

**STOKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD ON 19TH JULY 2018 IN THE
STOKENHAM PARISH HALL**

PRESENT:**COUNCILLORS:****P. SPENCE (Chairman)****T. LYNN****MRS T DAYMENT****C. ROGERS****L. COWLEY****J. BRAZIL (District and County Councillor)****J. ANSELL****MRS P. DOUST****W. FLETCHER-NEAL****MRS. S. ROWLAND****A. GOODMAN****Also in attendance:****Clerk – Mrs G. Claydon****APOLOGIES:****COUNCILLORS:****R. JACKSON****J. CHURTON****J. GARDNER****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. None received.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the:

(a) Parish council meeting dated 21st June 2018

(b) Planning Committee meeting none held July 2018

were tabled and after consideration approved by all present and duly signed as a true and correct record.

3. OPEN FORUM

Rebecca and Becky from Kingsbridge Dementia Friendly Group were present and outlined the areas they wished to cover. Dementia was a topic talked about and last year it was the single biggest killer in the UK and affected 1 in 14 over 65 years of age, but this figure was probably just the tip of the iceberg. The condition affected the whole family, friends and carers. They explained that it could affect any sense function as it was a disease of the brain and in and around Kingsbridge with such a widely spread rural community it could lead to isolation. There was a need to talk about this to highlight and raise awareness of this condition and this was their number one aim. Both were trained as dementia friendly champions and could provide awareness training, which lasted about 45 mins to an hour, to any group as they had spoken to many varying age groups. Most who they had spoken to were positive at the sessions. As a Dementia Friendly Community, they had been awarded official recognition by the Society so they had set out what they wanted to achieve and had 9 areas to target including Arts & Culture, Schools and Education, Churches and religion, transport and emergency services, rural areas, housing and health and society care. They had agreed group actions in each of those 9 areas were slowly addressing

these. Official recognition meant they could also work with businesses and groups to look at the environment they were acting in and whether it fitted with being dementia friendly aware. Perception was a sense that could be affected for those suffering such as a big mat looking like a big hole. Thus they were talking to people about how things were set up within their business. Wording such as ladies toilet, powder room etc could cause difficulty in understanding and access. Ensuring customer facing services and how this directly affected users meant they could award Dementia Friendly Status to a business with a sticker/plaque to display a logo 2018 – 2020 to show that they were taking steps. Thereafter logos were being renewed with ongoing progress and continually awarded. The Alzheimer Society released the rural guide which had been sent to all parish councillors. Dementia Friendly groups had been around for 3 years and Rebecca and Becky had been involved for with the Kingsbridge one for 18 months. It was their wish to not just focus on Kingsbridge but include all the surrounding villages and hamlets.

As to whether businesses had to pay towards being involved it was advised no it was free and the steps that businesses could take did not cost money. Just being aware of staff, customers, clients or anyone they came into contact with. Housing and new businesses and premises were being required to look at what needed to be in place to assist. There was such a broad spectrum of conditions that would be displayed so people just needed to be sympathetic, understanding and look out for the community. They had brought along various postcards with information such as 'safe and sound'. The Herbert Protocol had also been set up by the police about arranging and having on file in advance information with regard to reporting a missing person because potentially this might happen with a person illustrating dementia and they would probably wander. This facility to prepare had been promoted but in rural areas the message had got lost. They were trying to forge links with Coast Guards and other services etc. Saltstone Caring were involved and there maybe a possibility of social prescribing coming to this area. It was a very delicate line between caring and interfering in someone's personal circumstances. There was a booklet for customer facing staff available. It was suggested that a network along the lines of luncheon clubs for the elderly and other clubs could be used and attendees transported in to ensure relief for carers and a social experience for those more vulnerable.

A Kingsbridge website had just been launched with funding received in March and they had produced the leaflets and cards ready for Dementia Action Week. An events calendar was on the website. At Honiton they were fund raising for an Admiral Nurse and Tavistock was another more advanced model they had looked at.

Consideration was given by parish council to various groups that could be visited for dementia awareness training and they included Knit and Natter held in Chillington Bear and Blacksmith on a Wednesday, RVS Luncheon Club on a Thursday in Stokenham Parish Hall, 1st Stokenham Guides held Wednesday in Chillington Hall, Pre Schools, Merry Tots, Happy Feet Toddler Group all details from Stokenham School, Short Mat Bowls Club on a Wednesday and Sunday during term time in Stokenham Hall, Stokenham Community Village Association meeting in Stokenham, and Stokenham Women's Institute at Stokenham Parish Hall.

DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Brazil provided this report at the end of the meeting when it is indicated that he arrived.

He noted the A379 works had commenced to finish October 2018. Devon County Highways had been out cutting all the back lane routes and Cllr Brazil was going on a tour of the back routes the following Tuesday week with highways officers to consider upgrading passing places. It was suggested that east to west (should following Wallerton to Cotterby Forge past Middlecombe rather than East Down to Wallerton Cross).

Any proposed improvement works would not be carried out until after October as they could not block these routes whilst the main A379 works were ongoing. However with monies left in the funding pot these could be used for this local traffic route.

At District Council there were no specific topics but he noted the ongoing discussions with regard to outsourcing of rubbish collection and toilet maintenance were continuing. There were a lot of consultants who stated it was a good idea but then consultants had said this on other ventures! At District full council next Thursday this proposal would move to the next stage with the final say being in December. Cllr Brazil had commented at District Council that if they did outsource the vast majority of services then District did not need the current staff. They responded they would sell their management skills to other authorities. District was trying to reanimate the commercial property venture but there was a caveat of only purchasing within the South Hams. He was not sure of the money proposed but this was all going to full council but under 'restricted papers'.

When the Beesands play area was requested to be moved to the land in front of properties down there it was suggested District Council could develop this for housing. This was stopped due to the route of the sewer but nothing had moved on from this and the Chairman asked Cllr Brazil to continue to chase on this matter. Coastal protection problems were raised in the meeting.

4. PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS

The applications below were received for consideration and such observations forwarded to District Council

- 1982/18/HHO Householder application for alterations and extensions to existing property Clandon House, Beeson TQ7 2HW – No objection.

5. PARISH PROJECTS

The parish projects included approval for the quote for weed spraying of pavements in Chillington, Stokenham and Torcross at a cost of £150.00 and this was AGREED.

There were further quotes for drainage works at Chillington awaited whereupon a meeting would take place with John Grimes. District Council were to quote and other contractors would also be asked. If these quotes did not come in near to the expected expenditure then the project would need to be amended. The Chairman had met with Neil Martin Chairman of Chillington Community Association and explained that parish council was not going to start works before his Chillington fete in September to which he totally agreed.

The works to move the tank and upgrade the car park entrance to Chillington Hall were AGREED to proceed along with ordering the rugby/goal posts for installation whilst these further drainage quotes were awaited. It was noted that the installation of the tank would mean that one piece of equipment must be lifted and swung around. It was suggested that at this time whilst the diggers were in a cable could be laid to enable car park night lighting to be installed at a later stage. A quote would be sought for the placing of an electric cable from the hall to car park.

An alternative route for the section of the Permissive Path from the wooded area to the church car park was again discussed. Disabled access had been improved on the section down to Torcross and it was noted that even if the path was signed differently people would walk their own easiest route especially with child buggies. Following discussion with Mark Brooking it was felt that the landowner's proposed route would not work and therefore this section would have to be removed.

6. NIGHT LANDING SITE

The funding for this facility had been applied for and assisted by the Stokenham Village Community Association contribution and it was AGREED to provide a grant of £400 and move

to approve payment and settle the invoice with MAT Electrics for such installation once the Night Landing grant had been received. The Stokenham Village Community Association would retain a modest amount of monies in order that they could deal with ongoing maintenance and replacement bulbs.

7. DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO RESPOND TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS

It was AGREED to approve delegated authority to the Clerk to respond to planning applications received during the August recess following input from councillors.

8. REPORTS

- Cllr Lynn – Tabled a letter from 6 owners out of the 7 residences at Start View (Hallsands) advising that they intended to spend £300,000 to renew the boulders and place a gabion, as at Beesands, to protect them for 60 plus years. It was questioned whether this would go against the coastal management plan and if planning could be obtained but this was a matter for the residents. The grant funded Portaloos had arrived and been placed for the summer season.
- Cllr Cowley – At Torcross the new build was felt to be going too high but on a concerned resident contacting planning enforcement they were told they were too busy and they would not get around seeing it for a month. This meant that building would continue and enforcement would not assist at a point when something could be done. This matter would be raised with planning.
- Cllr Spence – Attended to the Tree Warden AGM which was an interesting meeting. They were advised of a special oak growing all along the Dart called the Ria Oak. This tree was so particular to this area that foreign students would write a thesis on this oak.
- Cllr Ansell – Attended the sign carving and enjoyed the event. He felt that towards the end as people learnt the new skill it went quicker but it still needed a bit more done and people to finish it off. He had dropped into Kingsbridge on Tuesday to the consultation from District that Locality Officer Dan Taylor ran and completed a questionnaire.
- Cllr Mrs Rowland – Attended Stokenham Parish Hall meeting and they were going ahead with replacements of the lintels and a new window from the funding received out of the Community Reinvestment Fund. They were also painting a ‘keep clear for access’ sign at the entrance to keep people off that area. Although slightly out of parish she advised of a bridleway in Chivelstone that needed cutting back.
- Cllrs Mrs Dayment – Highlighted that Home Close to the field footpath up to the Great Wood and Orchard Way to Tanpits up past the cemetery needed to vegetation cleared. Complaints had also been received that the toilets at Slapton car park were closed although this was noted as due to the recent storms making the sewage tank unsafe. Trees were over growing around the path in Helmers Park but birds were nesting so this would have to await October.
- Cllr Rogers – Funding had been found by County Footpaths to do the works at the bottom section of the Bridleway from Mattiscombe Cross to Riddlefoot. Island Farm caravan site to Sumerye land owner Mr Tolchard had agreed to some additional buddles and this would also be done. Devon County Highways had just completed the hedge cutting around the alternative diversion routes going around Torcross Line. He had also suggested that they might redo this work later in the season so that when the rain set in the vegetation would not be weighted down into the highway. He had been instructed to clean and clear buddle holes but due to hedge cutting and straw moving this would await when all these works had been completed. There had been complaints with regard to the lack of play area and equipment at Beesands but the fishermen were resigned to the fact that the slipways were no longer usable, but content with how they got boats off the beach. Beesands was

muddling through as there were less parking and not too much congestion but most would like an extension to the car park.

Cllr Brazil arrived at this point and gave his report staying till the end of the meeting.

CLERK'S REPORT

- Wood carving of the Chillington Orchard sign had taken place but the final finishing touches needed to be done and hopefully volunteers would come forward for this. First Aid for the Group had also been arranged by Woodland Trust through the Red Cross and would take place in August. The Chairman invited other councillors to take part if they wished.
- Communication had been made with the contractors working for Devon highways to reinstate the A379 from Slapton to Strete. The question of site deliveries and traffic management with regard to the works had been raised and parish council had been advised that all suppliers had been asked to provide deliveries to arrive before 7.00 a.m. The contractor was issuing newsletters and had agreed to meet and discuss any concerns received and raised by parish council.
- A question had been raised by a resident as to whose responsibility it was to clean around residential waste collection bins situated on the pavements in Chillington. An answer had been requested from District Council.
- The foliage was again covering the sign advising motorists from Stokenham towards Chillington/Kingsbridge that the road narrowed and a resident had requested clearance.
- Email dated 9th July advised of the Kingsbridge market 17th July event with the District Council strategy consultation. No understanding of what this was in order to have time to advertise. Further dates given for other towns.
- A few Torcross residents had enquired about replacement promenade permits as the current ones had run out in March 2018. It had taken some time for County Council to search these out as all officers who had set this up had left. It was hoped that replacement permits would be provided shortly.
- Parish Clerk would draw the representatives at Torcross and Beesands together and consider the keys and agreement for the opening/closing of flood gates since emails exchanged with the Environment Agency. Whilst responsibility was mainly covered it did not take into account the on the ground questions and pitfalls.
- Robin Rose-Price had highlighted that the vegetation all around had grown far taller this season than for many years. This was especially the case at the Torcross view point which should provide one of the best views over Slapton National Nature Reserve. The bracken in this area was so tall that the view was virtually obscured completely and the access entrance off Widewell Lane was so narrow that unless someone knew it was there they would miss it all together. The area had in the past been cut back every November, sadly in 2017 this was not done, resulting in the neglected state that it now was. He asked if there was any possibility of it being cleared soonest so that visitors to the area and residents could once again enjoy the view. This would be raised with District Council.

9. FINANCE AND CHEQUES

Balances were provided and the below transactions were approved:

Current £988.44

Savings (1) £104,029.15

Savings (2) £208.74

Received: Nil

Payments in July

HMRC – Tax & NI £178.32

DCC – Pension £348.66

Wages - £1109.10

Reimbursement to A. Hollands - XConnect Ltd re Glazing kit for Beeson telephone box £507.12
- Jewson re silicone sealant £32.45

Event Hire Solutions – Balance for hire of portaloos £486.00

MAT Electrics - £6868.33 To be released when the grant monies and amended electrical certificate were received.

Greenspace – Cuts to Tanpits 2 x June £110.00

- Weed spraying in Chillington, Stokenham and Torcross £150.00

Devon County – Contribution towards footpaths works £10000.00

Cheques: None

10. NEXT MEETING

Any planning applications received that could not await full council would be considered at a planning committee to be held on the first Thursday in August. Due to the August recess the next full council would be held on 20th September 2018. Meetings commenced at 7.30p.m. in the Wesley Smith Room at Stokenham Parish Hall.

Meeting finished: 8.45p.m.

Signed Chairman Dated: 20th September 2018.