



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF SWIMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 9th SEPTEMBER AT 7.30PM IN THE JUBILEE HALL, SWIMBRIDGE

Public Session - NONE

Guest Speakers

Cllr Edgell introduced himself and said that he was looking forward to working with the Parish Council, although he would only be able to attend for part of the meetings as other Parishes meet on the same evening. His report was :

1. Since taking control the new Council has reduced the number of posts, thus making a saving of £80,000.
2. There have been no further developments with the Boundary Commission and therefore status quo continues.
3. The Tour of Britain Cycle Race goes through Somerset and North Devon next week.
4. There is a grant 'pot' of £10,000 to be divided between 19 parishes, so suggested getting any application in quite quickly. He has already had an application from the Church Streamside Garden Project.

PC Clarke asked if there would be any funding available for travel costs to help the village youth arrange swimming sessions at the Leisure Centre. It was suggested that it may be possible, but that ways should be investigated for these youngsters to raise some funding towards it. He is trying to arrange some activities for youngsters in the village – report at the next meeting.

He reported that there have been two vehicles stolen (both of which were older and un-alarmed) and some vehicle break-ins. One crime (theft of generator) had been solved, and it was suspected that the individual concerned is also involved with the vehicle thefts. Cllr Liverton questioned PC Clarke about complaints he had received from several members of the public about a caravan parked on Station Hill which was causing a visual obstruction, and forcing the bus to move onto the wrong side of the road to pass. Parking is now a Council matter, but PC Clarke will check and report back. Cllr Liverton has also received complaints about builders vehicles being parked on the road also on Station Hill.

Cllr Luggar gave an update on the Glebe planning application, suggesting that Pearce Construction are delaying this being heard by not providing required information. He also gave some information about a cycling club, and will e-mail the details to the clerk for the village newsletter. He also gave details of a drama event upcoming in October, more details nearer the time. Health statistics for the area are significantly better than the national average.

2009.67 **Apologies received and members present** – apologies received from Cllrs Clarke, Dennis and Rogers. Present were Cllrs Liverton, Crumpton, Singh, Comerford and King.

2009.68 Declarations of interest - none

2009.69 **Minutes of the previous meeting** – the minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record and signed accordingly

2009.70 Correspondence

- A) Graham McLeod – Mr McLeod has replied to the Council's letter asking for information on land which may be used for a temporary play area. He states that he already has planning permission on an area of land below Archipark, but that the Planning Authority will not consider its use whilst the Glebe application is still in abeyance. – Thank Mr McLeod for his response and we will keep him informed of future developments.
- B) DAPC AGM - noted
- C) Rural Housing Project - noted
- D) Barnstaple Town Council Planning School - noted
- E) NDC/BT – Adopt a telephone kiosk – Cllr Liverton will deal with this.
- F) NDC – Customer Service Centre - noted
- G) Devon Renaissance – Broadband provision – Clerk to reply – poor, slow provision.

2009.71 Planning Decisions
48531 – Stowford Cottage Garage Doors and Porch – APPROVED

2009.72 Planning Applications

The following applications were dealt with due to time restrictions :

48801 – Retrospective application for erection of various buildings – Stepsford Holding.

Reply : This site has been discussed many times over the years. Has there been an agricultural appraisal and viability check to allow a mobile home? The whole site seems to be a hotch-potch of buildings which need to be tidied up if approval is granted.

48908 – Mobile Poultry house – Summermoor Farm. Reply: As the Parish Council did not support the original retrospective application we feel it would now be wrong to support this one (main reason siting of development)

48902 – Erection of stable block etc. Higher Hearson. Reply: Isolated development which will require 24hour supervision of horses – mobile home next application??

48786 – Works on listed building, West Stowford. Reply: No objections.

48682 – Conversion and extension – The Old School Room, Cobbaton. Reply: This old building is worthy of restoration, subject to conservation officer's comments and conversion policy.

New Applications

48978 – Works to trees, Bracken House, Swimbridge – no objections

48674 – Prior approval for erection of polytunnel – Stepsford Holdings - noted

2009.73 Any additional planning applications received after publication of agenda

2009.74 Planning Matters in the Parish

Letter from NDC regarding Berry Farm, Gunn. No action will be taken. Clerk will send a copy of this letter to Mr and Mrs O'Hanlon for their information.

2009.75 Caravan, Station Hill and builders vehicles – already dealt with in Public Session, but no action is required.

2009.76 Dangerous electricity cables, Hannaford Lane – The Clerk will report to Western Power and ask them to investigate the growth of branches into live conductor at Hannaford Lane. Cllr Liverton can be contacted for further details.

2009.77 Grass cutting opposite school – Clerk will ask DCC to take action.

2009.78 Appointment of school governor – there is no legal requirement for Parish Council representation on School Governing Bodies.

2009.79 Accounts for approval

Clerks Salary £109.60

K Abraham (Auditor) £44.00

JJ Bins £126.00

All approved.

2009.80 Matters raised by Councillors

1. Consider the possibility of changing the day of the meeting, to avoid clashing with other PC's
2. Hail and Ride Bus
3. Hedge Cutting