

**Minutes of the meeting of Shirwell Parish Council  
held on the 13th October 2011 at 7.30pm  
in The Parish Hall**

**Present**

M Pine (Chairman)  
J Friend (Vice Chairman)  
A Conibear  
Mrs N Incedon  
Mrs D Lewis  
R Pelling  
D Tucker

**Officer:** G Dwyer (Clerk)

**Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies

**Minutes of the meeting held on the 8th September 2011**

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes as previously circulated be approved.

*The Chairman advised the public present that with Councillor's approval he would bring forward agenda item number 11 to this point in the meeting as there was considerable public interest in one of the applications.*

**Planning Applications**

*Prior to the commencement of the formal discussion of planning application number 52747 erection of two dwellings with integral garages and two affordable dwellings at The Glebe, Shirwell, Barnstaple the Chairman suspended Standing Orders to enable members of the public to make comment.*

The applicant was present at the meeting but he had no further information to add to the application. Prior to other comments from members of the public, the Chairman requested the Clerk to read out the minutes of the meeting of the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2011 which had previously considered this an application for this site and requested that members of the public did not reiterate the points already made. The following points were made by members of the public:

- Lay-by – It had been confirmed by County Councillor A Davis that the lay-by was part of the highway and thus owned by Devon County Council although the application showed it as being owned by the applicant. This would mean that it was a false application as incorrect information was contained therein.
- Access over part of the lay-by would effectively prevent the whole lay-by from being used and this has been used for over 80 years.  
It was suggested that the community write individually to Devon County Council stressing the importance of this lay-by to life in the village.

It was noted that County Councillor A Davis does not support the loss of the lay-by to provide access to this site.

- Councillor J Tucker (North Devon Council) would be consulted as the local Councillor and thus could not comment at this meeting.
- It was noted that the applicant was happy to transfer the existing access to the site as a parking space which would in his opinion, provide equivalent parking.

Further comments were made regarding the application being

- Out of keeping with the Village
- Still an over development
- Would alter the nature of the village
- Local housing should seek a social rent
- The application is an improvement over the previous applicant

*At this point the chairman resumed the meeting under Standing Orders*

***Application 52747 Erection of 2 dwellings with integral garages & 2 affordable dwellings at the Glebe Shirwell Barnstaple***

*Cllr Mrs D Lewis declared a personal interest as she had written to NDC regarding a previous application for this site and thus had been contacted regarding this application*

*Cllr Mrs N Incedon declared a prejudicial interest as she lived in a property neighbouring the Glebe, she left the room and did not take part in the discussion or vote thereon*

It was noted that all Councillors used the Village Hall and as such would be affected by the loss of parking

Members discussed the application in detail and the following points were made

- the site was suitable for development but concern was expressed regarding the loss of the lay-by
- Concern was expressed that if the parking transferred to the site of the existing access then the visibility splay would be poor
- As the concern centred on the loss of amenity to the Village it was felt that the applicant and North Devon Council needed to work together to produce a solution that satisfied this point.

**Resolved** To refuse the application as it now stands but it should be noted that the Parish Council would look favourably on an application for this number and type of dwellings that resolved the parking and access problems

***Application 52816 Extension to dwelling (amended design to that approved by Planning Permission 52137) at Copperstones Shirwell Barnstaple***

*Cllr Mrs N Incedon declared a prejudicial interest as she lives in a property neighbouring the site for this application, she left the room and did not take part in the discussion or vote thereon*

**Resolved** to recommend approval

**Application 52808 Erection of 50m anemometer mast for meteorological monitoring for temporary period of 18 months at land at 6539 se Bratton Flemming (neighbouring parish)**

**Resolved** to recommend approval

**Public Question Time**

In response to a question, it was noted that the web site was still not live.

*With members permission the Chairman brought agenda item 9 – report of the Police Representative forward to this point of meeting.*

**Report of Police Representative**

PCSO S Huxtable passed on the apologies from PC Andy Laidlaw and PCSO Gareth Woolaway for their being unable to attend the meeting. PCSO Huxtable reminded members again of the new contact number for non urgent incidents (101) and went on to state that no crimes as such had been committed in the Shirwell area although there had been two road traffic accidents. Although not a specific crime, he asked the community to be aware of the increasing problem with poaching and theft of livestock..

**Questions to the Police Representative**

There were no questions although North Devon Councillor J Tucker asked for his gratitude to be recorded at the speed at which the police responded to a recent 'poaching' incident.

*With members permission the Chairman brought forward agenda item 7 – report of the County Councillor and agenda item 8 report of the District Councillor to this point of meeting.*

**Report of the County Councillor**

County Councillor A Davis reminded members that there was a Tough Choices Consultation meeting which would be attended by the Leader of the County Council on the 27 October, 6.30pm at Park School. It was noted that savings in the order of £40 million were required to the County Councils budget. Significant savings had already been made in street lighting, School transport and the bus subsidy and there was a continuing job freeze at the County.

Councillor David highlighted the roadworks on the A399 between Blackmoor Gate and South Molton, talked briefly about the Snow Warden scheme and advised members of the New Careers Helpline available on the County website.

**Questions to the County Councillor**

It was noted that the possibility of a flashing cautionary sign at Shirwell School was being discussed by the School PTA.

**Report of the District Councillor**

Councillor Tucker noted that the changes to refuse collections in the area had proceeded without too many problems, septic tanks and cess pits were not a problem as no further action seemed to be taken and there were no major enforcement planning issues in this area.

Part of the North Devon Council staff had relocated to Roundswell Business Park.

The bulk item collection charge had been discontinued.

### **Questions to the District Councillor**

A Councillor commented on the missed rubbish collections in the Wytchel area.

Councillor Tucker to chase.

### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising other than those matters already on the agenda.

### **Matters Brought Forward from the Previous Meeting**

- **Amy Royle Commemoration Cup** the Clerk tabled a letter from North Devon Museum agreeing to take custody of the cup on behalf of the Parish Council. Councillor James Friend undertook to liaise with the Museum and provide all the necessary information relating to the cup's history etc.

### **Cheques for Payment**

There were cheques for payment for three months salary for the Clerk which were signed at the meeting and invoices from the Audit Commission and Village Hall for hosting the Rural Alliance meeting would be signed when the new cheque book was received.

Members examined the bank accounts and it was noted that the current account was standing at £3681.63 and the Business Reserve Account was standing at £404.83

### **Planning Decisions**

A Planning Decision had been received regarding a Certificate for Lawful use for Woolcott, Shirwell.

### **Parish Council Web Site**

It was noted that the web site should have gone live on Monday 10 October but problems seem to have been experienced.

### **Village Green Registration**

The application was with Land Registry and it was hoped that a positive outcome would be received in the near future.

### **Report from Councillors on their Specific Area of Interest**

- As a general comment it was noted that salt for the twin villages would need to be strategically located so that the School could be accessed etc.
- It was noted that the village green was used as a car park by adjacent residents.
- Footpath Number 28 between Shirwell Park and Roda Park was blocked.

### **Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – Progress Report**

A meeting had been held and the committee were aware of their requirements for a 'tens' notice and District Councillor Tucker undertook to progress this with North Devon, and also the risk assessment.

**Rural Alliance Meeting**

It was noted that there had been a poor turn out at this meeting. Of particular interest was the money available from Devon County Council for improved broadband facilities.

**Clerks Report**

The Clerk had nothing particular to report.

**Urgent Business**

There was none.

Prior to closing the meeting, the Chairman thanked Councillor Mrs Incledon for the email regarding Fullabrook and his wife Sally for catering for the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm

Chairman:.....

Dated:.....