

## DRAFT

### Minutes of the meeting of Shirwell Parish Council held on the 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall

#### Present

Cllr M Pine Chairman  
Cllr J Friend  
Cllr A Conibear  
Cllr M Hayward  
Cllr Mrs N Incedon  
Cllr Mrs D Lewis  
Cllr R Pelling

Also in attendance County Councillor A Davis (part meeting) and 4 members of the public

#### Officer

G Dwyer Clerk

#### Apologies for Absence

District Councillor Tucker

#### Public Question Time

*With members permission the Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow members of the public to speak*

Members of the public raised the following points

- The car belonging to a resident of the Almshouses was still blocking the view from the seat on the Village Green. **RESOLVED** The Clerk to write to the owner asking him to avoid parking obscuring the view from the seat
- The hedge adjacent to Waytown Farm is broken at the place the lorry crashed through recently which is a traffic issue. *NB. This was raised with County Councillor during her report and she confirmed she would see what could be done.*

*The meeting resumed under standing orders*

#### Minutes of the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 2015

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as previously circulated be approved and signed by the Chairman.

#### Matters Arising

There were none

## **Matters brought forward from the previous meeting**

*With members permission the Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow members of the public to speak*

**Section 106 money.** Cllr Mrs Lewis advised all present that there was a meeting to discuss this on the 15<sup>th</sup> September 2015. A general discussion followed and it was noted that the money was for a Village Scheme which might not include a new Village Hall. A draft questionnaire was circulated for comments.

*The meeting resumed under standing orders*

## **Cheques for Payment**

A cheque for the Clerk's salary (£100.00) and (£0.89) for stationery was signed at the meeting

## **Report of the County Councillor**

The County Councillor tabled her report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes and commented briefly on the proposals for devolved government to local level and the initiatives to lower alcohol consumption in the over 50's.

## **Questions to the County Councillor**

The following questions were raised

- There was builders rubble dumped in the layby at Burridge. **RESOLVED** County Councillor Davis would deal with this.
- There was no further information regarding the number of Parish Councils that the County Councillor for Combe Martin rural would be responsible for under the new plans

## **Report of the District Councillor**

The District Councillor had apologised for his non-attendance and had not forwarded a report

## **Questions to the District Councillor**

There were no questions

## **Report of the Police Representative**

No report had been received. The Police service had written stating that they would not normally attend Parish Council meetings but in future would forward monthly crime reports

## **Correspondence**

The following correspondence had been received

- Go North Devon Ltd. – community transport questionnaire

## **Planning Applications**

There were none

## **Planning Decisions**

**Application 58858** Change of use of two former dwellings to two holiday units at Kingdon Gardens Snapper Barnstaple – **APPROVED**

**Broad band provision – Shirwell area.** The Clerk had forwarded an email from North Devon Council which confirmed that ‘central’ Shirwell would have fibre broadband shortly but outlying districts were not yet programmed. County Councillor Davis advised the meeting that Exmoor National Park were in development talks for Broadband provision in the park Area which might be extendable to Shirwell; she will let the Clerk know the timescale for this initiative.

## **Report from Councillors**

- The drain at the almshouse called Heather Cottage is still partially blocked by an access ramp but was not causing a problem

## **Clerks Report**

The Clerk had nothing to report

## **Public comments on the agenda items discussed at the meeting**

There were none

## **Urgent Business**

There was none

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Chairman:.....

Dated:.....

# **Shirwell Parish council County Councillors Report September 2015**

## **Devon Councils and the two National Parks call for more devolved powers**

Council leaders in Devon have agreed to work together on an expression of interest for more devolved powers from Westminster.

It follows a summit of county, unitary and district council chiefs in Exeter, we are making a joint expression of interest with Somerset County Council and its five district authorities based around economic development, skills and job creation. It would be based on the boundaries of the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership between businesses and Devon, Somerset, Plymouth and Torbay councils.

LEP chief executive Chris Garcia was at the meeting at Sandy Park with leaders from Devon's eight district councils and Torbay Mayor Gordon Oliver.

The meeting follows an earlier summit in Somerset in August with local authorities from all over the South West.

Cornwall has already agreed a devolution deal with the Government and councils around Bristol are already working on their own bid.

It's important that we present a united front to the Government and the level of agreement has been very encouraging. we can do things more effectively and more efficiently locally than being told what to do by London.

The big themes we hope to focus on are on skills, economic growth and improving productivity as well as infrastructure so we can ensure our road and rail network is more resilient than it has been in the past.

Doing the very best for our older residents by coordinating health and social care and affordable homes for our young people are also key themes.

## **Free community courses launched to help lower alcohol consumption in over-50's**

Devon is to launch a series of free courses and workshops for the over-50s across Devon in September to find out if community learning can help lower alcohol consumption in this age group.

Devon County Council's adult education service has teamed up with Drink Wise, Age Well – a programme aiming to prevent alcohol-related harm in the over-50s – to offer the courses.

The initiative will test whether the benefits of community learning, such as creating social networks, getting out of the house and developing new skills, can build resilience and prevent people over 50 turning to alcohol to cope with difficult life changes commonly faced at this age, such as retirement, bereavement, loneliness and isolation.

The range of one-day workshops and six-week courses, in subjects like arts, crafts, cooking and outdoor learning, will be free to attend and will take place at centres across the county. They will be open to everyone over 50. Booking will be essential for the six-week courses and advisable for the one-day workshops as places will be limited. Representatives from Drink Wise, Age Well will be on hand at all sessions to offer information and advice

According to Drink Wise, Age Well, the biggest increase in health harms caused by alcohol in recent years has occurred in the over-50 population. These harms include poor sleep, anxiety, memory problems, injuries from falling, heart problems and cancers, including breast cancer.

To find out about courses and workshops in your area, visit [www.learndevon.co.uk](http://www.learndevon.co.uk), call MyDevon on 0345 155 1014 or email [learndevon@devon.gov.uk](mailto:learndevon@devon.gov.uk).

*Andrea Davis  
County Councillor Combe Martin Rural  
andrea.davis@devon.gov.uk*