

MINUTES SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8th March 2016 at St James Church, Avonwick

OPEN FORUM: There were no members of the public present. The Council was informed of a recent failure in water supply due to a fractured main pipe. This had now been repaired.

PRESENT: Councillors Bell, Gabriel, Grevatt, Luscombe, Seager-Berry and District and Parish Councillor Steer.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: County Councillor Vint and Councillor Hunt.

The **MINUTES** of the meeting held on 2nd February 2016 were confirmed and signed after a correction had been made changing the words "Community Hall Questionnaire" to "Community Consultation Report". Proposed Cllr. Seager-Berry seconded Cllr. Steer.

MATTERS ARISING: The Council was informed that the North Huish notice board was to be put back into position during the following week. The Council was also informed that due to funding difficulties the Totnes Ring and Ride service would no longer be available. It was reported that the grit bins held sufficient grit for the time being. Concern was expressed over the condition of the hedges in Bow Lane (those on the left of the road when entered from Avonwick Cross). These need to be trimmed. Householder to be informed. Action clerk.

REPORTS: Councillor Vint had submitted a report which detailed his recent work at County level. This was read to the Council.

Councillor Steer's report told the Council of developments in the devolution of responsibilities to the District Council and the plans of the Council to deal with them. Councillor Steer spoke of the development of a company whose work would be to generate income for the Council to replace lost government funding. He also told the Council of the recent success of South Hams District Council in gaining a gold award from ISES in recognition of recent innovations. The Chairman congratulated South Hams Council on its success.

Councillor Grevatt told the Council that favourable comments had been made concerning the new website. He also told the Council of concerns raised by those on the Community Hall project over parishioners' worries about the Community Consultation Report as detailed in the minutes of the last meeting. Councillor Grevatt was asked to inform those who had raised these concerns that the Council's minutes are simply a record of what takes place at Council meetings and are not necessarily a record of the thoughts of Councillors.

Councillor Seager-Berry reported on the recent Flood Committee meeting. Concerns had been raised over the flooding in the Dilly Field and the drainage of storm water under the garage forecourt. The group also discussed the perceived failing of the flood water drainage system from the Higher Moor area.

PLANNING: The Council was informed that permission had been granted for an extension to the dwelling at 9 Higher Moor, Avonwick.

The Council gave its support to requests for permission for an extension at Hamiota, Avonwick and a conversion of a redundant barn to a dwelling at Manor Farm, North Huish.

Specific items of **CORRESPONDENCE** were noted as follows:

The Council was informed of new rates of expenses for councillors but agreed to follow its normal habit of not claiming any such expenses for Council work.

FINANCE:

It was agreed to seek tenders for the cutting of the play park grass and interior hedges. The clerk was asked to contact Diptford Parish magazine to negotiate a reduction in the cost of placing the minutes in the magazine.

HIGHWAYS: Concern was expressed over the large amount of litter that is found at the side of roads within and around the parish.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 5th April 2016 at 7.30pm at St James Church, Avonwick.

Due to requests from parishioners these minutes are being included in the Diptford and North Huish Parish News for a trial period. North Huish Parishioners are asked to let the Parish Clerk know if they would like this to continue as there is cost to the Parish Council which has to be justified. (Contact 'phone and email below). The Council is particularly keen to hear from Parishioners who do not have access to electronic means of accessing the minutes.

Parishioners wishing to bring any matter before the Council should either attend an open forum (held at the start of all Council meetings) or ask a Councillor to represent them. Please remember to inform the Clerk of your concerns well before the meeting, so that a considered response may be made. Parishioners are asked to limit their input to 4 minutes in order to permit the meeting to progress without undue delay. (NB matters concerning other bodies eg SWWA, SHDC and DCC should normally be referred directly to such bodies. The Parish Council would try assist where difficulties arise after such a referral has taken place.)

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