

draft
Minutes of the meeting of Shirwell Parish Council
held on the
10th February 2022 in the Village Hall

Present

Cllr J Friend (Chairman)
Cllrs Mrs L Cambell (vice chairman)
Cllr R Pelling
Cllr Mrs S Pine
Cllr S Shortridge
Cllr J Watt

Also in attendance District Councillor J Tucker and 1 members of the public

Officer

G Dwyer (Clerk)

The Chairman opened the meeting by reminding members that although restrictions on public meetings had eased we should still exercise extreme caution.

Feb22/1 Apologies for Absence

County Councillor A Davis

Feb22/2 Public Question Time

There were no questions

Feb22/3 Minutes of the meetings held on the 13th January 2022

RESOLVED that the minutes as previously circulated be approved.

Feb22/4 Matters Arising

• **Registration of footpaths following grant payments.**

The Author of the Coxleigh Barton Woodland management plan had contacted the Clerk seeking further details of the Councils concerns. The Clerk had explained that the Council was in the process of gathering information but their concerns related to a woodland management grant awarded in 2001. **RESOLVED** Cllrs Watts and Shortridge to arrange to meet the Ramblers Association N Devon footpath Officer (Mr J Bennet) to discuss any information held by the Ramblers.

Feb22/5 Councillor Vacancy.

RESOLVED a notice be posted seeking applications to fill the vacant position. The closing date to be the 7th March 2022.

Feb22/6 Inspection of Defibrillator

The defibrillator had been inspected and cleaned.

Feb22/7 Cheques for Payment

Payments for the Clerk's salary (£125.00) Shirwell Parish Church Grant (£75.00) and Shirwell Village Hall Grant (£304.00) were approved and signed at the meeting

Feb22/8 Report of the County Councillor

County Councillor Mrs Davis had apologised for her non-attendance and emailed a report which is attached to these minutes. In particular she highlighted the process being undertaken by the County regarding the introduction of 20 mph speed limits. After discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Council pursue the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit past the school and through the Village and that the formation of a Community Speed Watch be approved in principal and placed on the March agenda

Feb22/9 Questions to the County Councillor

There were none

Feb22/10 Report of the District Councillor

Councillor Tucker reported briefly as follows

- The improvements to the Planning process since the appointment of the new Planning Manager
- The Council tax will be set in 2 – 3 weeks
- Affordable Housing. As part of the initiative the exemptions to Council Tax for 2nd homes will change in 2023
- Covid infection levels are still high but the Refuse Collection service had coped extremely well
- District Council leaders in Devon have jointly written to C Government expressing concerns at the state of the building industry in Devon.

Feb22/11 Questions to the District Councillor.

There were none

Feb22/12 Correspondence

The following correspondence had been circulated to Councillors

Grants and Community News
Home energy help in N Devon
Rural bulleting
DALC newsletters

In addition general correspondence for information had been forwarded

Feb22/13 Planning Applications

Application 74710 Hyama Shirwell Barnstaple Devon EX31 4JH.

Conversion of garage to form ancillary accommodation and associated works.

RESOLVED to recommend approval.

Feb22/14 Planning Decisions

Enforcement Notice and corrected appeal decision in respect of (Land opposite Carousel) Land on the south side of Shirwell Road, Shirwell Barnstaple Devon EX31 4JH Appeal refused.

Feb22/15 Reports from Councillors

- Chris Wallis to be asked to clear drains at Langaford Hill. Cllr Mrs Pine to provide detailed location.
- The road at Hartland View has deteriorated badly. To be reported via the DCC website
- Councillors expressed concern at the seeming Planning Infringement of car parking in the grounds of Heather Cottage. **RESOLVED** the Clerk to contact NDC planning and copy letter to the District Councillor
- The signage for the road closures on the B3230 were misleading and were not being changed to show the road is open in the evenings. **RESOLVED** The Clerk to contact County Cllr A Davis.

Feb22/16 Clerks Report

The Clerk had nothing to report

Feb22/17 Public Questions regarding business on this agenda

There were none

Feb22/18 Urgent Business

There was none.

The meeting closed at 8.08

Chairman:.....

Dated:.....

Shirwell Parish Council County Councillors report February 2022

Coronavirus Update

Currently the rate in Devon is 1162/100k population (England 905/110k), last week cases went up 25% in Devon the increases mainly in the 0-19, 20-39 and 40-59 age groups.

There is significant spread in schools in Devon.

The incidence of very serious illness is much reduced in this wave, the population is very highly vaccinated; in the over 50's 90% vaccinated, this reduces to the 50% in the 20-30 age group and 40% in the older teenager group.

The numbers in hospitals in Devon Torbay and Plymouth is currently 270, (8% of hospital beds) with 3 patients in ICU. The numbers in hospital are now 3x that on Christmas day.

20 care homes with Devon residents have significant outbreaks, this is outbreaks with between 9-20 residents or staff.

The link takes you to the Covid-19 pages on the Devon County Council Website, it has daily updated information as to positive cases within the area, information about testing and track and trace.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/coronavirus-data/>

20mph Speed limit requests

A new way of considering 20mph speed limit requests has been approved by Cabinet, this will help ensure that the communities that would most benefit from lower vehicle speeds are considered first.

Devon County Council's (DCC) Cabinet also identified a budget of £100,000 to process the requests for the upcoming financial year.

Currently, all requests by communities and councillors for 20mph speed limits are put onto a long waiting list. But because of the high number of requests Devon County Council is receiving a 'prioritisation system' is now needed.

Now all requests for a 20mph speed limit will be considered taking against into account

- the average speed in that community and the number of vulnerable and elderly people in that area.
- the speed related casualty collision history in the area,
- the level support for a 20mph within in the community,
- the presence of an active Community Speed Watch
- the community's deprivation index ranking.

There are numerous 20mph speed schemes in the UK. The scheme in Bristol for example has shown that lower speed limits reduce the number and severity of collisions and increase cycling and walking over shorter distances.

They can also reduce congestion by improving traffic flows, reduce emissions and improve air quality and help vulnerable road users, who feel threatened by fast-moving traffic, feel safer.

The new framework will be in place to consider schemes in the 2022/2023 financial year.

I have in the past indicated to DCC that I wanted Shirwell to be considered for a 20mph area, now we have this new criteria I would need the Parish Council to consider if this is something they feel would be suitable for the area. Most importantly there does need to be an active speedwatch group, which I am not aware if this has ever been considered in Shirwell.

Lynton Cross.

All open and looking fantastic!

Andrea Davis
County Councillor
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