

## SHALDON PARISH COUNCIL (SPC)

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held in the Methodist Church Hall on  
**Tuesday May 21st 2019 starting 6.45pm** to transact the business below

**SPC Present:** Cllr Tim Biddlestone (TB) chairing this meeting; Cllr Tim O Donnell (TO) Cllr Derek Woodward (DW) Cllr G Hobbs (GH) Cllr Chris Clarence (CC)

Karen Turner (Clerk) Cllr Alistair Dewhirst (DCC)

1. **Apologies:** Andy Burnham (absent)
2. **Declaration of conflicts of interest** – Cllr Tim O Donnell item 14
3. **To approve the minutes of the meeting of 23rd April 2019:** Approved (TOD) & (DW)
4. **Matters arising from (a) minutes of 23rd April 2019:** None **(b) Letters and emails written:** None
5. **Correspondence:** Email regarding street furniture in Arch Street verses non-residents and the lack of action from DCC Officers. Chairman requested reply from Cllr Alistair Dewhirst – It is a highway not all are usable or accessible. The letters have been sent to residents – no further powers to compel. Some items are bins, TDC do not expect bins to be kept inside. We can't spend any further time on it.  
(CC) you cannot bolt things to the highway – Meg Booth to be contacted to be told of the bolted items. (CC) To draft a letter. (TOD) Ask Matt regarding other roads in Shaldon with bolted down items.  
Email regarding the future of Shaldon, (AD) It is an offence to block a vehicle in, but not an offence to park in front of a drive. (AD) will investigate this, double yellow lines are enforceable.
15. **Brought forward item 15 Botanical Gardens** current maintenance schedule. The current gardening arrangement is due to fall back under the control of TDC from November 2019. This is when the three year lottery funding will expire, this fund has provided a full time gardener. Everybody agrees that this has been a wonderful success. The gardens have been maintained to a far higher standard which benefits businesses in the village as footfall increases. May people ask Gary's advice not just about the gardens but about local businesses and places to visit. Gary does not want to stop working at the gardens and thinks that now he has brought them up to such a high standard a reduced working pattern would maintain them. The Botanical Gardens is asking for the Parish Council's support it would mean that 3k would need to be funded from November to April. Then in the new precept year we would be considering the full 6k to continue with this working pattern of 2 days a week. The current contractors tender is due to finish in 2020. (AD) TDC would need to give a commitment, of what they will contribute. SPC will find out more from TDC and come back to establish a way forward.
6. **Planning meeting: See separate agenda**
7. **Devon County Councillor's Report – Good evening,**  
Dr Phil Norrey, the County Council's Chief Executive made a statement on Climate Change after Chairing a meeting last week of stakeholders from across the County. He said: "These are facts. This is a climate

emergency, and as Chief Executives of Devon's public service providers, we have a duty on behalf of all of our organisations and those who we represent to commit to action now.

Chief Executives and Directors from nearly 20 public and private sector organisations in Devon, have given with one voice their unhindered commitment to tackling the climate emergency. Public bodies, business representatives and utility companies – all members of a new Devon Climate Emergency Response Group – have been asked to support urgent action on the climate emergency. They unanimously agreed to collaborate, committing each organisation to review their own carbon reduction plans and to work together on a Devon-wide carbon plan.

Dr Norrey said: "We know that climate change has the potential to seriously damage human welfare and the environment and has already caused civil unrest. I am acutely mindful that no single organisation can address this issue alone, nor can local organisations and communities bring about the scale of change necessary without substantial national government intervention. Our younger generation has sent a very passionate message in response to the climate emergency. Action is needed more than words. This is the first time that major organisations in the county have stood behind that call and in one voice agreed to act now."

An informal consultation is being held by Devon County Council on a permit scheme to manage work on the county's road network. The Department for Transport (DfT) requires all local authorities to have a scheme in operation by April 2020.

The County Council is planning a formal public consultation later this year, starting in September, but it's currently carrying out preliminary work to develop how the scheme will operate. A number of information roadshows are being held in May and June. Although these events are only for companies working on the highway, the County Council is inviting views from everyone

A permit scheme would enable Devon County Council to improve the management of work on the public highway and support the co-ordination of roadworks. This would help minimise delays and disruption which would also lessen the impact on local communities.

Under the scheme, anyone wanting to carry out work on the public highway would have to apply for a permit, and the County Council would either approve or reject the application, or propose conditions on the work.

The aim is to introduce the permit scheme in January 2020 – initially for utility providers, and then for people carrying out other licensed work such as the use of skips and scaffolds.

Finally, on the Farms Estate we are always keen to see diversification so when Sarah Mortimore and her family recently moved to Devon County Council's Moorhouse Farm, a 100-acre livestock starter farm near Bovey Tracey we were delighted to see she has set up Workforce Pilates. An NHS physiotherapist by day, Sarah was keen to use her skills to help farmers, and others with similarly demanding jobs, keep fit and stay well physically and mentally.

She says: "Farming requires plenty of physical activity so it's crucial to remain in good shape. The days are long, and the work load extensive, with heavy lifting and long periods operating machinery. These pressures mean many farmers suffer injury or long-lasting pain from back issues, stiff shoulders and poor joint mobility.

Pilates is a great way to help as it uses your own body weight to increase strength, so you don't need any specific equipment and the exercises can be easily adapted for all age ranges and abilities. The youngest is in his late twenties, and there are a few who are nearly 70.

The group is just for men, so they feel more comfortable and can just come and explore how their body moves, the different ways they can benefit from this sort of exercise and do as much or as little as they want. The classes are designed so they can use some of the practices and skills in their everyday life on the farm.

With stress and poor mental health among the top challenges facing farmers, Sarah's Pilates classes are about more than just improving physical fitness, they offer real mental health benefits too.

Gun emplacement railings are in place – still awaiting mesh, this was previous discussed with the Parish Council regarding contributing – can this still be the case.

## **8. Teignbridge District Councillor's Report: *Teignbridge District Councillors Report May 2019***

*As per the last edition of the parish magazine my thanks again to everyone who again voted me in to continue as Shaldon and Stokeinteignheads District Councillor on Teignbridge. Also, I promised*

*in this report to give a full update of where we are on various issues in the village that are on-going.*

*Firstly the Botanical Gardens, the Capital Lottery Grant of circa £400k runs out on the 1st Nov. Rather strangely the gardeners wages were found from that grant( wages paid out of a capital grant unusual) for the past three years and now the gardens are in a wonderful condition, the best ever in my lifetime, I would say. At this point I would like to pay tribute to the retiring Chairman of the Friends for the past 12 years, Lisa Pash without whose time and drive with the Friends this would in my opinion never have occurred. Many have therefore asked how are we going to keep the Gardens to the current level of upkeep? I have spoken with a well-respected lead officer at TDC and he believes that should our Shaldon Parish Council wish to top up what level of maintenance TDC normally do, keeping Gary the current gardener on, the parish would have to put in a contribution of somewhere between £5000 to £6000 pa. I have no reason to doubt this officer at TDC and believe as a parish we should run with this proposal. This would mean till April 2020, that's six months, half of the £5000/£6000 would have to be found and as we put aside £6000 for weeding the village which we largely never spent last year, we should run with this solution.*

*Now to the footpath that serves Coast View, on TDCs approach golf course. As you know this path has been temporary closed causing much debate. I am pleased to report having spoken with the owner of Coast View Park, that he is ready to pay himself for the improvements needed to properly fund a safe footpath on TDCs property, on the seaward side of the existing hedge, to serve his customers to enable them to get to the village safely. These improvements are considerable, a 100 metre wire fence, to deflect any wayward golf balls from injuring anyone, plus a maintenance contract of the fence being a part of the scheme. Unfortunately, the work on this cannot start till September because the existing hedge needs to be cut back for creation of the path, and we are now in the bird nesting season. The owner of the park reported to me that he is well pleased with the officers work at TDC on this project to date and therefore I have every reason to believe we have a positive outcome whereby the council tax payers are not having to fund the improvements and final creation of a safe footpath.*

*Now to Shaldon Beach, as you know SPC has been involved for about the last 5 years in the management of Shaldon Beach under a loose heads up arrangement with TDC. SPC have been involved in trying to resolve this matter seeking a licence rather than a lease to manage Shaldon Beach. This has and is proving difficult to finalise. On Shaldon Beach there are 85 regatta or similar type dinghies, 10 Seine Boats and up to 40 sailing dinghies. Most owners of the 85 rowing dinghies have been happy to pay a voluntary contribution of £25 pa to keeping the beach clean, with someone to weed it and another person to keep the shoreline clean and tidy too, as well as the annual sand movement tidy up involving plant machinery organised by SPC. The current sticking point is the official arrangement that the sailing club have with TDC. Currently for up to 40 boats the sailing club are officially charged just £250 pa (the only occupants to have an official arrangement with TDC) and TDC want to increase this charge to £70 pa for a dinghy. On 40 dinghies that would be an increase of from £250 pa to £2800 pa. As member of SSC myself I can say little other than present the facts. All I would say however it seems sensible that either a*

*voluntary contribution of £25 pa per boat or an official charge, in the case of SSC, £25 pa per boat seems the obvious solution to me, all being treated the same. What TDC seem to be happy about is whatever is finally agreed with TDC, that that income should go to the parish to help with their work in keeping a clean and tidy beach, which we all in Shaldon should be proud about. The last thing I want to see not happen is, for TDC to step in and take over which is being talked about right now at TDC, with a permit and fee to pay at a higher rate than our current donation we make to SPC. Hence yesterday our Chairman plus councillor Geoff Hobbs and myself met with officers of TDC to try and find a way forward. The outcome was that TDC would again review the terms of what would have to be a lease and allow SPC hopefully to manage the entire beach. My belief is that SPC are best placed to manage Shaldon Beach. Even now we are working towards a betterment of Shaldon Beach foreshore, with an application to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) to try and get more sand shingle back onto a very denuded rocky foreshore, more of this I will report when I know how our initial application has been received by the MMO.*

*Finally, as your parish road warden too, I can report together with the help of my parish council colleagues potholes continue to be fixed, some 37 to date in Shaldon and Ringmore.....the fun continues filling them! Chris Clarence*

#### **9. Parish Councillor's Reports**

(TOD) Plexus presentation and faster broadband in Shaldon they have come back to me to say that there is no government funding available – so am I right in thinking this will be a no from the Parish Council to take it any further. Yes.

- 10. Budget and accounts:** (a) to approve and adopt the monthly accounts. Approved (DW) & (CC) unanimously approved.
- 11. Update regarding Teignmouth Air Show** – Shaldon Parish Council attended the weekly meeting – we will need to speak with Itus regarding the road closures (this is the company that deal with our Bonfire and Firework evening) We can do a bucket collection to help towards the expenses that we will incur. TAGSA at TDC {Mr Bove} we will speak with him at TDC to ask his advice on how much we need to do as this is not our event.
- 12. Beach Lease:** The sailing club lease seems to be causing TDC a concern. Shaldon Parish Council would like to take over the sailing boat area. Agreement to be sought and boat registration form completed. We can then issue stickers to everyone.  
Currently according to Teignbridge, the Sailing Club have not replied to correspondence or paid so they no longer have a lease. (TOD) we could set up the administration but going forward I would like to see the beach donations going into a separate bank account. (TB) The lease is not a given, TDC need to sort out the sailing club first.
- 13. Sand Movement** – The MMO Licence has been applied for, we will come back to you when further information is available.

- 14. KG5 Playpark – (TOD)** We met with Donna Best from Estates to see if it is feasible for SPC to lease just the play park footprint for 20 years which is as long as a new piece of equipment is guaranteed for. The maintenance of the remaining area of KG5 field would still be with TDC. The main concerns for SPC is cost of Insuring the Play Park and the necessary qualifications for the 2 weekly inspections. Clerk to find out more information and put back on agenda for next month. The Clerk has spoken to TDC and they have said that SPC need to start negotiations with them to start the lease process. She has asked them if they are prepared to carry out the Annual Inspection? If a member of Ringmore and Shaldon playpark Committee completed the Bi Monthly inspections this would mean a ROSPA qualification is needed. SPC are in agreement to take on the footprint so now over to the negotiations.
- 16.** Date of next meeting 25th June 2019 6.45pm at the Methodist Hall.
- 17. Public comment – None, meeting Closed 9.22pm**