

WEST ALVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

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| Date 5 th October 2023 | | Venue & Time: WA Village Hall, 7.00pm |
| <u>Present:</u> Cllr Liz Chin Cllr Steve Lees (in the Chair) Cllr Chris Povey Cllr Helen Rhymes Cllr Derek Winser | <u>In Attendance:</u> Kathy Harrod (Parish Clerk) Dist. Cllr Mark Long Dist. Cllr Samantha Dennis County Cllr Rufus Gilbert Parishioners/Guests: 0 | <u>Apologies:</u> Cllr Charlotte Oakey Cllr Kathryn Rawlinson |

REF 2023/24 MINUTES

249 PARISHIONERS OPEN FORUM (Allocated time not longer than 15 minutes, a member of the public shall not speak for more than 2 minutes as per Standing Orders):

- Councillors thanked Liz Green for her recent report re the 3rd October Meeting of the Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary Conservation Forum. Please see **APPENDIX A** for this interesting and informative report.
- It was noted that some properties on Town Park have been throwing garden waste and plants onto the adjacent footpath (path number 3). This constitutes fly tipping onto the footpath and is not lawful. Cllr Gilbert will deal with the issue.
Noted the hedge alongside footpath 3, should be kept to a maximum of 1m in height for safety reasons.

DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT:

Cllr Rufus Gilbert, Email: Rufus.Gilbert@devon.gov.uk

- The sinkhole was reported for repair (ref W231663693), the hole has now been filled in but no works have taken place to ascertain the reasons for sinking or to prevent it continuing to sink. If the road falls too far, DCC will close the road to investigate further.
- The West Alvington Parish Council and Traffic Action Group street proposals have been received by Devon County Council. Initial comments have been forwarded to the Councillors, further comments are yet to come. Once the final feedback has been received there will be a meeting between the parties to discuss further.
- 20mph zones are in the limelight, it is anticipated that any major changes in speed limits will be deferred until after the next election.
- Devon County Farms Estate: Devon County Council currently own 65 fully equipped farms totalling 9,588 acres, this being 33 dairy farms and 32 arable. They are the 6th largest local farming estate authority in England.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

Email Cllr Samantha Dennis: Samantha.dennis@swdevon.gov.uk

Email Cllr Mark Long: cllr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk

- 1,500 properties registered for business rates have been written to. Their waste/recycling is classed as commercial and these properties are required to have a commercial waste contractor or to sign up to South Hams District Council's own commercial waste collection. If no response is received after 28 days they will be subject to a monthly fixed penalty of £250 until it has been proven that a commercial waste collection is in place.
- SHDC have issued their Draft Corporate Strategy, this is currently out for consultation, hard copies are available by contacting the Parish Clerk, alternately read the strategy and comment at <https://ourcorporatestategy.commonplace.is/>
- The Joint Local Plan is being reviewed over the next 18 months and will be issued for consultation in due course.
- The new draft Corporate Strategy has some proposed significant changes with respect to housing stock and how it is managed. This includes consideration of creating an umbrella community land trust – which does not give a

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“right to buy” option. SHDC will request first refusal of any social housing due to be sold off to ensure that the housing stock does not reduce further.

- i. Issues such as Enforcement are also under review – this comprises of a full review of existing policy, handling of complaints and the resources that are required for the service.
- j. A new planning system is due to go live in November, this will ensure applications are uploaded and dealt with more effectively. There will also be more transparency.
- k. With regard to Planning, there will be a new approach whereby amendments (i.e., variations of conditions) are considered by the Assistant Director in consultation with the Chairman of the Development Management Committee. They will be responsible for determining which are minor technical and which are material or contentious amendments. Anything that is material or contentious will be dealt with by the Development Management Committee.
- l. Cllr Long advised that South Hams District Council will speak to the Parish Clerk re the twice yearly weed spray. A road sweeping request has been submitted.

THE MEETING CONVENED

250 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

251 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY/OTHER INTERESTS & Updates to Register of Interests: None received.

252 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING:

It was resolved to accept the minutes from the meetings held on 7th & 14th September 2023 without alteration, these were then signed by the Chairman.

253 VACANCIES & Co-Option

No further expressions of interest have been received, we currently have two vacancies to fill.

254 CLERKS REPORT:

1. Village Hall Update. Works to the hall are due to take place during the October half term. During this time the points of contact will be Cllrs Lees & Rhymes.
2. South Devon & Dartmoor Community Safety Partnership, Councillors have been invited to an online session (26th October) to highlight the importance of this organisation. For more information see <https://saferdevon.co.uk/south-devon-dartmoor-csp/> or <http://www.facebook.com/SouthDevonDartmoorCSP> 1
3. Notice Board Update. The noticeboard has been received, Cllr Rhymes is organising installation and the relocation of the map at the substation.
4. A training session on planning has been arranged for the Councillors on 31st October.
5. We are due to receive the trees for planting in November, a planting team will be arranged, if anyone would like to volunteer to help please contact the Parish Clerk.
6. 162 Replacement Bus Service Update: 24/7 Taxis have agreed to provide a Saturday service to Thurlestone, Hope Cove and Loddiswell, fundamentally running the same route as the existing 162. It will operate on a pre-booking basis, with passengers phoning on the Friday to book their journey. Bearing in mind that the service will run with an 8-seater minibus, it will be advisable to book early. Cllr Barrie Fishman from Kingsbridge Town Council has worked up a timetable which 24/7 have agreed and 4 return journeys will operate throughout the day. Fares, picking up points and the timetable have to be agreed with Devon County Council and he is awaiting a satisfactory conclusion to discussions between 24/7 and Devon County Council to further the project. Updates on progress will be provided.

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7. The Rockbox Licensing Application has been withdrawn.
8. The issues with the tree/hedge at the substation were reported in July.
9. Antisocial Behaviour should be reported to South Hams District Council via their website, more details regarding the actions they can take can be found via this link: <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/9274/Anti-Social-Behaviour-Policy>
10. A defibrillator/heart-start training course was provided by the South West Ambulance Trust on 19th September 7pm at Malborough Village Hall. People attended from South Milton, Salcombe, West Alvington, Malborough and South Huish. We have received very positive feedback and we have thanked Kevin Bowyer for his ongoing support to the local parishes.
11. The Clerk attended a briefing on the Cost-of-Living crisis and how it is affecting people in the South Hams.
12. Cllrs Chin and Lees attended the Licensing Service for Rev. Jax Tilbury in September.

255 PLANNING & ENFORCEMENT

a) LIST OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:

1. 2814/23/HHO, Fairhaven Tacketwood Kingsbridge TQ7 3AY, demolition of single-storey conservatory structure to West elevation of the property & replace with 14sqm single-storey extension to create utility room & increase footprint of existing living space 26/10. **Support subject to protection of the bats.**

b) SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL DECISIONS:

2. 1444/23/ARC, Easton Farm, West Alvington. **No Decision Yet.**
3. 2459/23/CLE, 6 Phoenix Place, 31/8. **Certificate of Lawfulness Certified.**
4. 2450/23/FUL, Davey Park Farm, South Huish. 14/9. **Conditional Approval.**
5. 2773/23/TPO, Easton Farm, TQ7 3BD, 20/9. **No Decision Yet.**
6. 2753/23/HHO, Creek View, Tacketwood. 5/10. **No Decision Yet.**

c) ENFORCEMENT & OTHER PLANNING ISSUES

Please note that the Enforcement Lists are confidential and issues concerning Enforcement cannot be discussed at a public meeting.

South Hams District Council are responsible for the enforcement of all planning breaches, the Parish Council have no authority to deal with issues of this nature. Please will all parishioners continue to report full details of any violations that do not adhere to the original application for which permission was granted. ALL violations can be reported to Enforcement via www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3043/Report-a-Planning-Breach

256 BUSINESS TO BE NOTED/DISCUSSED:

1. Town Park Car Park Update re Lease, Use by Parishioners, Signage & Works: Cllr Povey and Cllr Rhymes will speak with their contacts re obtaining a quote.
2. Councillors discussed a village gateway sign. Further information re traffic options is awaited from Devon County Council after which a meeting will take place between the two parties.
Up to date information will be obtained regarding the Vehicle Activated Signage.
The planter project needs to be taken forward over the next few months to ensure the planters are ready for spring 2024.
3. Communications with the Diocese. No further correspondence has been received. Cllr Lees spoke with the Archdeacon who is aware of the communications and advised it is the responsibility of the land agent to provide a response. Cllr Chin will update the Church Wardens.

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4. Councillors deferred discussion on the reopening of the sealed access to the school to the November meeting.

257 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

a. Receipts & Payments: Month 7.

Accounts to pay – Mathias Property Solutions £190, Hall Hire £20, Play Area Repairs/upkeep £460.65

Standing Orders: Clerks Salary & HMRC, SHEPS £80, Hugo Fox £11.99

Bank Balances as at 01.10.2023: Current Account £13,499.49, Deposit Account £21,184.36

The councillors resolved to accept the above payments.

b. Governance:

1. Councillors were asked to consider potential 2024/25 expenditure for the draft budget.

258 NEXT MEETING DATES: 14th Sept 5th Oct, 2nd Nov – [WA Village Hall](#), 7.30pm

Meeting Ends 21:55 hrs

Items for the next Agenda:

- Consideration of an additional defibrillator

Signed as a true record: _____

Print Name & Date: _____

Agenda Items and Updates; where possible please submit to the Clerk by the last Wednesday in the month to ensure time for inclusion, circulation, and study. If a Council Member is unable to attend a meeting it would be appreciated if they could submit a brief précis of progress on their actions, if applicable, (to the Clerk for distribution) together with their apologies.

Distribution List: All WAPC Councillors. **For Information to:** County Cllr R Gilbert, South Hams District Council Ward Councillors, Parish Tree Warden, WAPC Notice Board.