

## **Minutes of Harberton Parish Council**

meeting held on Tuesday 14 July 2009 at Harberton Parish Hall at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Cllrs Hockings, Jeffreys, Johnson, Janes, Hookway, Hoddinott, District Cllr Robert Steer and County Cllr. Paula Black.

**Apologies:** Cllrs Fearn, Beamish, Steer, Williams & Knight.

**Clerk:** Mrs D Crann.

The Clerk opened the meeting and in the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman she called for nominations for Chairman for this meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Hookway, seconded by Cllr Jeffreys to nominate Cllr Hockings who accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations voting was all in favour. Cllr Hockings then took the Chair. The Chairman then called County Cllr Black for her report. She had attended a number of meetings during the month including a Waste Conference in Crediton, the Princes Foundation meeting at Harbertonford and Totnes Baltic Wharf meeting. Cllr Black was now on various County Committees including Economy & Environmental Scrutiny Committee, Investment Board, Youth Projects and Standards Committee. Cllr Black also reported she had had a five hour meeting with Mr J Halliday of DCC Highways. Among discussions the subject of the pedestrian crossing on A381 in Harbertonford was raised. She had also had some discussions regarding street lighting which was being reviewed. District Cllr Robert Steer then gave his report. The SHDC switchboard at Follaton House was now automatic. The Planning system was under review. He had attended a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. D Cllr Steer offered condolences to the families of the three young men killed in the road accident at Aveton Gifford recently. There had been concerned residents of Harberton who had contacted him regarding some trees being felled at Dundridge. He had made enquiries and no planning laws had been breached.

The Police Report had been received by email on 02 July as follows - one crime reported 'a drive or attempt drive with excess alcohol 12/06/09. – driver arrested & charged'

The minutes of the last meeting were then considered, agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

### **Matters Arising:**

- 1)** Street Lighting in Harberton. Ongoing.
- 2)** Repair of fence to Playground in Harberton. Ongoing.
- 3)** Community Planning. Ongoing.
- 4)** P3 Footpath. Summer work on footpaths. Ongoing. Also Cllr Hill will attend Rattery Village Hall on 24 July for summer workshops.
- 5)** Interactive Road Signing along A381 in Harbertonford. The signs had now been installed, but do not yet flash at oncoming traffic.
- 6)** Parish Boundary Marker Stone at Peak Cross, Harberton. Ongoing.
- 7)** Re Buses to and from Kingsbridge School. Cllr Jeffreys had been told that the bus started from Exeter for Kingsbridge and the service was not actually timed for arrival at Kingsbridge in time for school as was the case in the afternoon. The buses were definitely timed for the start and finish of school at KEVIC, Totnes. County Cllr Black said she would make further enquiries of the transport company, as there were a number of other pupils from Totnes who attended Kingsbridge School.

### **Planning. Parish Council**

#### **recommendations.**

#### **Decisions between meetings -**

**23/1096/09/F** - Sandwell Farm, Harberton. Single storey rear conservatory. No objections.

#### **Decisions at meeting.**

**56/1045/09/F** – Trees End Yard, Tristford Cross, Harpers Hill, Totnes. Retrospective for use of land and building for vehicle repairs, storage and sale of vehicles. For consideration by Harberton Parish Council. It was recommended for refusal as the development does not accord with the

development plan in force in the area. Also there is no waste storage provision. Proposed by Cllr Hoddinott, seconded by Cllr Hill. All in favour.

**23/1092/09/RM** – 1 Mill Meadow, Harbertonford. Construction of single storey bungalow. Outline application already approved **23/0659/06/O**. No objections. Proposed by Cllr Jeffreys, seconded by Cllr Janes. All in favour.

### **Correspondence:**

**1)** DAPC Subscription. The payment cheque for £224.00 (which has been cancelled) was returned to the Clerk as an invoice had now been received for £248.45 (incl. £23.45 VAT). DAPC is now registered for VAT, so a replacement cheque for £248.45 is to be issued. Proposed by Cllr Johnson, seconded by Cllr Jeffreys. All in favour.

**2)** A letter received from Mr Brian Greenslade, former Chairman of DCC, was read to the meeting regarding the rutted condition of the road out of Harberton towards Peak Cross.

**3)** A letter had been received from the Environment Agency requesting permission to erect a gauging station and flood gauge on the lower side of the bridge to monitor the river flow at Harbertonford. Cllr Hill reported on the site meeting which he and the Clerk had attended with the Environment Agency at the bridge to discuss the matter recently. After further discussion Councillors agreed this was to the advantage of residents to be able to monitor the river flow. All in favour.

**4)** SHDC advised that seagull-proof sacks will be issued to houses receiving weekly sack collection.

**5)** Advance notice from Totnes Town Council of the Totnes Civic Service to be held on Sunday 20 September 2009 at 1115am at St. Mary's Parish Church, Totnes.

**6)** A letter received from Mrs Harvey, Treasurer of Harberton & Harbertonford Parish News, requesting a grant towards the new photocopier recently purchased which will now copy, collate, staple & fold the Parish News each month. Cllrs considered this request and it was proposed by Cllr Johnson,

seconded by Cllr Janes to grant £200.00.. There being no other proposals. All in favour.

**7)** A letter received from Harbertonford Primary School advising that the charge for hire of the School Hall was now £14.26 + £1.00 per hour for the School, making a total of making a total of £16.76 for the public meeting held on 21/06/09.

**8)** SHDC 'Inquiry by Design' Workshops. This is to be discussed again at the next meeting.

**9)** Lease of Harbertonford Playground. The annual payment of £50.00 will be due on 26 August. It was proposed by Cllr Jeffreys, seconded by Cllr Janes to pay this. All in favour.

**10)** A letter received from Mr & Mrs Ganter of Harberton was read to the meeting. This pointed out yet more large vehicles driving down Parish Road in Harberton past the side of the Church House Inn, forcing residents to move their cars. Also a large van driving down past the children's playground entrance damaging the wall opposite. It should be noted that there is already signing for vehicles wider than 6'6" to go down Screws Lane to gain access to the bottom of the village. Cllr Hoddinott to visit Mr & Mrs Ganter.

**11)** Invoice received from SHDC for the 6th repayment of £328.36 for the Harberton Flood Loan. This to be paid. Proposed by Cllr Johnson, seconded by Cllr Hoddinott. All in favour.

**12)** Email received from Mr A Robinson of SHDC was read to the meeting. This was a communication from the Dept. of Communities & Local Govt which confirms how the Government will consider the outcome of the Local Govt Reviews in Devon. This sets out the intention of the new Secretary of State, John Denham, to re-examine the original proposals from Exeter City Council as they do not meet prescribed criteria. It is anticipated any decisions will be taken in mid-October and Orders laid before Parliament by the end of the year. Any new Unitary Council might be expected to commence April 2011.

**13)** A letter received back from the District Auditor requested a statement of loan repayments for the Harberton Flood Scheme to SHDC. The Clerk had this in hand. Also

the Auditor requested a risk assessment covering financial and non-financial risks. This had already been sent with the accounts, but the Clerk had drafted a updated version and gave each Councillor a copy for inspection. This was examined and discussed. Cllr Hoddinott suggested adding the Playground in Harberton, together with adjoining fence. This was then agreed by all Councillors.

**Other items on the table:** South Hams Bulletin; DCC Newsletter; Vitalise; DPFA Newsletter; Senior Council for Devon newsletter; South Devon Carers Consortium; DAPC Newsletter; SHDC Agenda & Minutes & SHDC Executive Forward Plan.

**Matters at the Discretion of the Chairman:**

**1)** Cllr Jeffreys reported on repairs needed to the fence and gates at Harbertonford Playground. She had received some estimates of cost and would return to the September meeting with more details.

**2)** Cllr Johnson reported there had been vehicles turning down to Harberton from A381 at Peak Cross, Harberton, despite 'No Entry' signs.

There had been vehicles parked blocking the roads either side of the Church House inn in Harberton on several occasions, despite there being further parking available in the upper car park at Harberton Parish Hall.

Also, some vehicles driving along Ford Lane (by Simmons Farmhouse) were too wide and long. There was also a peacock reported near Town Park Barn at night. It was suggested the RSPCA should be informed.

**3)** Cllr Hoddinott reported road subsidence outside Lower Orchard, Harberton, after repairs by SW Water.

**Cheques signed:**

**No 458** - Exeter Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd. - £50.00

**No 459** – SHDC - £328.36

**No 460** – DAPC - £248.45

**No 461** - Harberton & Harbertonford Parish News - £200.00

**D/Debit** – Plusnet - £9.75

**Cheque cancelled:**

**No 451** – DAPC - £224.00

The meeting closed at 10.05pm. As usual, there will be no meeting in August. The next will be held on Tuesday 08 September 2009 at 7.30pm at Harbertonford Primary School.