

SOUTH TAWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Parish Council held at Victory Hall, South Zeal, on Monday 23rd April 2012 at 7.30pm

Councillor A White
Councillor W Cann
Councillor J Jecks
Councillor M Watkins
Councillor C Coombs

Councillor C Critcher
Councillor A Sampson
Councillor J White

Dr P Brotherton (Clerk)

12/031 Apologies for absence.

No apologies were received.

12/032 Declaration of Interest for items on the agenda and update of Register of Interests.

No councillor wished to register an interest nor wished to update his or her Register of Interests.

12/033 Minutes of the last meeting.

The clerk explained some changes made to the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 26th March 2012 which were accepted. These minutes were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman (Councillor A White).

12/034 Clerk's Report

a. **Pot holes and road repairs.**

The clerk reported that he had once again contacted DCC Highways North about potholes and road subsidence and copied the email to councillor J McInnes. No reply had been received. The clerk was asked to contact Mr. Simon Phillips (DCC North, Torrington Neighbourhood Highway Team Leader) to emphasize that council feel that there is a lack of response to its questions and requests.

b. **Further discussion about South Tawton Commons.**

It was reported that Colonel A Clark had said that Ash Common had been mentioned at a recent Commoners' meeting. However, it was still unclear as to what the interest was in this piece of common land.

c. **Request from CPRE for subscription. Advice from DALC.**

The clerk read the response from Ms. L. Smith (Secretary to DALC) to his inquiry about the legality of council paying this subscription. As the advice stated that council were within their right to grant this request as long as it had been debated, the clerk said that he would pay the subscription as soon as the internal audit had been completed.

12/035 Questions from parishioners

a. A question from councillor J White (Vice Chairman) about Hillcrest car park was answered in Agenda item 12/037h.

b. Councillor Critcher reported that three parishioners had commented unfavourably on aspects of the visual impact of the wind turbine at Great Cocktree Farm, North Tawton, application WDBC 01401/2011. It was agreed that in future council would bear in mind such considerations when dealing with similar matters.

12/036 Correspondence

There was no correspondence not dealt with under other agenda items.

12/037 Agenda Items for discussion and resolution

a. **Discussion of tasks for the parish lengthsman.**

Council added to the list to be sent to DCC Highways (North). Once more the lack of contact and feedback for DCC Highways (North) was underlined.

b. **Councillors to propose items for the next Link Committee meeting.**

Council discussed the 'SuperLink' meeting, scheduled for May 16th and awaited the agenda.

c. **Councillor's biennial Footpath and Bridleway inspection.**

Councillors were asked to survey their paths as soon as the weather allowed and to report back to the clerk using the provided report sheet.

d. **Election of a new councillor.**

Letters of introduction from two parishioners were read to council. As the wishes of another parishioner who had not submitted any notes were unclear, the name was not added to the list of applicants. Council proceeded to a secret ballot and as a result Mr. I. Guscott was co-opted by the council. It was agreed that Mr. Guscott be invited to attend the next council meeting.

e. **Distribution of the Notice of an Annual Parish Meeting.**

Copies of this document were given to each councillor to display.

Report from councillor Cann on a possible extension to the Croft Gate bus shelter roof.

Councillor Cann reported that Mr. D. Denford had 'closed his books' and was therefore not able to help with this matter. Councillor Cann said that he would contact Mr. Kozlowski who he thought might be able to help.

f. **Report from the Queen's Jubilee working group.**

A lengthy, comprehensive discussion on the progress of this project led to the following decisions. That council considered that they were responsible for all actions associated with the Beacon fire and that they would not wish to join the national Anchor chain of Beacons. That being the case, councillor Cann moved and it was agreed by all, that all matters relating to the Beacon fire be under the direction of councillor Woolland, that the Beacon fire be in a raised basket and not on the ground nor on a metal sheet on stones

and that all advice and directions from DNPA be adhered to. It was further agreed that the fire should be lit at 10.00pm by councillor Woolland on behalf of the council. The position and nature of the fire in the Recreation Ground was also agreed and it was suggested that Miss Georgina Geikie be invited to light it at the same time as the Beacon fire. Arrangements were also made, under the direction and control of councillors Sampson and Critcher, to organize the suggested fireworks display at a cost, with VAT, of £295 Council were pleased to accept the proffered advice from Mr. D. Denford over firework management. Mr. R Tilley was thanked for having the invitations printed. Further arrangements and decisions were made or suggested for the party, refreshments, entertainment, the Jubilee oak and memorabilia.

g. **Report from Councillors Coombs and Cann on conversations with West Devon Homes and West Devon Borough Council concerning the ownership of the greens on Hillfield and the Croft, the effect of recent notices and possible modifications to improve the parking situation.**

Councillors J White (Vice Chairman) and Coombs both reported aspects of the problems at Hillcrest. Councillor Coombs volunteered to ring West Devon Homes once more.

h. **Discussion on additional methods of distributing the agreed 'Localism' letter submitted to the Beacon.**

The chairman (councillor A White) produced a plan for the distribution of the letter by hand. Councillors volunteered to cover areas within this plan.

i. **Progress report from Councillor Jecks and Coombs on matters concerning Den Brook Wind Farm.**

It was reported that one parish had not been able to agree a way forward with the other four members of the Den Brook Community Council. In consequence there was no progress to report.

j. **West Devon Borough Council Infrastructure Planning.**

The main headings in this document was read to council who asked that council should respond, suggesting that the maintenance of the bus service, improvement of the sewerage system, the provision of mains gas, funding to provide affordable housing and the enhancement of South Tawton Primary School should be submitted for consideration.

k. **Devon Heartlands Community Development Trust. Heartlands Regeneration.**

The clerk reported that he had received a letter from the Trust thanking council for the information that had been provided. The clerk had asked if a copy of the relevant entry in their database could be provided so that council could add to it from time to time but had been told that to do so would cost £10. Council decided to decline this invitation.

12/038

Planning

a. **DNPA 0167/12 (Jo Burgess. 23rd April 2012) Mr A Williams, Southcott, Whiddon Down. Initial Consultation.** Erection of stable and feed/tack room.

Proposed by councillor Sampson and seconded by councillor Coombs, council agreed to support this application.

b. **WDBC (Louis Dulling. 4th May, 2012) Mr. and Mrs. Howard, Powlesland Farm, Spreyton. Full Planning Permission.** Change of use of agricultural building to a dual use of agriculture and an indoor equestrian exercise area including alterations to building.

Proposed by councillor Sampson and seconded by councillor Watkins, council agreed to support this application.

c. **DNPA (Louise Smith. 22nd May, 2012) 1st South Zeal Scout Group, The Scout Hut, r/o The Maltsters, South Tawton. Full Planning Permission.** Extension, new disabled access ramp, porch and covered veranda.

As an extension had been allowed for this application, it was agreed to delay a decision until the next meeting and the papers were passed to Councillor Sampson.

12/039

Determination

a. **DNPA 0086/12 (Oliver Dorrell, 13th March 2012) Ms M Wolton, Park Cottage South Zeal (Agent Mr S Tancock) , Full Planning Permission** , Proposed ground mounted solar panels in garden at Park Cottage, South Zeal Granted. Conditions. If redundant, removed within six months and land reinstated to former condition.

b. **DNPA 0090/12 (Jo Burgess, 14th March 2012) Mr T Clark , Ford Farm, Ford Cross ,Sticklepath. Full Planning Permission.** Proposed Retrospective installation of 3.96Kw photovoltaic panels on roof of agricultural barn at Ford Farm Sticklepath.

Granted. Conditions. If redundant, removed within six months and building reinstated to former condition.

c. **DNPA 0091/12 (Jo Burgess, 19th March 2012) Mr M Darnborough, Little Ash Farm, Whiddon Down. Full Planning Permission.** Installation of solar panels to south facing roofs.

Granted. Conditions. If redundant, removed within six months and building reinstated to former condition.

12/040

Accounts

a. **Consideration of accounts.**

Proposed by councillor J White (Vice Chairman) and seconded by councillor Jecks, the accounts were adopted. All agreed.

20-Mar-12	Brought Forward			£ -	£ 10,579.62
30-Mar-12	DCC	P3 Grant	£ -	£ 100.00	£ 10,679.62
30-Mar-12	Carried Forward				£ 10,679.62

The chairman (councillor A White) adjourned the meeting at 9.40pm.