

Minutes of Harberton Parish Council
meeting held on Tuesday 10 February 2009 at
Harbertonford Primary School at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs. Fearn, Knight, Jeffreys,
Johnson, Hill, Hoddinott, Janes, Beamish,
County Cllr Geoff Date & District Cllr Robert
Steer.

Apologies: Cllrs Steer, Hockings &
Hookway.

Members of the public: 1

Clerk: Mrs D Crann.

The Chairman opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and invited the member of the public to speak. He was Michael Hicks who said he had come to introduce himself to councillors as a candidate for this area for the County Elections in May. He welcomed any questions.

Cllr. Hoddinott asked about the provision of funds for pensions for County Council employees and how much the Council Tax would increase this coming financial year. County Cllr Date answered that it could possibly cost up to £120 this year for pensions for County Council employees. These were, in fact, quite modest being on average £3,500 pa per person. Cllr Date also reported that one of the County Councils financial experts said that at the worst case scenario it could take up to 3 years to recover from this recession.

County Cllr Date then reported he had met with Cllr Hookway at Langridge Cross to inspect the flooding area. Following a conversation with Mr Halliday of Highways, they were still on course to install the interactive road signs on A 381 at the pedestrian crossing in Harbertonford by the end of Mar/Apr 09. Cllr Date had also attended a meeting dealing with the grants for local playing fields, but these had yet to be decided.

District Cllr Steer then reported he had attended a meeting regarding the Sustainable

Community Act. This covered all aspects of modern life and was very involved. The District Council Tax and Parking Charges were to remain the same as last year. Each District councillor now had £1,000 at their disposal to spend in their Ward – details to be announced. Cllr Steer raised the subject of the installation of the new Network Rail radio mast along the rail line near Tigley. This was discussed although the Parish Council does not have any decision to make as it is permitted development. Points were, however, made by councillors as to whether it could be combined with the mast already in place along the railway near the proposed site at Tigley. This was proposed by Cllr Hoddinott, seconded by Cllr. Beamish. All in favour.

Police Report. None had been received.

Matters Arising:

- 1) Street Lighting in Harberton – ongoing.
- 2) Repair of fence at lower entrance to playground in Harberton – ongoing.
- 3) Community Planning. The Chairman had now replied to Mr. Padfield's email, a copy of which was read by all Councillors. It was agreed to keep the matter under consideration. The Clerk had also just received a letter from Mr. Fairweather of Harbertonford referring to this proposed Community Plan and raising the subject of the replacement of the many large trees in the Parish which had had to be felled (from storms and old age) in the last 10 years. He wished to remind farmers and residents that this was important for the future of the countryside.
- 4) Re the proposed pruning of the flowering cherry tree at the Ford Area in Harbertonford. This matter was ongoing.

Planning. Parish Council recommendations -

Decisions between meetings:

23/0067/09/F – Smokey Cottage, Harbertonford. Resubmission of **23/1927/08/F** Construction of 10 cats pens & kitchen facility. Majority Decision, no objections, but councillors feel access on to A381 to be dangerous

23/0084/09/F – Meadow Copse, Bow Road, Harbertonford. Conversion of garage into garden room. Majority decision, no objection.

Decision at meeting

23/2417/08/CL - New Oak Barn, Westleigh, Harberton. Certificate of Lawfulness for use of decked areas to front & rear of property.

Cllr. Knight declared an interest and took no part in decision. Councillors have no knowledge of the situation and history, so were unable to comment.

23/2165/08/CL – Land S & W of Westleigh Farmhouse, Harberton. Certificate of Lawfulness for use of existing timber shed/storage building for housing mini digger & fork lift. Councillors have no knowledge of the situation and history, so were unable to comment.

23/2250/08/LB) Barn 55m SW of Wyses

23/2251/08/F) Englebourne, Harberton. Now withdrawn.

23/0153/09/F - Land SW of 1Victoria Cottages, Harberton. Creation of pedestrian access for garden. Decision adjourned for site meeting.

Correspondence:

1) Invoice received from SHDC for 5th instalment of loan for Harberton Flood Relief Scheme. £328.36 to be paid. Proposed by Cllr Jeffreys, seconded by Cllr Johnson.

All in favour.

2) SHDC Local Development Framework – Regulation 25. A letter received from SHDC was discussed by Councillors. The general feeling appeared to be that this information was not complete. The time to respond short notice, being by 27/02/09. The Parish Council were not able to respond.

3) DCC Community Emergency Planning Survey to be completed & returned.

4) DAPC. Royal Garden Party 07/07/09. No nominations. Also, NALC Legal Briefing to Promote the Power of Well Being. This was discussed by the meeting and it was decided the Clerk should contact DAPC for further information.

5) An email received from Cllr J Tucker, Leader of SHDC, was read out notifying councillors that the deadline for the decision

by the Boundary Commission regarding the Local Govt. Reorganisation had been deferred until 15/07/09.

6) An email received from Jenny Gellatly of CPRE was read out notifying the meeting that a 'Mapping Local Food Webs' workshop was to be held on 26/02/09 at the Methodist Church, Fore Street, Totnes at 7.00pm. Anyone may attend.

Also on the table:

SHDC Minutes of Executive meetings 22/01/09 & 08/01/09; DCC Magazine; DPFA The Playing Field & SHDC Agenda & Minutes.

Matters at the Discretion of the Chairman:

1) Potholes reported by Cllrs Beamish, Janes, Hill & Hoddinott. In Harbertonford - Moreleigh Road, Woodcourt Road, from Rolster Bridge up to Combeshead Cross, Bow Road, towards Beenleigh. Also, the road is falling away along Bow Road towards the Beenleigh end. In Harberton - Shop Hill. Overall comments on the general poor state of roads.

2) Cllr Hill also spoke to ask if the times of the buses to and from Kingsbridge for taking & collecting school children could be timed more conveniently to accommodate school hours.

3) The Chairman & Clerk had attended the Budget meeting at Follaton House on 15/01/09 and found it useful.

Cheque signed:

No. 445 – SHDC - £328.36

D/D - Plusnet - £9.75

The meeting closed at 9.45pm. The next will be held on Tuesday 10 March 2009 at Harberton Parish Hall at 7.30pm.