

## **Minutes of the meeting of Sheepwash Parish Council held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019, in the Village Hall, Sheepwash.**

**Present:** Cllr. Hackett (Chairman); Cllr. Francis; Cllr. Ritson; Cllr. Lee; Cllr. Trace; Cllr. Hutchings; Penny Clapham (Clerk); 5 members of the public. County Cllr. Parsons.

### **1) Apologies For Absence:** Cllr. Tubby.

County Cllr. Parsons report – council tax unfortunately going up. Seasonal industry with low wages makes this a struggle for many citizens. Funding for roads; an allocation for this part of Devon for repairs is reasonable. There is £4m in the resilience fund for roads. Holsworthy Hospital – over 50 different types of services are being conducted at this hospital. Discussions are going ahead to possibly provide beds for end of life care. Critically beds are needed in this area, not necessarily in Holsworthy Hospital, with care given by staff who are not NHS qualified nurses. Fuel poverty in Torridge is significant (when the spend on fuel is more than 10% of wages). Over a quarter of homes in Torridge have category one hazards: eg: damp/sanitation/carbon monoxide.

Cllr. Ritson enquired as to whether this was because the homes are old. Some fall into this category.

Cllr. Parsons was thanked and left the meeting.

**2) Declarations Of Interest:** In accordance with the Code of Conduct, members are required to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have, in items to be considered at this meeting. Members are also reminded that any change to their Declaration of Interests must be notified to the Monitoring Officer at Torridge District Council within 28 days of the change. None declared.

**3) Public Discussion** – To allow any questions, reports by members of the public on any matters relating to the agenda of this meeting, or any matters the public would like the Council to consider on a future agenda.

**The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed 15 minutes.**

A reminder that members of the public are not allowed to raise issues when Council is in committee.

Cllr. Ritson commented on new houses and fire barriers, what a fire barrier does, and the lack of them in new homes.

**4) Minutes** – the Minutes of the meeting held on the 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2019, having been circulated by email were approved for accuracy and signed by the Chairman.

### **5) Chairman & District Cllr. Report –**

District council – police and crime precept up by £24 – historically Devon & Cornwall Police are underfunded. It is also clear that there is under-reporting of rural crime, provided it really is a crime. There will be additional police officers, but with a reduction in the number of PCSO's generally.

The financial settlement is still too low from Central Government bearing in mind that Devon and Cornwall have a large influx of holiday-makers to the West Country every year.

There is a homelessness problem in the Torridge District, creating further financial costs.

Holsworthy Hospital are going to have 3 beds funded in a care home. When the in-patient beds were closed it was down to 16 bed occupancy. Cllr. Hackett considers there should be more than just end of life care beds. In a residential care home, the care is being given by non-qualified care assistants.

**6) County & District Councillors' reports** – already given.

**7) Hatherleigh Market** – on behalf of councillors and with their email agreement, the Clerk has written and sent both a letter of support for the Market and an objection to the plan lodged by Kingswood Homes. For noting in the minutes. Noted.

## 8) PLANNING:

**Planning Applications** - Torridge District Council has asked for comments from the Parish Council on the following planning applications:

- a) 1/0149/2019/REM Application for reserved matters (access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to permission 1/0422/2018/OUT – land at 248397/106445 Sheepwash.  
Supported: proposed by Cllr. Trace, seconded by Cllr. Francis, all in favour by show of hands.

## Planning Decisions:

## 9) FINANCE:

<b>Expenditure:</b>	Office 2016 (clerk paid for )	£17.99	BACs
	IBIS UK healthcheck computer	£35.00	BACs
	Employment February & March	£240.00	BACs
	PAYE Q4	£90.00	BACs
	Clerk's expenses Q4	£114.30	BACs
	Visionict Operation London Bridge	£42.00	BACs
	Records Office (grant)	£100.00	BACs

Income:

**Bank Reconciliation and Statement:** circulated to all councillors at the meeting.

Council resolved to accept the accounts: proposed by Cllr. Trace, seconded by Cllr. Newby, all in favour by show of hands.

**10) Final Budget** – to note and agree to publication. Noted and agreed.

**11) North Devon Records Office** – to consider further funding for this facility. Cllr. Trace proposed £100.00 to be paid now, and to cover a further 3 years, seconded by Cllr. Ritson. All in favour.

**12) Financial Regulations** – to resolve to agree the legal updates required for tenders, pages 16 & 17, highlighted in yellow. Resolved.

**13) Risk Assessments** – to review and amend if required. Note yellow markers for discussion. Reviewed and agreed.

**14) Internal Control Statement** – to review and amend if required. Reviewed and agreed as fit for purpose.

**15) Internal Auditor** – to confirm Lee Accounting as Council's approved internal auditor for 2019. Agreed.

**16) Asset Register** – to agree and update the asset register. Agreed.

## MEETINGS ATTENDED:

### Items for Information

**THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2019 IN THE VILLAGE HALL – 7.00 for 7.30pm. REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE.**

**THIS IS YOUR MEETING – COME AND AIR YOUR VIEWS.**

Clerk will be on holiday Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March, Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April. Also for a week in July.  
The next Council meeting is on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2019. This is the Annual Council Meeting after the elections on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm

Signed..... Date..... Position.....

**Email circulations**  
Rural Policing Update