

**Minutes of the Annual meeting of Shirwell Parish Council held on the 13 May 2010 in the Parish Hall, on rising from the Annual Meeting of the Parish**

Present

R Kingdon (Chairman)

M Pine (vice chairman)

J Friend

R George

P Bond

Officer G Dwyer (Clerk)

Also in attendance District Councillor F Tucker

**May 10/1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Hayward and Vogler

**May 10/2 Election of Chairman**

It was proposed and seconded that Cllr R Kingdon be elected Chairman for the ensuing Council Year, there being no other nominations it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr R Kingdon be elected Chairman for the ensuing council year.

**May 10/3 Election of Vice Chairman**

It was proposed and seconded that Cllr M Pine be elected as Vice Chairman for the ensuing Council Year, there being no other nominations it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr M Pine be elected Vice Chairman for the ensuing council year.

**May 10/4 Responsibilities**

Councillors were nominated responsible for the following areas

**Cllr Pine** – Responsible Financial Officer

**Cllr Friend** – Press and Highways matters

**Cllr Hayward** – Footpath matters

Responsibility for rural Alliance matters to be deferred to next meeting

**May 10/5 Public Question Time**

There were no questions

**May 10/6 Police Report**

Given earlier at the Annual Meeting of the Parish

**May 10/7 Report of the County Councillor**

A written report is attached to these minutes

### **May 10/8 Report of the District Councillor**

Given earlier at the Annual Meeting of the Parish

### **May 10/9 Matters arising**

There were no matter arising

### **May 10/11 Matters brought forward from the previous Meeting**

There were no matters brought forward

### **May 10/12 Cheques for payment**

Members approved the following cheques for payment

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Clerks salary and expenses             | £102.58  |
| Hire of Village Hall                   | £ 75.00  |
| Devon Ass of Local Councils membership | £ 77.29  |
| Community First (Insurance)            | £ 206.04 |

The closing balance of the current account was not available as a statement had not been received

### **May 10/13 Date of Annual Meeting of the Parish for 2011**

**RESOLVED** that the Annual meeting of the parish be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2011

### **May 10/14 Any Other Business**

The poor state of the surface of the laybye at Burr ridge was raised and it was **RESOLVED** that the clerk raise this with Devon Highways

The meeting closed at 8.13

Signed

Chairman

**Shirwell Parish Council  
County Councillors  
Annual Report  
May 2010**

Following the local election's last June I was delighted to be re elected to represent Combe Martin Rural, the division in which Shirwell Parish falls.

John Hart the new leader of Devon county council appointed me to his cabinet as the member for Children's Health and Wellbeing. There are nine cabinet members; I am the only one from Northern Devon.

**Fact File**

- Leader of the Council - **Cllr John Hart**
- Chief Executive - **Phil Norrey**
- **Gross budget £1.385 billion**
- Key investments include:
- Schools £374 million
- Adult and Community Services £217 million
- Environment, Economy and Culture £106 million
- Children and Young People £115 million
- **Political make-up:**
- County Council seats: 62
- 41 Conservative
- 14 Liberal Democrat
- 4 Labour
- 2 Independent
- 1 Green Party
- **Key stats:**
- Population: 750,100
- Schools: 364
- Pupils: 96,200
- Children looked after: 550
- Adults helped to live at home: 18,956
- Residential and nursing care: 3,564 adults
- Libraries and Mobile Libraries: 61
- Roads: 12,831 kms (7,973 miles)
- Bridges: 3,500
- Public Rights of Way: 4,940 kms or 3,070 miles
- Streetlights: 71,000

- Illuminated road signs: 10,917
- Recycling Centres: 20
- Recycling rate: 49.21%

### **Highways**

Following the worst winter for thirty Years the County council has faced unprecedented levels of pot holes, these are being dealt with by specialist 'gangs'.

Members of the public are encouraged to help the County Council identify potholes by either reporting any they see online at [www.devon.gov.uk/pothole](http://www.devon.gov.uk/pothole) or by phoning 0845 155 1004 on weekdays between 8am and 8pm or on Saturdays between 9am to 1pm.

In the last two months over 47,000 have been repaired.

Flooding Guineaford – this has been ongoing, the 'dam' has now been removed and the area under the bridge will be jetted out in May.

### **Council Tax**

This year's £1.2 billion budget will mean a Band D council taxpayer will be asked for just £21.69 more this year to fund county services.

Among the spending increases is an extra £2.92 million to care for Devon's most vulnerable children.

The increase in spending will go to support children in care and children on a Child Protection Plan. There will also be £2.7 million more for adult and social care. And an extra £2.25 million will go on highways following Devon's worst winter for 30 years which inflicted huge damage on the county's roads.

Spending on education will be protected with over £378 million going direct to Devon's schools with £2.8 million extra to support the most deprived pupils and £2 million being spent on supporting small rural schools facing high Broadband charges.

The budget also ensures vital investment in Devon's economy to help the county battle out of recession.

£350,000 is being set aside to match European funding to pump prime economic initiatives.

My sincere apologies for not being with you tonight, having 18 Parish Councils means that inevitably some of them will clash, tonight I will be in Brendon who haven't seen me for some months.

Parish councillors have an important role in our communities, it isn't an easy job and there is little thanks. I really appreciate the way you work with me on the issues that are important to our residents.

*Andrea Davis*

*County Councillor Comber Martin Rural*

*Cabinet member for Children's Health and Wellbeing*

*Deputy Chairman Exmoor National Park*

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