

**Minutes of the meeting of Shirwell Parish Council
held on the 10th March 2011 at 7.30pm
in The Parish Hall**

Present

R Kingdon (Chairman)
M Pine (Vice Chairman)
P Bonds
J Friend
R George
M Hayward
R Vogler

Officer: G Dwyer (Clerk)

Also in Attendance North Devon Councillor F J Tucker, County Councillor Mrs A Davis.

Mar 11/1 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence but county Councillor Davis had indicated that she would be arriving late.

Mar 11/2 Public question Time

There were approximately twenty members of the public present.

The Chairman advised members of the public that he would be suspending Standing Orders during the discussion of the planning application for The Glebe and asked members of the public to keep their comments regarding that planning application until that time.

Members of the public reported potholes at Shirwell, adjacent to Pond Cottage which had already been reported and Muddiford Road by Victoria Lane.

A member of the public expressed concern that the Council had not acted as quickly as they might have done regarding the Village Green site and the Chairman explained the reasons behind the seeming delay. It was accepted that this was a difficult issue that had implications for the present and successive Councils.

Mar 11/3 Minutes of the meeting held on the 17th February 2011

RESOLVED

That the minutes as previously circulated be approved.

Mar 11/4 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Mar 11/5 Matters Brought Forward from the Previous Meeting

Planning Application 51468 erection of 6 dwellings and garages at The Glebe, Shirwell. The Chairman informed the members of the public present that a site meeting had been held on the 8 March with the developer and the planning officer from North Devon Council. *He then suspended Standing Orders to enable members of the public to ask questions of the developer.*

- The developer responded to a question regarding the ownership of the lay-by by stating he believed it to be part of the parcel of land he had

purchased (it was noted that the lay-by was on a terrier for the County Council as being in the County Council's ownership).

- A comment was made by a member of the public that he should have been aware that the lay-by was in the County Council's ownership.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to read the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 17 February 2011 and requested members of the public to only raise new issues.

- A member of the public then asked whether there would be revised drawings available for discussion tonight to which the developer answered no although revisions might well be submitted following further discussions with the planning officer.

The meeting resumed under Standing Orders

RESOLVED

1. To recommend refusal of the application for the reasons already forwarded to the planning department (copy attached)
2. Should further discussions between the planning officer and the developer result in amendments to the scheme as it now is, the Council request they be consulted on any revised scheme even if the amendments were not considered to be significant.

Mar 11/6 Cheques for Payment

Cheques for the ...

- Clerk's salary for February 2011 for £100,
- The Shirwell Parish Church £150,
- J Gooding grass cutting £50,
- The Village Hall Committee £400,
- The Methodist church Circuit £75 were signed at the meeting.

RESOLVED

That the cheques as listed above be signed

Mar 11//7 Report of the County Councillor

Deferred pending the arrival of the County Councillor.

Mar 11/8 Report of the District Councillor

Councillor J Tucker advised the meeting that:

- North Devon Council were still making savings in its operating costs.
- Census forms were on their way and that it was a legal requirement for these to be filled in and returned.
- He informed the meeting of the work being undertaken by the new chief executive officer in achieving the aims of the Council in cost reductions and felt that the Council had made a good appointment.
- He asked for it to be noted that the planning department were sharing services with Torridge District Council.
- He ended by requesting that everybody vote in the referendum and the local Council elections on the 5th May.

Mar 11/9 Questions to the District Councillor

In answer to a question regarding recent recruitment of planning staff it was explained that they were considered to be a key appointment and as such should be re-appointed.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Tucker for his attendance.

Mar 11//10 Report of Police Representative

The Clerk informed the meeting that the Police Representative had emailed their apologies but had send through the incident log for the period which was

- 1x road traffic incident
- 1x suspicious circumstances
- 2x anti-social vehicle
- 1x abandoned call
- 1x neighbourhood issue

Mar 11//11 Correspondence

It was noted that there was correspondence from the:

- Audit Commission
- County Council draft mineral strategy
- Devon Association of Local Council's
- Village Green Magazine
- The Clerk also read out a letter requesting support for the Flower festival weekend, Shirwell Friday Jun10th – Sunday Jun 12th from the joint village hall and flower festival committee

Mar 11//12 Planning Applications

Application no 51694 Retrospective advertisement application for siting 2 non-illuminated free standing entrance signs at Coxleigh Barton Shirwell, Barnstaple

RESOLVED

To recommend approval although concern was expressed that once again the Council had been asked to consider a retrospective application.

Mar 11//13 Trayne Farm Development

The Clerk explained that he had distributed the visioning document regarding this proposal to Councillors who had asked for it to be placed on the agenda for discussion at this meeting.

Prior to members discussion, the chairman suspended Standing Orders to enable members of the public to make any points.

- A member of the public expressed concern at some inaccuracies in the visioning document as at least one footpath had not been shown.
- Considerable concern was expressed at the problem that this proposal would cause with traffic in the region of North Devon Hospital.

The Chairman resumed the meeting under Standing Orders

After discussion, Councillors

RESOLVED

It was a visioning document as against an actual application but wished North Devon Council to note that they had concerns about the accuracy of some parts of the document, in particular to omission of known footpaths. And had grave concerns at the ability of the infra structure for that part of Barnstaple especially the traffic issues in an area so close to the North Devon District Hospital.

County Councillor Davis arrived at this point of the meeting and delivered her report

Mar 11/14 Report of the County Councillor

A copy of the report of the County Councillor is attached to the minutes. In particular she mentioned:

- There will be no Council Tax increase from the County this year but further cuts would still need to be made to make budgets work.
- The bus service would remain and there were no changes to the service to Shirwell apart from the new concessionary bus passes which would need to be obtained in future which allowed a carer to travel provided they also obtained a concessionary bus pass.

Mar 11/15 Questions to the County Councillor

In response to a question, Councillor Davis confirmed that cuts would be made to the bus services but not the service running past Shirwell although this would be taken over by Filers in the near future.

Mar 11/16 Planning Decisions

None

Mar 11/17 Parish Council Web Site – Position Statement

Councillor Mark Pine expressed concern at the slowness of the developer and was asked to chase him to get the site complete and running properly.

Mar 11/18 Village Green – Registration

To be considered as a confidential item at the end of the meeting.

Mar 11/19 Report from Councillors

Councillors expressed concern that the drain on Langford Hill was still blocked, and that the lay-by at Burr ridge was still in a bad condition. Councillor David undertook to contact a member of the public (Mr A Conibear) regarding the drain blocked into his field.

Mar 11/20 Clerks Report

The Clerk advised members that the application pack for councillors were being posted out on the 11 March and would be available on request.

Mar 11/21 Urgent Business

There was none

PART 2

The Chairman moved that

In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public are temporarily excluded and they be instructed to withdraw.

Mar 11/22 Confidential Minutes of the meeting held on the 17th February 2011

Feb 11/15 Village Green - Registration

The meeting closed at 9.02 pm

Chairman:.....

Dated:.....