

DRAFT

Minutes of the meeting of Shirwell Parish Council held on the 10th April 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall

Present

Clr M Pine Chairman
Clr J Friend Vice Chairman
Clr A Conibeare
Clr Mrs D Lewis
Clr R Pelling
Clr D Tucker

Also in attendance District Councillor J Tucker, PCSO A Berry and 1 member of the public

Officer G Dwyer Clerk

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Mrs N Incedon and County Councillor A Davis

With members' approval agenda item 9, the report of the Police Representative was moved to this point on the agenda

Report of the Police Representative

PCSO Berry presented the following report

Crime Report

Shirwell Parish Council

01st March 2014 – 31st March 2014

This Report comprises all incidents recorded and crimes recorded within the time frame stated above, as recorded with Devon and Cornwall Police. It also contains any proactive policing / other policing operations that might have taken place. All statistics are gathered from the Shirwell area only, and are in accordance with Data Protection legislation:

INCIDENTS (1)

- Highway disruption (large rocks could possibly cause an accident)

RECORDED CRIMES (1)

- Communications Act Crime- several letters have been sent anonymously causing concern to the victim.

OTHER OPERATIONS

- We will be conducting some speed monitoring/enforcement over the next month

OTHER INCIDENTS TO BE AWARE OF

- Can people please continue to be aware of the recent spate of shed breaks and can people try to be extra vigilant. Can I stress that if anyone does see anything suspicious can they please report it to us on 101?
- Can you also ensure you are leaving your vehicle secure, we have had a vehicle stolen in the Loxhore area due to it being left insecure with the keys in the ignition.

Any questions arising from this crime report should be directed towards your local Police officer, PCSO Adam Berry 30626
Email: 30626@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Questions to the Police Representative

There were no questions

Public Question Time

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders to enable members of the public to ask questions of the Council

There were no questions

Minutes of the meeting held on the 13th March 2014

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

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

Matters brought forward from the previous meeting

There were no matters brought forward

Cheques for Payment

Cheques for membership of Devon Association of Local Councils (£84.98) and the Clerk's salary (£100.00) were signed at the meeting

Report of the County Councillor

The County Councillor had apologised for her non-attendance and the Clerk summarised her report, a copy of which is attached to the minutes. The report covered the review of the Library Service, consultation on the future of the Youth service, additional payment from the Dept of Transport of almost £7m for road repairs following the severe winter weather, changes in on-street parking control where it has been taken back by the County Council the arrangements in Devon for remembering the First World War

Questions to the County Councillor

There were no questions although concern was expressed by a Councillor at the condition of the road adjacent to Tesco's on Seven Brethren and the poor access arrangements generally to and from the businesses there. RESOLVED that this be drawn to the attention of the County Council and also Barnstaple Town Council as it is in their boundary.

Report of the District Councillor

Councillor Tucker reported on the following points

- Cllr M Wilkinson has been elected as Chairman of North Devon Council for the next year
- He tabled a note by the Planning Manager regarding the effects on Planning Issues of the recent budget (emailed to Councillors)
- Poor attendance at Rural Alliance meetings meant its future was in doubt. The next meeting was at Shirwell on the 1st July 2014
- ND Licencing had discussed the threats from 'legal high' substances. North Devon Council has written to the MP to get it raised at national level.
- The noise issues at Fullabrook wind farm are ongoing
- North Devon Council's relocation from the Civic Centre is on course for April 2015, the County Council are considering leaving as well.
- District Councillors have £1k in their community budget to aid local causes

Questions to the District Councillor

A question was asked regarding the level of noise from the wind farm.

Correspondence

The following correspondence had been received and emailed to Councillors

- Fullabrook wind farm CIC meeting 25th April 2014 Parish Hall Chaloners Rd Braunton (emailed)

- DALC newsletter April2014 (emailed)
- Planning Appeal Hearing App 55734 erection of one wind turbine at Hartland View Farm – blade diameter 52m Hearing date 9th April 2014 at Civic Centre Barnstaple, Council Chamber (emailed)
- TAP fund applications no longer needed to be from more than one Council, meaning Shirwell could apply

Planning Applications

There were none

Planning Decisions

There were none

Report from Councillors

- The defibrillator purchased through the TAP fund had been installed in the porch of the Village Hall

Arrangements for the Annual Meeting of the Parish

RESOLVED The at the Annual meeting of the Parish precede the May Council meeting, refreshments to be provided

Clerks Report

The Clerk reported briefly on the draft 2013/2014 accounts and undertook to send copies to all Councillors

Urgent Business

There was none

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

Chairman:.....

Dated:.....

Shirwell Parish Council
County Councillors Report
April 2014

County Libraries

Devon County Council has announced plans to consult on an ambitious vision for a public library service that is sustainable, receptive to communities' needs, and fit for the future.

First, it is asking communities whether the proposals it is putting forward today are right for the service, with further engagement likely later in the year.

With a decline in traditional book lending and rise in the popularity of online and e-reader technologies, the face of Devon's library service is already changing as libraries become centres – 'Devon Centres' – for communities offering a broader range of services.

These factors, as well as a need for the service to save £1.5 million by 2017 on top of £3 million savings already made, is influencing the Council's current thinking on what Devon's library service might look like in future.

Arts Council England, which is responsible for public library policy, has published what it thinks a modern library service should offer. Their findings suggest that the Council's 'Devon Centre' model, with multiple services brought under the one roof, is spot on for what a modern library service should offer.

So in the footsteps of The Hayridge in Cullompton, the Passmore Edwards Centre in Newton Abbot, and after next month's opening of the multi-million pound refurbished Exeter Library, the Council is proposing to develop a further 19 Devon Centres including fifteen of its busiest libraries.

These include Barnstaple, Crediton, Dawlish, Honiton, Ilfracombe, Ivybridge, Kingsbridge, Okehampton, Seaton, Sidmouth, South Molton, Tavistock, Teignmouth, Tiverton and Torrington.

These 22 Devon Centres, which account for nearly 80 per cent of the Council's total library usage, would form the backbone of the county's future library provision, offering high quality services to encourage reading; support access to information and learning; and promote access to wider cultural activity alongside a wider range of complementary community services.

At the same time, the Council wants to talk to local communities to identify how 28 smaller libraries could be sustained in future.

Libraries serving smaller communities, those that are less well used or are close to other larger libraries, fall within a proposal to encourage and support communities to come forward with ideas on how the service could be sustained in future.

The Council has no single model in mind, recognising that Devon's towns and villages are very different.

Several community-led library services operate in Devon, with or independent of the Council's support.

In addition, the Council is proposing to:

- Continue reducing the Council's management and support costs
- Develop new ways to maintain the reach of the current mobile library service, but at less cost. Even after recent efficiency changes, which saw mobile library stops with fewer than 3 users removed from routes, and stops move from fortnightly to monthly, the service is still

expensive to run and the Council feels that there may be alternatives that are just as effective, but are lower cost

- Find out how services to residents of residential homes could be more personalised as well as made more cost effective
- Identify how the Council's use of technology can be improved to widen access to the library service
- Continue seeking new sources of income and external funding

The Council will put all seven proposals out for public consultation over the next three months, to gauge public reaction and hopefully to kick-start local conversations about possible community-led solutions.

Then better informed, the Council will announce firm proposals in the Autumn, followed by further engagement with local communities.

The Council's Cabinet discusses the proposal to commence consultation this Wednesday (9 April). Details of the proposals and information about engaging with the consultation will be available online at www.toughchoices.co.uk from mid April.

Consultation on future of youth service

Devon County Council has launched a public consultation on a fundamental change in its youth service.

The county is considering moving from a universal service to a more targeted approach aimed at early help and prevention.

Skilled youth workers would work with social workers and other partners to identify and provide early help and support to vulnerable young people and those most at risk.

This targeted approach means the County Council would no longer manage or run more traditional centre-based activities aimed at universal support for all youngsters.

Community and voluntary groups or others with an interest will be invited to suggest alternative models or express an interest in taking over any of the council's 34 youth centres as part of the 12 week consultation.

A number of innovative proposals have already been received from community based organisations as part of public engagement on the future of the service begun in October.

The proposed changes are a response to the recent critical Ofsted report of the County's children's services together with the budget pressures being faced by all Councils.

The youth service currently costs £3.7 million a year and employs 114 full-time-equivalent (FTE) staff.

The county council has to save £110 million from its spending by 2017 and has consistently warned that all services would come under the spotlight.

It must provide a number of services by law and whilst the youth service is not a statutory service the council is keen to find alternative delivery partners to secure a sustainable future.

Many county councils around the country have already moved from universal provision to targeted services and these proposals will bring Devon into line with many neighbouring and comparable authorities.

Public consultation will start on Monday 3 February and there will be community events around the county along with face to face meetings with young people who currently use the service.

To take part in the consultation go to: www.devon.gov.uk/youthreview

Consultation ends on 27th April 2014

Comments or questions can be directed to peopleservices-mailbox@devon.gov.uk

Devon handed £7 million for winter damage repairs

Devon County Council has received almost £7 million to help repair the damage caused to the county's roads by the severe winter weather. The additional funding from the Department for Transport is a share of £183.5 million of extra funding made available by the government to help with much needed road repairs following the wettest winter on record.

Over the winter, there has been significant damage to the surfaces of many roads in Devon and the number of potholes reported has increased from 2,000 in December, to 7,500 in January, and a further 7,900 in February. Devon currently has 34 pothole teams repairing defects across the county, which is almost triple the usual number. They are currently repairing around 500 potholes a day.

The £6,985,437 received by Devon will help to repair the damage to road surfaces, including pothole repairs on the county's 8,000 miles of roads, which is the biggest highway network of any authority in the country.

To receive almost £7 million will help Devon county council in our efforts to repair some of the damage to Devon's roads, which has developed due to severe storm damage and abnormally prolonged wet weather. The winter storms have hit our roads extremely hard and it has highlighted how fragile the network is. We have been calling for additional support after such a severe winter and while we have sustained more than £7 million of damage, this money will go some way towards covering the cost of some of the damage. We are already getting on with the job in hand, but even with this extra funding it will still take time to carry out the sheer volume of work that is needed. Government also announced a £200 million fund for potholes as part of the budget and Devon will be bidding for its share of this extra money."

All 116 local highway authorities across the country that have received a share of the funding will be required to show where the money has been spent by publishing information on their websites by the end of August.

Devon has a highway maintenance backlog of £767 million, which is the amount that would be needed to bring Devon's roads up to scratch. The county needs around £64 million of investment a year to maintain the current condition of Devon's road network.

The County Council is also still dealing with the legacy of the remaining repairs from the £18 million of damage caused by the storms of 2012/13, which are being funded from capital allocations over the next few years.

On Street Parking

From the 1st April 2014 Devon County Council have taken over the enforcement of on-street parking from local District Councils.

If you have any questions or comments relating to parking enforcement please direct them to the parking services mailbox – parkingservices-mailbox@devon.gov.uk.

For general information on the service please visit our webpage www.devon.gov.uk/parking.

For anyone who receives a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) on or after the 1 April 2014 and wishes to make payment, or appeal a ticket they will need to go to www.devon.gov.uk/parking or contact us on 0345 155 1075.



Devon Remembers the First World War

This year marks the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War, an event you will already have noticed being commemorated nationally and locally in many different ways. Some of you will have attended our launch event at the Devon Heritage Centre last year.

Devon County Council, along with the Royal British Legion, Community Council of Devon, neighbouring authorities, and other partners are working together to provide information for schools, communities, interest groups and individuals wishing to find out about available resources, events and projects taking place over the next four years. A number of nationally funded projects are also underway which will engage groups to explore the impact of the War on their local communities.

The Devon Remembers website www.devonremembers.info provides links to fascinating research material, news updates on projects and events, and invites local schools and groups to share First World War commemorative projects they are involved in.

Are you involved in a local history group? a member of a Book Club? interested in the First World War? or organising a commemorative event?

If so we'd love to hear from you...

The Libraries Service has compiled a comprehensive **reading list** of fiction and non-fiction books about the First World War which both adults and children will find interesting and which are available at Devon libraries, this

includes titles such as Michael Morpurgo's War Horse, and Birdsong by Sebastian Faulks. You can find the reading list on the Devon Remembers website, under 'News'.

If you are in a Book Club, why not consider reading a book from the list and send us a review to share on the website? A Bovey Tracey book club has recently reviewed 'A Testament of Youth' by Vera Brittain, which you can read on the Devon Remembers website under 'News'.

If you are involved in a First World War commemorative project, or have a review or a forthcoming event you would like to share on the Devon Remembers website, please contact us at:
devonremembers-mailbox@devon.gov.uk

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