. 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. Cllrs Spence declared an interest in application 2896/14/VAR being a close neighbour.

**2. OPEN FORUM**

Sue Gay as a near neighbour to Old Cotmore Farm was in attendance and wished to remind people or inform those not present at the original application that this had caused concern when it went through in 2012 and at that time it was presented as a green development. This was not about the reed bed being replaced by a sewage plant but the fact that it was to be moved into an arable field and outside the original application agreed boundary. This application had already been amended in 2012 and that was for an extension before and she could see no good reason for it to be there. Due to the installation it was the planning officer who had requested this application because it sat outside the agreed boundary. The Chairman enquired whether the current septic was the right size for this development and as it provided for 55 people and there were 8 lodges it was probably the right size. It was acknowledged that there had been no other comments received although this was likely to be because there were no other near neighbours affected. Cllr Cowley asked why the approved plans were changed and this was now requiring a variation. The reed bed was not practical and when the development was approved it originally needed a lot of screening as it was not environmentally acceptable and thus the screening was put

outside the camp site which allowed space for the reed bed and then a new boundary was drawn round the outside of this. It was suggested that as they had to site the sewage treatment works away from the accommodation buildings, perhaps also to get the fall, it was presumed they moved it further away as it was more convenient than moving the lodges and keeping everything inside the agreed boundary. Also if all development was kept within the constraints of the field the applicant might not have been able to put so many lodges in.

***Cllr Hoeksma arrived.***

The applicant still did not own the whole site, only the bottom half, so using the top half of the site would not be an option and the only thing that they could move was the sewage treatment works. The total properties for the development were 8, four in each section.

WPC Gerrard arrived and advised that since October there had been an Ebay harassment incident in Hallsands (neither party met but threats were sent over the internet). Theft of a pedal cycle from Beesands when a child's bike went missing and then turned up a couple of days later having been in the sea. Criminal damage to a garage in Stokenham (expanding foam was placed along the top of an up and over garage preventing the garage from opening easily). It was noted from a comment by parish council that a male had been arrested in Kingsbridge and a house search in Chillington conducted at his address and he would be taken to court.

The volunteer speed camera team was noted and that Charleton were proactive and keen. The Chairman advised that he had suggested to local people but nobody ever come forward to set up a parish voluntary group. It was noted that it would be good to have a volunteer group that represented many parishes cross border which could travel around and this would be welcomed.

***WPC Gerrard left the meeting.***

### **3. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the:

- (a) full council meeting dated 20<sup>th</sup> November 2014 were approved by all present and duly signed as a true and correct record.
- (b) Planning Committee none held December 2014

### **4. PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS**

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

***Cllr Spence left the meeting whilst the following application was considered.***

- 2896/14/VAR Variation of condition 7 (as applicable to on-site drainage works) and removal of condition 12 (soakaways tests) of planning approval 53/2976/11/F Old Cotmore Farm, Kingsbridge –Objection. Parish Council felt this should meet the environmental criteria in the original application as the development was sited in a sensitive area and should reflect the condition as it stands. Concern was raised as this would be further a reduction in arable land.
- 2900/14/F Householder application for conversion of roof space into habitable space, creation of balcony at the front and construction of single storey side extension Ashridge, Kiln Lane, Stokenham – Objection. This was felt to be an overdevelopment of the site by doubling the property mass together with increasing the roofline out of keeping with adjacent property and creating a dominant point in the village, with overlooking of Downham and Doveleys below this property. Such balcony would be out of keeping with the streetscene. The introduction of double aspect velux, appeared to be akin to a cabriolet

design, could increase overlooking and care should be given with regard to such future amenity use of adjacent properties.

- 2935/14/F Householder application for new window to first floor north elevation 4 Meadow Court Barns, Stokenham – No objection.
- 2943/14/F Householder application for extension and alterations to dwelling Taffrail, Hallsands – No objection.

## **5. PRECEPT**

This matter was DEFERRED to January 2015 to consider future responsibilities for the maintenance of the Chillington Playing Field.

## **6. TAP FUNDS**

The Chairman and Clerk had met with Adam Keay to consider works for passing places along the alternative route should the A379 Slapton Line be breached. The whole of the route through to Slapton and up from Carehouse Cross to Coleridge were considered but such works were felt too costly. The section of highway from Coleridge Cross up towards the next junction had been considerably flooded causing problems whenever the main A379 was closed as this was the back route. South West Highways were dealing with the buddle hole and drainage but once these were completed the passing place would need improving.

It was AGREED that funding be used to put hard core down and improve this passing place within the remit of the Town and Parish fund.

*Cllr Moore arrived.*

## **7. EMERGENCY PLAN**

This matter was DEFERRED to consider changes for inclusion within this plan.

*Cllr Brazil arrived.*

## **8. REPORTS**

### **SLAPTON FIELD STUDIES ANNUAL RESEARCH SEMINAR**

Cllr Ansell had attended and the meeting had looked at the value of the Field Centres long series of data. There were many talks which were all interesting. It was noted that they had found further rare things near Slapton Line and this was of interest/concern if agencies wished to move the road again due to a storm and there might be a problem with English Nature protection.

### **CHILLINGTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

Cllr Mrs Winrow noted that the hall was going well but there were still major issues with the Table Tennis club and since the last meeting most of the committee members had resigned. Chris Hyson was remaining and Sally O'Dwyer would become secretary with Ian Sainsbury taking over the accounts. It was hoped that other volunteers would come along. Cty Cllr Brazil noted that he had been asked for a further grant and took on board the unrest caused with the committee. It was suggested that the person who had raised issues and been instrumental in many stepping back from volunteering be asked to address the parish council at a meeting so that they could open a dialogue with regard to his points.

The Chairman advised that he along with Cllrs Mrs Winrow and the clerk had attended a gathering at the hall and met the Trustees of the land. At that meeting he had talked about the piece of land that Stokenham church owned and was advised that the Trustees would have loved to have seen a footpath link across this land from the Helmers development go through. They

wished they had retained a piece of Winnie Brooking's garden for such. The Chairman asked that this item be on the agenda in January for parish council to discuss possibilities of providing such path and perhaps addressing the church committee.

### **SOUTH DEVON OUTDOORS GROUP**

Cllr Moore advised he had met with this group which had been set up by AONB and noted that some businesses in the parish were members too. There had been a few meetings and the group had invited all the sea and land based providers within the AONB to be a part and the remit was about getting visitors to the area to enjoy what was on offer with all partners working together. All involved were signing up to a sustainable charter whether they be power boat, kayaking or alternative ventures to get them all to think about their environmental impact and it was hoped to obtain some funding from CLAG.

### **PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE**

Cllr Spence advised that he now needed to get the group up and running to get more information into this template website but he was pleased that it looked good so far.

### **CLERK'S REPORT**

- Cathy Aubertin District Street Scene Manager advised that she had look at the tariffs with regard to eliminating the Torcross overnight charging. It is affordable if District also charge the same parking charge all year round in the car parks i.e. the high season rates. Parish Council wished to know how much District actually made during the last year in charges over night and could not make a decision until they had further information.
- District consultation within their Our Plan newsletter with regard to 'Our Resources' and 'Our Environment and Our Heritage' which required a response by 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015. It was noted that the Our Plan timetable had been extended. Parish Council noted the issues raised in these newsletter documents and were in favour of all that was put forward but felt that whilst the aims were laudable details on how such aspirations would be achieved were lacking and the clerk was to respond accordingly.
- Playdale had provided details of their outdoor exercise equipment for consideration.
- The Quality Parish Scheme had been revamped and those already part of this were being offered that they could register for the Foundation level of the new Award scheme for free for a year. However the application paperwork would still need to be completed.
- The TAP Fund had been submitted but not accepted as it was felt that it did not show true partnership working with other parishes.
- Noted that the Highway Warden Scheme was already a policy and not a consultation. It had been implemented to allow those parish/towns which wished to carry out works themselves as otherwise such would not be done and to provide training and equipment for such. No funding for training would be available the next year.
- Highways advised that South West Water had a leaking main in the vicinity of Oddicombe Cottage on the A379 at Chillington, grid ref SX7842 (278546,42919). Currently this section of main was recorded as losing 23 cubic metres of water an hour but none was currently showing at the surface. Due to the width of the road it will be necessary to close the road to allow these works to be undertaken and SWW wanted to go in the night the leak was identified. As there was currently no water showing and it was so soon after the drainage works had the road closed for a week it had been agreed that Kier's would undertake the works next Wednesday night under an emergency closure starting after the last bus had passed. Highways delayed the works to allow Kier to prepare the diversion and provide some advance warning to residents and businesses that may be affected by the

closure. Although the works were planned for next Wednesday if the leak worsened or water started discharging from the carriageway it would be necessary to start work sooner.

## **9. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Dist. Cllr. Baverstock – no report due to unforeseen circumstances meaning non-attendance.

## **10. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cty Cllr Brazil attended the cabinet meeting the previous day when the headline figures for cuts of £49 million were passed. The highways consultation policy was now in place but Cty Cllr Brazil was unaware which cuts were to be implemented. Those present at cabinet were particularly exercised that after the elections in May 2015 how devolution or perhaps even unitary in Devon would be applied. He also had a motion put to County Council that was referred to cabinet with regard to residential council tax so that would go to February 2015 cabinet and then back to full council. The waste framework document relating to County overarching plans as to how they would dispose of waste was out for consultation. He was pleased that rather than going for one large waste energy facility County were looking for a few, i.e. 5 or 6 around the County with the nearest to South Hams being Heathfield, Plymouth. At the five or six areas where they were going to be sited the local members did not seem to be aware of them nor understand and now this decision had been agreed!

## **11. FINANCE AND CHEQUES**

Balances were provided and the below cheques were noted and agreed for signature:

Current £3933.11

Savings (1) £47959.58

Savings (2) £4923.67

Transferred: £10,000.00

002184 Eclipse Internet – November £11.26

002185 Ms Sylvester – ½ playingfield rent £18.75

002186 Mrs Chamberlain – ½ playingfield rent £18.75

002187 A. Ball – Bus Shelter cleaning £80.00

002188 P. Ball – Bus Shelter cleaning £80.00

002189 Charles Rogers Building Contractor – Playingfield bridge etc £3230.40

002190 Nick Walker Printing Ltd – Newsletters £86.00

002191 HMRC – Tax & NI £225.68

002192 Wages – December £1083.42

002193 Kingsbridge Websites – To design and host website £399.00

002194 R. Carter Construction – Community Reinvestment footpath works £5200.20

002195 SLCC – Subscription ½ with Salcombe TC £105.00

002196 C. Rogers – Chairman's allowance £68.95

## **12. NEXT MEETING**

The next full parish council meeting would be held on 15th January 2014. No planning committee meeting would be held on the first Thursday in January 2015 as this was New Years Day. All meetings were to commence at 7.30p.m. in the Wesley Smith Room at Stokenham Parish Hall.

Meeting finished: 9.32p.m.

Signed ..... Chairman      Dated: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2015.