

DRAFT

Minutes of the meeting of Shirwell Parish Council held on the 13th February 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall

Present

CLlr M Pine Chairman
CLlr J Friend
CLlr A Conibeare
CLlr Mrs N Incedon
CLlr Mrs D Lewis
CLlr D Tucker

Also in attendance 1 member of the public

Officer G Dwyer Clerk

Apologies for Absence

District Councillor J Tucker, County Councillor, Councillor A Davis and PCSO A Berry

Public Question Time

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

A member of the public commented on the Butcher's van that was continually parked adjacent to the Alms cottages and which obscured access to the notice board. **RESOLVED** the Clerk contact the PCSO to see if anything could be done.

Minutes of the meeting held on the 9th January 2013

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 Clevera (web site maintenance) £35.96 Clerks salary £100.00 and Printer purchase plus insurance (£179.99) were signed at the meeting.

Report of the County Councillor

The County Councillor was detained at another meeting but had forwarded her report which is attached to the signed copy of the minutes. The Clerk highlighted the main items in the report which were Consultation on the future of the Youth Service, attempts to improve choice in delivery and possible venues for the Meals Service, consultation on the future of the Day Service where centres will drop from 35 to 9, transfer of care home provision to the Private Sector and consultations on the new roundabout Jnc at Barnstaple Hospital.

Questions to the County Councillor

There were no questions

Report of the District Councillor

- Cllr Tucker had apologised for his non-attendance as he was delayed at another Parish Council meeting

Questions to the District Councillor

There were no questions

Report of the Police Representative

PCSO Berry had apologised for his non-attendance and had forwarded his report for the Councils attention.

Crime Report

— Shirwell Parish Council —

01st January 2013 – 31th January 2013

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 (2)

- RTC
- Domestic incident

RECORDED CRIMES (2)

- Driving under the influence

- Assault

OTHER OPERATIONS

- There are currently no other operations

OTHER INCIDENTS TO BE AWARE OF

- Please continue to drive carefully bearing in mind the weather conditions

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

Questions had been asked by a member of the Public regarding the blocking of the notice board by a van owned by the owners of Gable Cottage

Correspondence

The following correspondence had been received

- *DALC February newsletter (emailed)*
- *Weather update (emailed)*
- *Future of the Youth Service in Devon (emailed)*
- *Proposals affecting Shirwell PC documents lodged with N D record Office*
- *N Devon Healthwatch newsletter*
- *MP schedule of surgery dates*
- *Care Closer to home – Public Meeting 19th February Barnstaple Rugby Club*
- *Barnstaple Town Council Mayors Ball – invitation to purchase tickets*

RESOLVED to note the proposals affecting the documents lodged with ND Council and request further advice should any future proposals be made.

Planning Applications

Application 56957 Erection of garage with ancillary living accommodation over and erection of decking at 2 Warren Cottages Shirwell Barnstaple.
RESOLVED to recommend refusal pending further information as it would appear to be a proposal for an independent living unit albeit in the guise of an extension. The Council also requires assurances that it's future use would be as part of the existing dwelling

Planning Decisions

There were none

Report from Councillors

- Cllr Friend to assess whether to take over responsibility posting the minutes on the website
- The road drain adjacent to the school was blocked by debris from the recent road resurfacing works
- Cllr Pine reported on the recent Rural Alliance meeting and in particular it was noted that £300k had been allocated by the County Council for replacement of Collard Bridge

Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that the defibrillator purchased through the TAP fund had been passed to the Village Hall and commented on the work done by the Barnstaple Town Council clerk to facilitate the purchase. **RESOLVED** That the report be noted and the Clerk investigate whether a press release acknowledging the funders could be arranged.

Urgent Business

There was none

The meeting closed at 8.22 pm

Chairman:.....

Dated:.....

Shirwell Parish Council
County Councillors report
February 2014

Consultation to begin 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.

Our Local meeting is on Wednesday 26 March (11am – 1pm) at The Cedars Inn.

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

Council considers new ways to give people greater choice of meals
Devon County Council is considering new ways to give people more choice about the hot or frozen meals they pay for, as its contract with meals service provider, apetito, is set to end in July 2014.

Ending of the contract could save the Council almost £540,000 over the next three years, and could represent a significant shift from being a provider of a meals service to being a signposter to meals provided locally in the community, or delivered frozen to people's homes.

There will be no change to eligibility criteria, and that everyone eligible for the meals service will still continue to receive support.

The Council is consulting with people in receipt of their meals service on new proposals, this month.

The number of people receiving the service in Devon has fallen 60% since 2009, with fewer than 500 people now having a hot or frozen meal delivered to them at home.

At the same time the number of local places where people can obtain good quality frozen or ready-made meals, including delivery, has increased, providing people with greater choice.

The Council currently subsidises the cost of hot meals by more than half so that people pay just £4 per hot meal rather than £8.48.

As the number of people having meals falls, the cost to the Council to run the service increases significantly.

It means that the current service is unsustainable, which is why the Council wants:

- to allow the current contract with apetito to end as scheduled in July
- to provide people with advice and information about local meals options
- to invest in voluntary sector support to help people if necessary to reheat frozen meals in their home or find a hot meals provider, such as local lunch clubs or community cafes
- to stop its subsidies for hot meals, meaning that people wanting hot meals would meet the full cost themselves

Councils do not have a duty to provide meals, which is why the majority, faced with having to make unprecedented savings to protect statutory services, have already removed subsidies to meals services, and many have ceased provision altogether.

Council launches consultation following day service review

A significant fall in the numbers of older people attending Devon County Council day centres has led the Council to rethink how it delivers the service in future.

The Council says that there will be no reduction in support to people and that everyone eligible for a service will receive it.

The Council has seen a 66% drop in the numbers of people attending its day centres since 2005.

More people are choosing to pursue other hobbies and interests during the day, or attend activities such as memory cafes or luncheon clubs in preference to attending council day centres.

And increasingly more and more people are using their direct payments and personal budgets from the Council to pay for the services they want.

Many Council run day centres are running well under capacity, and the people who use them say that the council needs to modernise.

They and their carers want a more flexible range of day opportunities to choose from that are based in local communities.

People have also told the council that they want more help and information to be available about a wider range of services for people to access.

People with complex needs and their carers say that for the minority who need building-based day centres, they should be modernised, offer more choice, have better integration within local communities, and be available as drop in centres.

Fewer attendees to council day centres means that the cost per person to provide the service is rising significantly.

The council wants as well to provide a range of different levels of support, that include:

- Providing basic advice and signposting to local services
- Offering time-limited support geared towards helping people access and find local services they can use
- Encouraging people to use personal budgets or direct payments from the council to pay for services they want from voluntary and community groups and care providers
- Investing in a limited number of building-based day services, provided by the Council or independent and voluntary sector, for people with intensive care needs.

The Council is proposing to reduce its 35 day centres to 9; merging 6 day services into 3 centres; and using private sector provision in place of 26 centres.

The consultation can be found at; <http://new.devon.gov.uk/dayservices>

Consultation ends on 19th march 2014

Council proposal to transfer care to private sector

In a further review of services, Devon County Council has been talking to voluntary groups, charities, and private sector providers about how it will meet the growing demand for residential care in future.

While most people are supported in their own homes these days, appropriate care for some means traditional residential or nursing care.

The Council wants to see more extra care housing in Devon in future and needs to work closely with housing providers, developers and national housing and regeneration agency, the Homes and Communities Agency.

Otherwise, the Council relies a lot on the private sector for residential care home placements. Private sector care homes currently account for about 85 per cent of people (approximately 1,986 placements) whose residential care is publicly funded by the County Council.

County Council-run homes account for just 15 per cent (approximately 337 placements), but with many of its 20 homes under-occupied and in need of considerable redesign to support changing needs in future, the Council's costs to provide care is far higher than the equivalent in the private sector.

Where the council pays private care homes on average £433 a week for a care bed, its own homes cost on average £970 per bed per week.

Despite considerable efforts to drive down costs, the Council is now proposing to join the majority of Councils in ceasing their provision of residential care and instead purchasing care in the private sector; becoming the commissioner of care, rather than the provider.

The move would echo Care Minister Norman Lamb's recent comments in the Commons, who spoke in favour of separating social care provision from the commissioning of care services. Mr Lamb supported the MP for Newton Abbot, Anne Marie Morris's view that it seems 'bizarre that (local authorities) should do both, because that must surely give rise to a conflict of interest.' However no change would be made to people's entitlement, everyone eligible for residential care will continue to receive it. No changes are planned in the eligibility criteria or the funding available to meet people's assessed need. Excluded from the proposal are the Council's specialist Centres of Excellence for people with dementia, opening this year in Newton Abbot and Torrington. The Council sees these helping to plug a shortage in specialist provision for people with dementia, and will be working alongside the private sector to meet the growing demand.

The Council launched the consultation on the 10th February with residents, their families, staff, and stakeholders, to ask what they think.

There is a 45 day period of consultation (10th February-26th March 2014) on proposals for the future of services at all our residential care homes and we are seeking views on the following proposal:

- Devon County Council proposes to formally cease providing residential care services at its residential care homes and to arrange and purchase alternative services for residents in the independent sector.

Should this proposal be accepted we are committed to achieving these changes over a period of time therefore minimising disruption for residents, using all of our experience gained over many years of moving people from our homes as their needs change, allowing a smooth transition of residents to new homes.

Consultation documents, background information, proposals and details of how to formally respond can be found on our website
<http://new.devon.gov.uk/residentialreview/>

Consultation begins for Barnstaple Hospital Junction Improvement scheme Devon County Council's cabinet on the 12th February approved consultation plans regarding the junction at Westaway Plain, the A39 North Road and the Roborough Road/North Devon District Hospital access junction, known as the 'Hospital Junction' are underway.

The County Council is asking for people's views and opinions on the scheme.

Hard copies of the design will be available to view in the Hospital and Civic Centre reception.

The consultation runs for 4 weeks from 14 Friday February to Friday 14 March

The proposed design is a 40m diameter roundabout on land that is mostly public highway with a small amount of land being required from the field to the north east of the current Hospital Junction.

Local member for Combe Martin rural , Councillor Andrea Davis says; "I am very glad to hear that cabinet has listened to my strongly held views on this proposal and that we can now go forward to consultation.I would encourage residents to have a look at the scheme and join in with the consultation"

The cost of designing and constructing the roundabout and associated works has initially been estimated at £1 Million. It is expected that if it goes ahead, this cost will be funded in full through planning contributions.

People can email their views to hospitaljunction@devon.gov.uk or in writing to Highway Development Management, Civic Centre, North Walk, Barnstaple, EX31 1EA

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