

DRAFT
Minutes of the meeting of Shirwell Parish Council
held on the
10th October 2019 in the Village Hall

Present

Cllr J Friend (Chairman)
Cllr R Pelling
Cllr Mrs S Pine
Cllr S Shortridge
Cllr N Turner
Cllr J Watts

Also in attendance County Councillor A Davis, District Councillor J Tucker and 1 member of the public.

Officer

G Dwyer (Clerk)

Oct19/1 Apologies for Absence

Councillor Mrs L Campbell

Oct19/2 Public Question Time

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

In response to a question from a member of the public the County Councillor informed the meeting that reinstatement works at Rectory Hill, Shirwell would be done from her budget.

The meeting resumed under standing orders

Oct19/3 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 12th September 2019

RESOLVED that the minutes as previously circulated be approved.

Oct19/4 Matters Arising

There was nothing that was not on the agenda

Oct19/5 Inspection of Defibrillator

The defibrillator had been inspected and cleaned.

Oct19/6 Cheques for Payment

Cheques for the Clerks Salary (£110.00) and Kameleon (web site hosting) £75.24 were signed at the meeting

Oct19/7 Report of the County Councillor

County Cllr Mrs Davis had apologised forwarded a copy of her report which is attached to these minutes.

She briefly highlighted the following

- The focus for the next month would be on climate change
- The background and preparatory work for the link road improvement was progressing
- Encouraged everyone to take part in the Community insight survey.
- The County Council budget for adult social care was overspent.

Oct19/8 Questions to the County Councillor

- In response to a question Cllr Mrs Davis confirmed that there could be problems at Muddiford which were being investigated

Oct19/9 Report of the District Councillor

Councillor Tucker briefly commented as follows

- There was a Parish Council meeting on climate change at the Cedars
- The Parish Forum meeting was useful and there will be a follow up meeting on Planning before Xmas.
- NDC have the powers to challenge and fine rogue landlords up to £30k
- The building work at Norway had been stopped and a new Planning Application was expected soon.

Oct19/10 Questions to the District Councillor

The District Councillor confirmed that flytipping of green waste was illegal and should be reported.

Oct19/11 Correspondence

The following correspondence had been received in addition to that dealt with on this agenda

- CAB report highlighting the level of activity
- Marie Curie volunteer recruitment
- Rural Bulletins and weekly information sheets
- DALC newsletter
- Action being taken to tackle unauthorized development
- Local Plan consultation

Oct19/12 Planning Applications

There were none

Oct19/13 Planning Decisions

There were none

Oct19/14 Report from Councillors

- Village Warden Scheme – to be discussed at the November meeting.

Oct19/15 Clerks Report

The Clerk reported on the lack of progress in transferring the account to Lloyds TSB and it was **RESOLVED** that we retain Nat West as our Bankers and authorise the clerk to be a signatory to enable him to request account information.

Oct19/16 Public Questions regarding business on this agenda

It was noted that there were still drainage problems at School Lane and especially at Shute corner. **RESOLVED** that it be reported on the DCC website and the Clerk ask Chris Wallace to contact Cllr Richard Pelling to discuss the cost of clearing the drains.

Oct19/17 Urgent Business

It was noted that foul water was still seeping from the Bungalow at Park View. **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact the Environment Agency again

The meeting closed at 7.42

Chairman:.....

Dated:.....

Shirwell Parish Council County Councillors report October 2019

North Devon Link Road update

The North Devon Link Road project has been progressing at pace since the successful approval of the Outline Business Case in spring 2018. The scheme is progressing towards a the Full Business Case stage, with submission due in summer 2020. The application for the main works was approved in February. Land acquisition took place in summer 2019 with no objections to Compulsory Purchase. Achieving these two milestones reflects the high degree of local support for the scheme and enabled advanced works to commence on site just a couple of weeks ago. This is particularly important in achieving our objective of a net environmental gain for the scheme. (The advance works are planting 20,000 trees)

Following public consultation, the County Council committed to, where possible, removing all at-grade crossings across the route. This has resulted in the addition of a further two new walking and cycling facilities at Bishops Tawton and Landkey Junction and the subsequent progression of planning and land acquisitions for these elements. We are on programme to submit the Full Business Case for the scheme to the DfT in summer 2020 and begin works in Winter of the same year.

A399 Brayford

There is an upcoming carriageway stabilisation scheme "Lions Rump South" on the A399 south of Brayford (where the temporary traffic lights are). The retaining wall supporting the road at this location is 3m in height at it's highest and failing along an 11.5m length which corresponds to cracking and a depression in the carriageway. We currently have traffic lights keeping vehicles away from the northbound lane as a temporary measure to minimise further loading to the wall.

Works to stabilise the carriageway are provisionally programmed for **4th – 30th November 2019** to avoid summer traffic and half term dates. We have a complete road closure booked for the duration as we will be excavating in the road. The official diversion route is via A399, A39, A361 and vice versa due to the classification of the route. We will work with the contractor to reduce the road closure duration if safe and practicable to do so.

We have liaised with local businesses and these dates reflect the outcome of those discussions, avoiding the half term dates of both Devon and Somerset.

Community Insight survey

This is running until 22nd December and is capturing a snapshot of life in Devon for our diverse communities.

We are asking people whether they: can get around easily, access green spaces, look after themselves, feel safe, can access community resources and adult learning etc. We're also asking about their health and wellbeing and social connectivity alongside views on fly tipping/cleanliness, decision making, whether they feel listened to and whether they think council tax should increase.

The link to the survey:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/haveyoursay/consultations/community-insight-survey-2019/>

Initial results will be available early in the new year and will be shared with partners, including District Councils. Further analysis (age, disability, locality etc) will be available by the Spring.

Highway matters

The annual delivery of 8500 tonnes of salt due in the next few weeks to ensure by early October the salt barns are fully stocked at 23,500 tonnes. The gritters and snow blowers are all serviced and ready for action. Should you want any salt please would you advise me of how much, delivery address and the contact phone number.

The highways annual town and parish council conferences start next week and are being held in 5 locations around the County. The format this year will be exhibition style event with a number of teams, projects and initiatives having a display/stand with staff representation available to assist with any queries or concerns. Every parish has had the details of the events, I know a number have registered.

The service has been considering carbon reduction and have been using in a number of locations 'warm asphalt', which provides an approximate 7.5 % carbon reduction over hot lay. This technology is beginning to move forward, and we now have two plants in Devon that are capable of supplying material.

This year's surface dressing programme is now complete and consisted of approximately 1.06 million sqm and delivered by Kiely Bros Ltd. The programme commenced on 8 April 2019 and was divided into three main phases to maximise programme efficiency, network demand and client/contractor expectation.

One District Council approached DCC regarding a contract for the provision of Wifi in Dawlish Teignmouth and Newton Abbot. With the awareness of the concerns over 5G, we have ensured that our street furniture cannot currently be used for 5G, and cannot in the future without our explicit consent.

DCC Budget position

Increasing pressures from the Children's and Adult social care areas are very concerning, like all upper tier councils we are struggling. The numbers approaching for services are increasing and costs rising, due to the current low unemployment levels in Devon careers are choosing to take work elsewhere that is better paid with less responsibility. There is also a problem with retaining staff.

Following the chancellors statement about providing some additional funding there is room for some optimism however. The announcement has indicated additional funding for Adult social care, there is additional money coming from government but a third of the money announced is only achievable through a 2% increase in Council Tax as in recent years. There is money for care services which we will be able to use for Adults or Children's Care services. Extra money for SEN is only going to support the costs next year. At current spending levels it is not going to fully cover our costs and will do nothing to offset the current overspend. We are committed to helping the most vulnerable in Devon.

I'm sorry to end on such a pessimistic note, it is only responsible that I advise you that there is a very big issue with the statutory services we provide to our residents.

*Andrea Davis
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