

## **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Harberton Parish Council held on Tuesday 10 April 2001 at Harbertonford Primary School at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs Monaghan, Hockings, Mason, S Jane, E Janes, Preston-Day, Stubbings, Hoddinott, Mills, Christiansen, District Cllr Steer and Devon County Cllr O Masters

**Apologies:** Cllr Fearn

**Speaker:** Mr P Hookham of DCC

**Clerk:** Mrs D Crann

**Members of the Public:** Nil

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. The minutes of last year's meeting were then considered, agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record. The Chairman then introduced Mr P Hookham of DCC Highways, who was already known to everyone and invited him to speak. Mr Hookham told the meeting that he carried good news. He had been given extra funds from central government, which meant there would be £640,000 per annum to spend on capital highway projects for the next five years in the South Hams. The Totnes area, which included Harberton Parish, would attract one quarter of the sum mentioned and he would like the Parish Council to inform him of their list of projects to improve the Parish. Mr Hookham will supply some large scale maps and the Clerk will write to him with the improvements which will include a pedestrian crossing by the bus shelter in Harbertonford. After further discussions, Mr Hookham left the meeting.

**Harbourne Shuttle.** Cllr E Janes reported that the new bus had now been paid for. Passenger numbers were stable during the day, but Friday evenings were very variable. A substantial donation had recently been received with thanks.

**Harbertonford Primary School.** Cllr Christiansen reported that the school continued to flourish, the recent SATS results were very satisfactory and an "Achievement Award" had recently been received from the Education Authority. There had been a variety of school trips and senior citizens now had lunches twice a month at the school.

**Harbertonford Playground Group.** Cllr Christiansen reported that this organisation had almost disappeared through lack of support. The cost of grass cutting was the main problem and this was under discussion with the Parish Council.

**Harbertonford Village Hall.** Cllr E Janes reported that things were going well, with bookings looking very healthy. The disabled toilets were almost completed and the lighting had recently been examined and given the OK for three years and the new water heater in the kitchen was very good.

**Harberton Parish Hall.** Cllr Stubbings reported that bookings were excellent, with many week-end bookings and a large block booking. The pantomime had been a sell-out and profit was £1,400 and certain improvements had also been carried out. Unfortunately, there had also been some vandalism to windows and the boiler, costing about £700.

**Harberton Playing Fields Assn.** John Culf still maintained the playground.

**Feoffees.** D Cllr Steer reported that there had been two meetings and one new member. Fifty payments of £25 had been made last October to people in the Parish.

**SHDC.** D Cllr Steer. There was now a new Chief Executive, Ms Ruth Bagley, and the Management Team now consisted of just four persons. There had been several other changes within the structure, improving efficiency. The new political system was soon to be introduced. Foot and Mouth and the collapse of the Slapton Ley road were the main problems affecting the area at the moment. The Slapton Ley road had recently been opened on a temporary basis.

**Devon County Council.** Cllr O Masters reported on the collapse of the Slapton Ley road, which had now been reopened on a temporary basis, thanks to the co-operation of SHDC and three parishes. The flood prevention

scheme in Harbertonford was, hopefully, to start in 2002 and there was some progress with work in Harberton to avoid further flooding. A number of footpaths, including coastal paths, would be reopened for Easter and the county elections would now be held on 7 June.

**Chairman's Report.** The Chairman reported that he thought the whole Council had worked together well and thanked the Vice Chairman for standing in during his (the Chairman's) absences. The bus lay by had just been completed in Harbertonford and the flood prevention scheme was due to commence next year, 2002.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.