

## **Minutes of the meeting of Sheepwash Parish Council held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2019, 7pm in the Village Hall, Sheepwash.**

**Present:** Cllr. Ansell (Chairman) Cllr. Francis; Cllr. Hutchings; Cllr. Wheeler; County Cllr. Parsons; District Cllr. Hurley; Anne Grey for the village hall. Penny Clapham (Clerk).

**1) Apologies For Absence:** Cllr. Ritson. Cllr. Moys. Cllr. Crossley. Apologies accepted.

**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.

**4) Minutes –** the Minutes of the meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019, having been circulated by email were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

### **5) Chairman's Report –**

Cllr. Ansell instructed a surveyor to look at the village hall. This service has been done, a report raised, and no charges made. Council thanked all involved in this action.

The telephone kiosk has been repaired and repainted.

Carols in the square on 16<sup>th</sup> December – all agreed this can go ahead. Attending a CPRE seminar in October.

### **6) County & District Councillors' reports –**

District Cllr. Hurley outlined developments in Bideford. There is now a councillor advocate for the police and crime commissioner, creating a link between the PCC and the public. Both road policing and crimestoppers were discussed. Speedwatch scheme – there is evidence that this scheme does reduce speed. 'Snap' is the new scheme of sending video recordings to the police from car dash cams.

County Cllr. Parsons – Railways: a group called Bude Connect are keen to re-establish the rail network, Bude, coming through Holsworthy to Okehampton. Cllr. Parsons supports this idea in principle, good for the local economy.

Highways conference in October at Merton. Numbers of youngsters 0-16, have gone up across Devon by over 5%, except Torrington, with a drop of over 6%. Have to make sure that there is a new generation coming up and staying in our area. On 2<sup>nd</sup> October hospital feedback meeting in Barnstaple: information will be sent to the clerk to distribute. Connecting Devon and Somerset – broadband; the contract is not being fulfilled, and there will be a new provider coming on board in 2020.

Cllr. Francis asked about the demographics and the paucity of broadband perhaps in Torrington, affecting young people staying in the area.

Cllr. Parsons stated that the infrastructure is not in place in this part of Devon. This causes difficulties in getting people to come and work/live in this area.

Highways no longer do any private type of tarmac repairs such as the car park in Sheepwash.

Cllr. Hurley – talked about a couple of points such as problems of people getting to hospital. Brought up the idea of ‘climate emergency’ with reference to the District Council. However, finance as ever is going to be the big issue.

Cllr. Parsons left the meeting at 7.31pm.

**7) Village Hall** – Update on the ownership of the Village Hall, if available.

Reasonably clear to Cllr. Ansell from the old minutes that the hall was sold by the order of Foresters 1972. Purchased for £500.00 at the time. The VH Management Committee are the vested keepers of the hall on behalf of the Parish. Cllr. Hutchings queried whether the council should pay rent to use the hall. Not for discussion at this time.

A list of repair items has been submitted by Devon Village Properties Ltd., after a free check of the building. Water discharge issue over the snooker room roof – Cllr. Ansell requests that she talks to these builders about the cost and action required to reduce this water discharge. Cllr. Francis proposed a maximum of £500 could be spent on this item, without further recourse to Council. Resolved; all agreed. November agenda for further actions. Council consider a village meeting should be arranged.

**8) Climate Emergency Planning** – for initial discussion. November agenda.

**9) Dog bins** – to consider the possibility of installing a dog bin beside the river walk. To consider the costs of both installation and regular emptying of the bin. Resolved to install one bin by the river; district council to be asked to find the best site – clerk to check prices off the email, and how much an annual payment would be. Check ownership of bin outside the village hall, as it has no lid. Actions resolved - all agreed.

**10) Highways Issues:**

To consider 20 mph road signage throughout the village. Cllr. Francis to contact Cllr. Parsons to see how best to go about this.

**11) Defibrillator – (b) and (c) from previous minutes.**

b) Training course arrangements. Awaiting a date. Cllr. Crossley to facilitate.

c) Replacement battery and pads due January 2020 – ordered.

d) Emergency Phone link and VETS scheme for discussion.

Resolved to agree to purchase 3 signs. Action, Cllr. Crossley.

Cllr. Ansell will contact SWAST to agree the post code of the defib. Also the dialling of 999 or 112.

November agenda for Cllr. Crossley, agenda item (d).

**12) PLANNING:**

Planning Applications - Torridge District Council has asked for comments from the Parish Council on the following planning applications: None received to date.

Planning Decisions:

1/0638/2019/FUL Change of use of agricultural land to garden for domestic use for barn 2 (Barnacott) including the erection of 2 garden sheds.

GRANTED

**13) FINANCE:**

Employment August & September	£240.00	BACs
K. Downe repairs to phone kiosk	£420.00	BACs/Cq
H. Crossley – defib notice refund	£26.02	BACs
CPRE meeting fee	£10.00	BACs

Bank Reconciliation circulated to councillors by email.  
Council resolved to accept the accounts. Proposed by Cllr. Francis, all agreed.

**14) Half year accounts** – circulated by email to all councillors for their consideration, actual against budget to October 2019. To agree actions if required. No actions required.  
To pre- discuss the budget for 2020-2021 – Cllr. Francis and Cllr. Ansell will hold a pre-meeting without the Clerk/RFO.

**15) Assets & Play equipment** - for discussion and agreement to move forward on any items that need replacing/repairing. November agenda.  
Asset of a replacement noticeboard – two quotes received, both expensive – a further quote to be sourced.

**16) Parish Plan** – further update to be considered. November agenda.

**17) Rural Bus Campaign** – as circulated by email prior to this meeting. Not discussed, as unlikely any rural bus would come to Sheepwash in the evenings.

Meeting closed at 9.46pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Items for Information

The next Council meeting is on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019, at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

Email circulations

Latest news from the ICO

DALC News 15 & 16 & 18