

Minutes of Harberton Parish Council
meeting held on Tuesday 10 June 2008 at
7.30pm at Harbertonford Primary School.

Present: Cllrs Knight, Hockings, Hookway,
Beamish, Hill, Steer, Janes, Jeffries, Williams
& Hoddinott.

Apologies: Cllrs Fearn & Johnson.

Also Present: Devon County Cllr G Date &
District Cllr R Steer.

Speaker: Mr J Halliday of DCC Highways

Members of the Public: 28.

Clerk: Mrs. D.Crann.

Due to the absence of Cllr Fearn, the Chair was taken by Cllr Knight, the Vice Chairman. He opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and invited County Cllr Date to speak first. Cllr Date gave his report. He had attended 5 meetings last month. The main one being as Governor of KEVIC, Totnes. There had been a grant to them of £75,000 which they were to use to open a TV station to make programmes to be broadcast around the school. Another meeting had been with Postwatch to monitor the Post Office closures. Harbertonford Football Club had applied for a grant towards heating for the new club house. Cllr Date noted the members of the public from Harbertonford village at this meeting protesting about the Pedestrian Crossing. His suggestion was to choose a different site for the crossing. He then left the meeting. The Chairman then invited Mr J Halliday of DCC Highways to speak. He said he had come mainly to listen to and answer questions from the public regarding the pedestrian crossing in Harbertonford. Points were made by the public asking for a 20mph speed limit, speed bumps and chicanes. He was also asked to have another look at the signing approaching the crossing from the Kingsbridge side, together with a light up warning sign to be positioned on that side as the crossing was not readily visible until

drivers come round the left-hand bend on the bridge. There had been many near-misses and two people injured since installation. Mr Halliday took due note of all these comments and also pointed out that as the bridge was listed, DCC was not able to put any signing on the bridge. It was in about 2004 that the Transport Authority changed national policy to exclude 20mph speed limits in villages. He would, however, be sitting down with DCC engineers to see what improvements could be introduced. There were several more questions put to Mr Halliday and he finally left the meeting at 8.40pm, together with the members of the public. The Parish Council meeting continued.

District Cllr Robert Steer then gave his report. There was a new Chairman of South Hams District Council, Cllr Basil Cane who has indicated he would welcome an invitation to attend one of our meetings. There was a site for Gypsies and Travellers in South Brent Parish for 51 permanent and 5 temporary vans. This was quite close to our Parish boundary. It was to be noted that a barn in open countryside had been passed for conversion to a dwelling. This was a first. Chris Lucas had now taken up a new post as Head of Waste Management – an in-house promotion. Cllr Steer then left the meeting.

No report received from the Police this month.

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 13/05/08 were then considered and after two amendments were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

The minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 13/05/08 were then considered, agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Matters Arising:

1) Land Registry Voluntary First Registration of Title. The Clerk had invited a speaker to the July meeting, but after talking with their representative learnt that they only attend meetings during office hours. The Clerk was told that it would cost a minimum of £30 to register a title and that where there were no

title deeds (as in our case) a solicitor would need to be employed to prove title and there would be no guarantee of success. In the case of this Parish Council it would not be worth pursuing the registration of the two Ford areas in Harberton and in Harbertonford. Councillors all agreed not to proceed.

- 2) Street Lighting in Harberton. To be considered next month.
- 3) Repair of fence from road to Playground in Harberton. To be discussed next month.
- 4) Re £300.00 paid to Harbertonford Village Hall Committee. The Clerk will write to Mr Wheeler, whose donation it was.

Planning: For information.

- 1) **23/2034/07/F** West Leigh Farm, Harberton. Notification of appeal following an Enforcement Notice for Change of Use of land without planning permission.
- 2) Land East of Yeo Cottage, Sandwell, Harberton. Hedgerow may be removed under Exception.

Correspondence:

- 1) Invoice received for 50% of grasscutting costs for Harbertonford Playground, as agreed with Harbertonford Primary School. £129.35 to be paid. Proposed by Cllr Hill, seconded by Cllr Jeffries. All in favour.
- 2) South Hams Local Govt Reorganisation. Following various communications from the Boundary Committee, Devon County Council and South Hams District Council which are circulating amongst Councillors and following a number of discussions at recent meetings, it was proposed by Cllr Steer, seconded by Cllr Hill, that Councillors agree to support the proposals put forward by South Hams District Council and that the Clerk should write to the Boundary Committee accordingly. All in favour. These proposals are to support the Rural South Devon and Dartmoor Unitary Proposals. Anyone wishing to express their comments and opinions should write to the Boundary Committee for England, Trevelyan House, Great Peter Street, London SW1P 2HW as soon as possible.
- 3) DAPC. Items received. Details of SW Life Long Learning Network Conference 15/07/08 at Kennford, Exeter and Village Green magazine.

4) DPFA. AGM to be held on 10/07/08 at Ipplepen.

5) SHDC. New procedures for dealing with complaints about Councillors to the Standards Committee to be further discussed at the next meeting.

6) DCC. PP3 Newsletter passed to Cllr Williams.

7) AON Insurance leaflet received offering a possible 15% discount to be kept on file for next year as our Insurance was renewed on 01 June.

8) SHDC. Information received re closures of local Post Offices and removal of BT Payphones. The lists do not include any in this Parish.

9) Western Power Distribution Stakeholder Consultation shown to the meeting.

10) Water Pressure in Harberton. To be discussed at the next meeting.

11) Letter received, together with a copy of the latest accounts from Harberton PCC, requesting a grant towards the upkeep of the churchyard. This was passed around the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Steer, seconded by Cllr Hoddinott, to pay £400.00. All in favour.

12) Held over from a previous meeting, the request for a grant towards grasscutting for 2007 season together with a copy of the accounts from Harberton Playingfields Association was considered. It was proposed by Cllr Steer, seconded by Cllr Hoddinott, to pay £450.00. All in favour.

13) Application for grant received from CAB together with their annual accounts. It was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Janes, to pay £50.00. All in favour.

14) An email had been received from Mr Padfield of Harbertonford, enquiring if information of general interest received by the Parish Council could be displayed on the village website. Cllr Fearn will reply.

15) Letter received from TOR Homes with details of estate walks up to 17/12/08. was shown to the meeting.

Other items on the table:

SHDC New Waste services leaflet; Voluntary Vine; SHDC Executive Forward Plan; SHDC Minutes of Executive meeting 29/05/08.

Matters at the discretion of the Chairman:

- 1)** Cllr Williams gave a short report on Harberton Parish Hall for 2007/8. There had been a new front door and the electrics had been brought up to date. Drainage work also carried out. A 10% rise in bookings achieved.
- 2)** Cllr Hoddinott spoke about County Cllr Date's early departure from the meeting and said he felt Cllr Date should, at least, have stayed until the end of Mr. Halliday's talk, as there were several points mentioned which he could have dealt with.
- 3)** There was a vehicle parked at the Bus Stop on Kingsbridge side of the bridge in Harbertonford on a regular basis that was impeding the buses stopping. This will be reported to the Police. Also there was an abandoned vehicle by the phone mast up Moreleigh Road in Harbertonford (Beamish).

4) The Clerk had received a phone call from Mrs Chattaway of Harbertonford, who was kindly looking after the flower beds at the Ford in Harbertonford. She wished to put some low wooden/plastic border around the beds. Councillors discussed this and it was proposed by Cllr Steer, seconded by Cllr Knight, to allocate £25.00 towards the cost. All in favour.

Cheque paid:

No 429 - Mrs D Crann - £451.86

No 430 - Devon County Council - £129.35

No 431 - Harberton PCC - £400.00

No 432 - HPFA - \$450.00

No 433 – CAB - £50.00

Direct Debit - Plus Net - £9.99

The meeting closed at 10.20pm. The next will be held at Harberton Parish Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 08 July 2008.