

SUTCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Sutcombe Parish Council Meeting held Remotely

Using the ZOOM Platform, on Monday 9th November 2020 which commenced at 7.30p.m

Members of the Council Present: Councillors C. Quance (Chair) B.Galbraith Marten -(Vice Chair),C. Furse, M. Wonnacott, E.Horn , J. Daniel and John Shepherd.

District Councillors Richard Boughton, Anna Dart and Stephen Harding, Devon County Councillor Barry Parsons also present was Mrs Lorraine Buttery (Clerk)

1. Chair's announcements

Councillor Chris Quance welcomed all to the meeting

2. Declarations of Interest

a) Register of Interest: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.

There were none declared

b) To declare any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature. *There were none declared*

c) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda and their nature. *There were none declared.*

3. Apologies and reasons for absence were received from:

PCSO Mark James.

4. Public Comment Session

No Members of the Public present.

5. Reports from Devon County Councillor and District Councillors:

Councillor Harding reported that he had been off sick for 2 weeks, consequently had not been to any meetings. In the current situation the Swimming Pools/Leisure centres in Torrington and Holsworthy are not opening in the foreseeable future, Holsworthy and Torrington have maintenance issues. It is hoped that Northam pool will be opening soon. The Chair Councillor Chris Quance said he hoped Councillor Harding was well on the road to recover.

Councillor Anna Dart reported that she also had missed the full Council Meeting. There is a second round of 'Lock Down Grants' available and Torridge Council is working hard to facilitate businesses and individuals receiving grants without undue delay. The Concern that Torridge have is that a lot of the grants are going to 'second home' businesses, but the Government support this.

The Chair Councillor Chris Quance took the opportunity of thanking Anna for her support in obtaining the Grant of £1000 toward the cost of the DAAT site, it was greatly appreciated.

Councillor Richard Boughton said there was not a lot for him to report and Stephen and Anna had just about covered everything.

Devon County Councillor Barry Parsons apologised for being late but had been attending another meeting.

Barry reported that he had a real issue regarding the supply of free meals for children during the school holiday, The government had just allocated 174 million pounds for this. Devon as a rule usually gets 1.7% of funds, this would equate to Devon receiving 1.7 million. Devon County Council was looking to support this during the Christmas holidays, getting networks involved, there is still £100,00 left in the COVID-19 support fund and this would be utilised in the best way possible. Barry also report that he was somewhat concerned with the fact that 1610 ltd, the business that runs the leisure centres in the area, were going to open Northam Pool, and Torrington. when the issue of asbestos had been resolved, although he thought that this had been solved some years ago, but there was no sign of when the Holsworthy centre would open, which I am extremely unhappy about.

Barry also reported that he has a meeting with the Chief Executive of Torridge Council to discuss the 'Holsworthy Town Action Plan' which deals with the economy of Holsworthy. He feels that the paper produced by the Consultants was wholly unfair to Holsworthy, as it was quite damning. There are a lot of good things going on in and around Holsworthy. Barry had made his feeling know to the Leader of Torridge Councillor Ken James.

Councillor Claire Furse asked that if the 'Covid 19' grant received with the precept could be used to help with the Supply of food vouchers/meals for the children of Sutcombe. The Clerk explained that the balance of the grant had Already been clawed back by Torridge.

Councillor Chris Quance thanked the Councillors for attending

6. All members of the Council had received a copy of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 21st September by email, with the unanimous decision of the Councillors, the contents were deemed true and correct and were duly signed by the Chair Councillor Chris Quance

7. Matters Arising

1) Sutcombe Playing field – Councillor Clair Furse said there was not a lot to report, to date there had been No response from Pam Johns at Coodes, she would chase it up.

2) DAAT Night Site, the Clerk informed the Councillors that she had obtained a grant of £1,000 from The Help Appeal, with the £1,000 from Torrington with the help of Councillor Anna Dart, and the hope of £1,000 from Devon County Council approved by Councillor Barry Parsons, it was the unanimous decision of the Councillors to Crack on with the application. The Clerk will liaise with Councillor Furse and Toby Russell from DAAT.

3) Sale of School Buildings- An email had been received from Jon Williams containing proposals to put to the Charity Commission, the proposal was that:

Option one: The full proceeds of the sale of the school be given to Bradworthy School

Option two: 95% of the proceeds to go to Bradworthy School and 5% to Sutcombe Parish Council for the benefit of the Community Play field. With the proviso that Option 2 would be the preferred one for the Parish Council. After much discussion it was the unanimous decision of the Parish Council to request that the 5% be raised to 10%, as this would be nearer to the figure required to recuperate what had been spent and help towards the cost of Securing the site and renovations of equipment installed, also to state that as all children of Sutcombe do not attend Bradworthy school. The consensus of opinion was that we categorically state that we would prefer there not being two options, but if two have to be given it would be preferred that the options be swapped round.

Councillor Barry Parsons stated that he had discussed this with Jon and ultimately it will be the decision of the Charity Commission what actually happens to the proceeds. The Clerk will draft a letter and send it to the Chair and Then to the Parish Councillors for approval.

8. **Planning Applications:**

There were none

Planning Decisions:

There were none

Planning Appeals: *There were none*

9. **Finance.**

a) Financial report to date, the cash book spreadsheet had been emailed to all Councillors, n No issues were raised, there being £12,924.38 in the bank (Statement presented to uphold), earmarked funds of £500.00 election costs £4,002.00 project funds, £3150.00 owing to D.C.C. for fencing. The remaining balance of £5,124.58 being PC General funds.

b) i) The receipt of second half of Precept, less part of Covid Grant was acknowledged, ii) Receipt of Cheque for £1,000 from County Air Ambulance Trust was acknowledged, the Clerk had sent a thank you letter

c) 2021-2022 Draft Budget was discussed and unanimously approved, no increase in the precept is required.

d) The following cheques were approved and signatures will be sourced by the Chair.

i) Clerks Quarterly salary including adjustments £329.08 ii) ZOOM Monthly fees £7.19

iii) Poppy wreath Sue King £21. iv) Mr R L Morey £180.00 - Village Green grass cutting

e) **Annual Grants** – applications received to (3/11/2020) date from

i) St. Andrews Church ii) Sutcombe Parish Memorial Hall iii) Sutcombe Free Church Cemetery received by email: Sutcombe Community Play Field.

The above applications were discussed, Councillor Barry Gailbrath-Marten asked whether some of the Budgeted funds could be held back this year? After further discussion the unanimous decision of the Parish Councillors was to award to use all the budgeted amount and award £250. To each applicant. The Chair will write the cheques out and after signed by two Councillors will distribute.

10. **Correspondence as below and as available at the time of the meeting**

- i) Holsworthy Rural Update DCC Councillor Barry Parsons, Covid 19 updates, Cybercrime, Hardship Fund and Remembrance Sunday
- ii) DALC Newsletters 60-63
- iii) North Devon Healthcare Trust updates x 3
- iv) Rural Network Bulletins x 5
- v) Jon Williams x 2
- vi) DCC Do it for Devon/ More Testing
- vii) Devon Communities Together x 3
- viii) Harry Roper- Free Parking, Air Quality, Petroc
- ix) DCC Devon medical alert, plus updates
- x) Devon CPR – New Planning Regulations
- xi) N.Bowring Waste Recycling Centres
- xii) Flood Risk Management Board Newsletter
- xiii) Kirsty Brown – TDC Meetings

The above were all received by email

11. Matters for discussion or to be noted, and matters brought to the attention of the Chairman

1) Councillor Quance asked whether a letter should be sent to Jeremy Sluggett for keeping the Sutcombe area around the Memorial in such good order? This was unanimously agreed, the Clerk will send a letter of thanks.

2) The notice Board, will have to be replaced as it came off the wall again and is beyond repair, the Clerk was asked to obtain quotes for its replacement.

The Next meeting was scheduled for the 11th January 2021.

The Chair Councillor Chris Quance thanked everyone for their attendance, as there was no other business the meeting was closed at 8.25pm