

SHALDON PARISH COUNCIL (SPC)

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held in the Methodist Church Hall on
Tuesday September 24th 2019 starting 6.45pm to transact the business below

SPC Present: Cllr Tim Biddlestone (TB) chairing this meeting; Cllr Tim O Donnell (TO) Cllr G Hobbs (GH) Cllr Chris Clarance (CC) Cllr D Westlake (DWest) Cllr A Burnham (AB) Cllr D Woodward (DW)

Councillor Alistair Dewhurst (DCC)
Karen Turner (Clerk)
Prayers Rev Catherine Wagstaff

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Declaration of conflicts of interest –** None
3. **To approve the minutes of the meeting of 24th July 2019:** Approved (CC) & (GH)
4. **Matters arising from (a) minutes of 24th July 2019:** None **(b) Letters and emails written:** None
5. **Hand gathering of shellfish at the Salty –** Standing orders were suspended and thanks given to everyone who had taken the time to attend. The Chairman started by saying that years ago this use to Police itself with people gathering the cockles for their own personal use but now it's a question of people just getting a few/it is people coming from a long distance away and organised gathering. It is not just cockles.
Sarah Clarke IFCA we are aware of the reports of hand gathers at the Salty, the bye law does not include closing the bed on Cockles. Mussel stock is currently 0, in November we will be looking at the stock of Cockles. We do come down often to talk to people there are locals and people from afar, we are looking at the Bye Laws at hand working at the moment, we have gone out to consultation to find out people's concerns and to gather information. In November we will be meeting as a subcommittee our Committee is made up of about 36 members and the sub Committee is 15. We are looking to potentially put in a bye law regarding hand gathering for the stock to be managed if indeed they do need managing. So, through the sub committee and consultation we could introduce a personal allowance per person per day that is what we are looking at, at the moment. That is what we are looking at at this moment in time. That will be across the board we will be looking at a permit £20 per year so what our Sub Committee have to decide is do we go through the same route as going down the permits or whether then decide there is a minimal level and any stock above that amount they will have to have a permit. Those thoughts are going on at the moment we have a sub committee meeting in November and February. The Teign is not a designated Marine site it isn't a Marine Conservation site we have trouble with the Exe. Our members have to decide what measures they think will be appropriate, to manage those activities then those measures will go out for consultation, so we are working on it. It may not be as quick as you would like it to be, but it has to go through a process. The Consultation has to be six weeks they are our legal duties then potentially will have a management mechanism in place. It will not be overnight, but it will be within the next 6 – 12 months. That is as much as I can say. It is difficult to determine the attention of the hand pickers. Whether it is for their own use or whether it is going into the food change.
What we need from you? Is continued reporting so we have evidence based and we can go to our members. It is not just here in Shaldon, we are working on it and we are concerned.
Gavin Environmental Health TDC – I have been doing a lot of shellfish work since 2013 it is not straightforward. Miss information does not help. Cockles, anybody can collect cockles it is a rule of thumb that anyone can collect 5KG per person per day. I come done routinely explaining the rules of

thumb I am not saying that everything is legitimate. What we need to target and focus on is the large groups of people, people that are being dropped off in a van, and people that are going backwards and forwards with buckets that is what I want to know about. I am interested in the food market but also for illegal working and slave working. At this moment in time it is about intelligence gathering. If people tell me they are gathering for personal consumption I can't, follow them all the way back the M5 to see if this is the case. What I can do is take any information and any information I get and feed it back to the right authorities and partners. My reason for being here today is please do keep feeding the information in.

It must be accurate information. I have heard a lot of this goes back in Chinese restaurants this is not true. They have prawns on the menu not general shellfish. We are not just interested in people outside of the area we are interested in people from in the area.

Sergeant Ross Teignmouth Police role in this is primarily to prevent breach of the peace and make sure that these people can go about their enquires with out abuse from the people they are questioning. Secondly for vulnerability make sure people are not being subject to modern slavery or subject to people trafficking.

Humphrey Vincent Assistant Harbour Master – yes, we do lease ground from Crown Estate, but we do not have any derestriction on the shellfish, that is down to IFCA any call to us would be better placed to IFCA.

The main concerns raised regarding the cockles from members of the Public

-5KG allowance against a much larger bucket that is being used – more commercial sized.

-One person with large buckets in each arm struggling back is that really personal consumption.

-If we don't do something about it aren't, we in the danger of leaving it too late destroying the food for the wildlife?

-Years ago, there were 150 people raking cockles, every pub sold cockles and 4 shellfish bars in the area they all used the cockles from the foreshore you are not losing any more than you use to lose. I believe as a fisherman the regulations do not need to be totally hard otherwise everybody will not be able to make a living.

IFCA spoke on a limit for each person and asked for the information to be feed into them if this is what you want to see. We need people to join in with any consultation that we may have, if you wish to write to us that is another form of evidence. We need feedback on what you think we can do rather than on what we are doing.

-Signage – no sign no crime

-The people that are spoken too know 5Kilo and say no commercial when someone recites an excuse without prompting that is not a sign of innocents. They seem to have been educated. What we can't have is a set of new rules that create more criminals. We have to get to the real people that are causing real damage. IFCA & TDC need more resource. It needs to be policed.

-Car Park activity in Shoreside transferring buckets to cars then at the end of the bridge transferred cockles to a different vehicle, none of the people that where raking got into that car?

-Under the old by law cockles were not included at that time but with a new by law we would be able to introduce it for all species. So, unless something changes, we cannot police anything. IFCA until we potentially bring in a bylaw, what can we do?

IFCA as said previously we need evidence, support the consultation and it is to be included in the November sub committee meeting. Please write into us or email us.

Email: office@devonandsevernifca.gov.uk

Phone: 01803 854648

Out Of Hours: 07740175479

Address: Brixham Laboratory, Freshwater Quarry,
Brixham, Devon TQ5 8BA.

6. Planning meeting: See separate minutes

7. Correspondence:

Safer Together Programme – Fire Service – SPC were asked to complete the consultation. Clerk posted on Facebook page prior to meeting to meet deadline.

Windbreaks regarding Shaldon Regatta – SPC discussed the matter but there are no enforceable laws regarding windbreaks.

8. Devon County Councillors Report: County Councillor's Parish Council Report 24th September – Shaldon

Good evening.

Devon has maintained its status as one of the top recycling counties in England, recycling 56% of household waste. The latest 2018/2019 draft figures show an increase of 2% when compared to the previous year.

Of the eight Devon districts Torridge saw the biggest increase from 41.2% to 51.3% and Teignbridge remains at number 2 just behind East Devon. This follows the introduction of a fortnightly residual waste collection in Torridge from a weekly one and separate food waste and garden waste collection. The figures also show that despite an increase in the number of homes overall waste growth has decreased slightly by -0.1%. This means that Devon residents are throwing away less waste – 'dustbin' waste is down by 6472 tonnes.

It's important to view waste as a resource, a material that can be reused, and not just something to be thrown away, that's why we are really encouraging residents to please keep up the good work and carry on reducing, reusing and recycling.

Stover Country Park celebrated the completion of a giant reedbed designed to attract an array of wildlife as well as help to keep water clean. The sustainable scheme, which has delivered an impressive 3,800 square metres of reeds at the park just off the A38 is the result of a ground-breaking partnership project between Highways England, Stover Country Park and Devon County Council. Natural England also supported the work.

The reeds act as a filter, capturing and filtering water run-off from the A38 and Drumbridges roundabout before it enters the lake. Water can carry pollutants such as oil and metal residue into the lake and this has contributed to the poor water quality and reduced diversity of wildlife in the lake.

The reeds have been planted upstream of the lake to act as a natural barrier and filter pollutants. They will also provide valuable habitat for a range of wildlife. At the same time, the park, which is designated as a Local Nature Reserve and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), will be improving sustainable drainage at the site. Planting was completed in April and already many areas of reeds have reached a height of 30cm.

A new Government report calling for a nationwide ban on pavement parking has been welcomed by the County Council. The Transport Committee is recommending that a new civil offence of obstructive pavement parking is created, and that enforcement becomes the responsibility of local authorities.

The report states that in the long term a ban on pavement parking should be put in place across England, outside of London where pavement parking has been banned since 1974. The Committee is recommending the Government launch an awareness campaign on the issue, and that a full consultation is held with local authorities about how to make the process of enforcement easier and more cost effective.

The Government has been looking at the issue of pavement parking since 2015 and the Transport Committee's report criticises the Department for Transport saying action "to tackle the problem of pavement parking has been slow", leaving some communities "blighted by unsightly and obstructive pavement parking". People with mobility difficulties, visual impairments and those who care for others are adversely affected by pavement parking.

Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) has announced the decision to end Gigaclear's five contracts to deliver full-fibre broadband in Devon and Somerset. CDS intends to launch a fresh procurement on the open market this autumn, commencing a tender process to identify new providers of these services.

Gigaclear had earlier been placed on notice of default after failing to meet contract targets set in early 2018 for the number of homes and businesses connected. The company, under new ownership since last summer, had incurred significant delays with its broadband roll-out due to previous failings and the collapse of Carillion in early 2018.

CDS has withheld public subsidy while Gigaclear has been attempting to produce a satisfactory recovery plan.

A top team of environmental experts, community representatives and business leaders has been assembled to deliver Devon's Carbon Plan, the county's roadmap to carbon neutrality.

The formation of the new Net-Zero Task Force follows the latest meeting of the Devon Climate Emergency Response Group (DCERG), made up of the chief officers of more than 25 public, private and voluntary sector organisations.

And following Devon County Council pledging £250,000 to help deliver the plan the authority is advertising for a Climate Emergency Project Manager, to coordinate and manage the Devon-wide response to the declaration of climate emergencies by various local authorities and organisations across the county.

The Net-Zero Task Force will be chaired by Professor Patrick Devine-Wright of the University of Exeter, an environmental social scientist. He specialises in researching issues of social acceptance and community engagement with sustainable energy transitions and is a non-Executive Director of Exeter Community Energy. He is a Lead Author for the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, currently contributing to the 6th Assessment Report due for publication in 2021.

The Task Force is comprised of 12 core members with interests in environment, business, academia and health. They will be supported by advisory members.

The other members are

- Iain Stewart, Professor of Geoscience Communication and Director of the Sustainable Earth Institute at the University of Plymouth, and President of the Devon Wildlife Trust.
- Kerry Hayes is the marine and offshore energy sector lead at Regen.
- Nik Bowyer is Chair of the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation South West Region. He is an Associate Director at AECOM.
- Hannah Lawrie is Chair of the South West Council of the Chartered Institution of Wastes Management and is an Associate Director within Ricardo Energy & Environment's Resource Efficiency and Waste Management practice.

- Laura Cardenas is an Atmospheric Chemist at Rothamsted Research in Devon. She is a key contributor to the Defra inventory of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions.
- James Shorten is a geographer and planner at Geo Consultants with nearly 30 years of work on the planning system and sustainable development.
- Tim Jones is Chairman of the South West Business Council and Chair of the North Devon UNESCO Biosphere Foundation.
- Gill Westcott is Co-Chair of Transition Exeter and a Director of New Prosperity Devon.
- Ian Hutchcroft is Chair of Plymouth Energy Community. His current focus is with the ZebCat Project, trialling a Dutch retrofit model in Devon called Energiesprong.
- Elaine Cook is the Chief Executive at Devon Communities Together, the rural community council for Devon.
- Suzanne Goodfellow is an ecologist and environmentalist who has worked in conservation for over 30 years, mostly with Dartmoor National Park Authority where she was Director and led on climate change. Currently, Sue is the Chair of Devon Wildlife Trust.

9. Teignbridge District Councillor's Report: *As a former Devon County Councillor, one of my outside appointments was representing DCC of the IFCA (Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority). I had a pretty good insight on how IFCA operated for the four years I was on the IFCA. I was in turn tasked to sit on the bye laws subcommittee who met on a regular basis. With this in mind I believe it should be possible to implement a bye law asking IFCA to implement one. IFCA have to run a consultation before any such bye law is implemented.*

Having spoken with a shellfish retailer in Teignmouth, he and I felt this should be done by weight. Approximately two thirds of a cockle by weight is a shell the remaining third you eat, thus if you were to implement a bye law I believe we should be looking at no more than one kilo of cockles(2.2lbs)per person per day allowed to be removed from Salty. Such a weight of cockles collected should provide pretty well a helping for two people and prevent gangs from collecting cockles making this no longer commercially viable anymore, as the weight limit per person should prevent this.

Further to other issues another eight potholes have been filled. Five in Combe Rd, close to the entrance to Long Lane, two in Strand, that is one near the Ferryboat Inn and another by West Bay House, with a final one in School Lane, bringing the total now to 52 fixed.

Holiday Parks SW, Josh Donald at Coast View, have kindly agreed to be one of our sponsors for our Bonfire and Fireworks Night on 2nd Nov, to the tune of £500, a big thank you for this, so with this in mind we head towards another successful night.

TDC are no longer accepting cheques as from 1st July and this is seen as not helpful to our parish council who rely on that method of payment.

Our clerk will make a decision on how and when to pay the £3k due to TDC for the retention of our full-time gardener in the Botanicals which will take us up to the end of March for starters. Finally, floodlighting properly, the Ness Headland, from 24th May till the 30th Sept, is being looked at, as currently one of the three tripods is out of action. Hopefully at the start of next season the floodlighting will be improved for next year.

Chris Clarence

10. Parish Councillor's Reports

(TB) The previously removed seats are nearly finished. They look lovely. We need to put some slabs in place at the Green for a base for them to stand on. The new notice board needs varnishing will be completed in the next couple of weeks. I would like to say thank you to Cllr Derek Woodward for overseeing the weeding programme in Shaldon, we are now progressing well and will only see improvements as the time goes on.

(TOD) I asked the Clerk to chase TDC to see if they had decided yet for SPC to take on the KGV Playpark footprint, the Clerk reported that we would not have an answer until nearer the end of the year.

(GH) Beauty Hut the windows have been replaced with wooden frames.

(AD) The School road markings will be done soon unfortunately there is only one contractor who covers this area and he will get to Shaldon soon.

11. **Budget and accounts:** (a) to approve and adopt the monthly accounts. unanimously approved. (b) SPC will consider if a debit card can be applied for regarding payments to TDC. (c) Clerks holiday noted.
12. **Beach Lease Update** – The Clerk has spoken with Chris Smith at TDC, still slowly progressing but not yet signed.
13. **Dinghy Update on Renewal registrations** – The Clerk reported that 18 renewal forms were still outstanding although 4 of the 18 had made contact, further chasing needed to ensure forms are returned and to remind those who have not replied run the risk of being asked to remove their dinghies. (TOD) This needs addressing perhaps we can set up an Application for next year, so people are responsible for registering their own renewals and ensuring their contact details remain up to date.
14. **Bonfire & Firework evening** – just to remind everyone that volunteers are needed to ensure the success of the evening and a team for the clearing up on the Sunday morning please.
15. Date of next meeting 22nd October 2019 6.45pm at the Methodist Hall.
16. **Public comment – none**

PART TWO Shaldon Parish Councillors only, regarding erecting items in the village for celebrations.

Meeting Closed 9.38 pm