

**Minutes of the meeting of Shirwell Parish Council
held on the 11th November 2010 at 7.30pm
in The Parish Hall**

Present

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

Officer: G Dwyer (Clerk)

Also in Attendance North Devon Councillor F J Tucker, PCSO G Woolaway and 2 members of the public.

Nov 10/1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor A Davis who hoped to arrive later in the meeting, R Kingdon and M Hayward.

Nov 10/2 Public question Time

There were 2 members of the public present but no questions were asked.

Nov 10/3 Minutes of the meeting held on the 11th October 2010

RESOLVED

That the minutes as previously circulated be approved and signed by the Chairman.

The Clerk advised councillors that there was an alteration which had been made to the signed copy of the minutes changing the words 'web site' to 'village green site'

Nov 10/4 Matters Arising

The Clerk advised members that Councillor Kingdon had been approached by residents of Shirwell regarding the area of land to be registered and it was

RESOLVED

That this be an agenda item for the December meeting.

Nov 10/5 Matters Brought Forward from Previous Meeting

There were no matters brought forward.

Nov 10/6 Cheques for Payment

A cheque for the Clerk's salary for October (£100) and the Audit Commissions account (£82.25) were signed at the meeting.

RESOLVED

That the cheques as listed above be signed

It was noted that the statements for the two bank accounts held by Shirwell Parish Council were now being received by the Clerk.

Nov 10/7 Report of the County Councillor

In the absence of the County Councillor, the Clerk undertook to attach her report to the minutes when distributed to members.

Nov 10/8 Questions to the County Councillor

There were no questions.

Nov 10//9 Report of the District Councillor

Councillor Tucker:

- Expressed his pleasure that the District Councillor grant towards the cost of the web site was progressing.
- He noted that the list of electorate who had not filled out electoral registration forms had been distributed for Councillors with a plea for them to help where they could.
- He gave the Clerk a list of contact numbers for the officers now relocated to Brynsworthy.
- He noted that there was a 'Save Our Villages' campaign orchestrated by the National Housing Minister which was an encouraging sign as it would indicate that Central Government were realising the importance of protecting village communities.
- A discussion was held regarding the cost of advertising planning applications in the press (2009/10 approximately £29,500, 2010/2011 £10,000 to date) and Councillor Tucker questioned whether Councillors felt this was a useful service. Although not an accurate poll, it was felt by members that this was useful and they did regularly consult it.
- There were no major problems in the Shirwell area with planning enforcement.
- The District Council had already started to cut staff to meet the anticipated savings requirements brought about by reduced financial support from Central Government.

Nov 10/10 Questions to the District Councillor

There were no questions to the District Councillor

Nov 10/11 Report of the Police Representative

PCSO Woolaway apologised for his non attendance at the previous meeting but he had been on official duties elsewhere. During the last 4 weeks there had been 3 traffic offences logged on the B3230 Muddiford area which members recalled was the area that did not coincide with the Shirwell Beat Officers patch. Within the central Shirwell area there had been 3 incidents reported, one of which was a neighbourhood dispute and 2 hitchhikers who had been reported to the Police as acting suspiciously.

He reminded Councillors that as always, the Police would be taking strong action on drink driving offences in the run up to Christmas and that they had a very visible presence for traffic calming in Bratton Fleming.

Nov 10/12 Questions to the Police Representative

There were no questions although it was noted that although the main South Molton/Blackmoor Gate road was now open the Bratton Fleming to Loxhore road is due to close for roadworks which will mean that traffic will be diverted via Shirwell or Mill Lane.

Nov 10/13 Correspondence

The clerk tabled correspondence for circulation amongst Councillors

Nov 10/14 Planning Applications

Application 51245 Extension to Dwelling including covered patio and hot tub, The Tower View, Shirwell, Barnstaple.

Councillor J Friend declared a prejudicial interest in this application; he left the room and did not speak or vote thereon.

RESOLVED

To recommend approval

Application 51225 Listed Building Application for renovation and refurbishment of farmhouse at North Woolley Farmhouse, Shirwell, Barnstaple.

RESOLVED

To recommend approval

Application 51319 Erection of double garage workshop and storage at Cross Syke, Shirwell, Barnstaple

The Clerk advised members that he had received this application that morning but felt it advisable to deal with it at this meeting if at all possible.

After discussion the members

RESOLVED

To recommend approval but expressed their concern over the long term plans for this site as there had been other recent planning applications.

North Devon Councillor F J Tucker left the meeting at this point.

Nov 10/15 Precept and Parish Grant

After discussion it was

RESOLVED

That the precept be set at £2510, and the Parish Grant at £675

Nov 10/16 Report of Councillors

There were no individual reports from Councillors but it was noted that the lengthsman was due in the Village in the very near future.

Nov 10/17 Clerks Report

It was noted that contrary to recent information the potential guide dog user was expecting to receive a dog in the next two weeks, it was

RESOLVED

Councillor Patrick Bond make a sign warning motorists that a guide dog user was in the Village and place it along with other signs, at the entrance to the Village at no cost to the Council.

Nov 10/18 Urgent Business

There was none

The meeting closed at 8.31pm

Chairman:.....

Dated:.....

Shirwell Parish Council
County Councillors Report
November 2010

Leader Roadshows – Tough Choices

John Hart (Leader DCC) is visiting towns around the County to seek residents views on what services are important to them and their Communities.

Our local meetings are;

Lynton- United Reformed Church Hall, Lee Road. Monday
6.30 15th November.

**Education Secretary to visit Devon's outdated
school buildings**

Education Secretary Michael Gove is to visit Devon to see for himself some of the county's outdated school buildings.

Mr Gove has a DVD of students at four county schools outlining why their buildings need to be modernised. The DVD was made by staff and students at Ilfracombe College

Three Devon secondaries – Chulmleigh, Ilfracombe and Tiverton – and Marland Special School in North Devon missed out on cash for rebuilding when the Government cancelled the Building Schools for the Future programme.

Underage alcohol sales fall in North Devon

Devon County Council's Trading Standards Team and Devon and Cornwall Police have praised the efforts of license holders in North Devon to dramatically reduce the sale of alcohol to underage children.

Recent test purchasing exercises carried out in Barnstaple, Ilfracombe and Fremington have revealed that underage sales have fallen in the area. Of the twenty premises visited during the operation, only one sold alcohol to the 14 year old volunteer.

Previous checks carried out across Devon found 15% of retail shops and 40% of pubs to have sold alcohol to young people.

New agreement on terms and conditions will save 60 jobs

Up to 60 jobs will be safeguarded at Devon County Council following a new agreement between the authority and the trade unions on terms and conditions.

The agreement will come into force next April and will save £1.4 million in the 2011/12 financial year.

It follows a round of positive negotiations between the authority and the unions representing all non-teaching staff.

The changes will mean:

- * Overtime payments for staff earning over £24,000 will stop
- * Allowances to cover home-working will stop
- * Mileage allowances will be harmonised to the standard Revenue and Customs rates
- * Payments for extra responsibility will cease
- * Redeployment and other allowances for new cases will be cut from up to four years to a fixed two-year period
- * Flexible working practices, such as increased part time working and unpaid leave, will be promoted to cut employment costs

Andrea Davis

Devon County Councillor Combe Martin Rural. – Cabinet member for Children's Health and Wellbeing

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