

Minutes of the meeting of Sheepwash Parish Council held on Wednesday 15th January, 2020, 7pm in the Village Hall, Sheepwash.

Present: Cllr. Ansell (Chairman); Cllr. Ritson; Cllr. Hutchings; Cllr. Wheeler; Cllr. Moys; Penny Clapham (Clerk) 6 members of the public; District Cllr. Hurley.

1)Apologies For Absence: Cllr. Crossley. Cllr. Mathews.

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.

Parishioner would like a meeting to discuss the village hall and the playing field. Cllr. Ansell informed all that the Jubilee field belongs to the parish with the council taking responsibility. There are only 3 members of the village hall trustees left to look after the village hall; thoughts are that there should be 9 committee members. Re-assurance has been given that the Council will not leave the village hall in the lurch.

Parishioner with regard to the works to support the Village Hall buttress and the drainage that needs to be put in, in the form of soakaway during periods of heavy rain. This query will be clarified with the builder when Cllr. Hutchings next speaks to him.

4)Minutes – Minutes of the meeting held on the 20th November 2019, having been circulated by email were approved and signed by the Chairman, after two amendments.

5)Chairman's Report – Clarified the ownership of both the hall and Jubilee Park. Contacted Steve Brockman, Highways, who said gullies would be cleared and potholes filled. Gullies have now been cleared, however the Upcott Road has suffered considerably from the recent heavy rains. Will be in touch with Highways again. Cllr. Crossley has registered Council for the free tree scheme.

6) County & District Councillors' reports –

District Hurley reported that there is a new leader at Torridge, Ken James. Cllr. Hurley has written to the local PCSO with regard to the reporting of crime, as the current system is vague. Torridge Council constitution is the subject of a working party for some updating. Devon County Council have announced parking arrangements for carers with a 'to display' permit. Electric car charge points: a report has been received on average car charge times within the district.

7) Village Hall – to receive an update on the works agreed for the village hall. Cllr. Hutchings reported that the work is well underway, but there is this extra hard rock under the proposed soakaway requiring extra time and an increased payment. Council agreed to fund any extra payments required.

8) Grant Application – received from the Citizens Advice Torrridge, for £500. Cllr Wheeler proposed £75, then withdrew his proposal. Cllr. Moys proposed £100. Resolved and agreed by show of hands.

9) Climate Emergency information – brought forward from November minutes. To agree actions. Climate Emergency Network/Devon Climate Plan. Action asked for, with a person to report to Council annually. Cllr. Ansell will join the climate network in the first instance.

10) PLANNING:

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

- i. 1/1125/2019/FUL First floor extension above garage and utility and single-storey extension to rear, Orchard House. East Street, Sheepwash.

No objection.

Planning Decisions: None received.

11) FINANCE:

Expenditure:	Employment December & January	£240.00	BACs
	PAYE Q3	£90.00	BACs
	Clerk's expenses last 6 months	£254.50	BACs
	+ Defib post not credited to card and paid by Clerk	£8.70	
	IBIS UK computer/inks	£40.00	BACs
	Cllr. Crossley – defib signs	£44.82	BACs

Income:

Bank Reconciliation and Statement:

Council to resolve to accept the accounts. Resolved. All agreed by show of hands.

12) Budget for 2020 to 2021 – to resolve to accept the budget circulated prior to this meeting. Resolved, proposed by Cllr. Wheeler. All in favour by show of hands.

13) Precept – to resolve to set the precept for 2020/2021 for Sheepwash parish.

Cllr Wheeler proposed the precept remains static at £6,500, seconded by Cllr. Ansell. 2 in favour 3 against. Motion dismissed.

Cllr. Hutchings proposed an increase of 4% to £6,760, seconded by Cllr. Moys, 3 in favour 2 against. Motion carried.

14) Devon Association of Local Councils – Council resolved to continue to subscribe to this association. Proposed by Cllr. Ansell, all agreed by show of hands.

15) VE Day – to consider actions to celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE day.

The manager of the Half Moon has provisionally booked music for an event in the square, the first weekend in May. Agenda for March.

16) Play equipment – to receive an update.

Cllr. Ritson showed slides of equipment installed at Black Torrington. Also circulated pictures of all in one types of play equipment suitable for both small and older children. Three quotes will be required. Grant funding could be available. Actions to find out the installers at Black Torrington – Cllr. Ritson to take forward together with the Clerk. March for updates.

County Cllr. Parsons arrived to present his report:

Happy new year to everyone. Asked about the parish websites and the new rules about accessibility. The Clerk has this in hand as Council has until September to update the website. Budgeting at Devon County Council was mentioned. Council tax is likely to be 4%, but is not yet decided. Highways – the pothole situation nationally is not improving. It is a major issue on the B and C class roads which predominate in Devon. Also supporting climate change actions. Cllr. Ritson asked what has Devon County Council done/doing to support climate change. Funding has been put aside to support businesses/travel issues/digital items/support people in their own homes.

17) Parish Plan – brought forward from November. To agree actions.

Cllr. Ansell and Cllr. Wheeler circulated a paper on the last 2 parish plans and activity with summaries of parishioners thoughts. March agenda for further updates.

Thanks and appreciation to Gary Elwood for repairing the noticeboard in his own time.

Annual Parish Meeting – to consider a date for this meeting between 1st March and 1st June.
Wednesday 25th March 7pm Refreshments.

Meeting closed 9.05pm.

Items for Information

The next Council meeting is on Wednesday, 18th March 2020 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

Signed.....

Date.....