

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 29th July 2009:

The Council met in the Village Hall @ 7.30pm. There was an attendance of 8 Parish Councillors, 7 Parishoners, District Councillor Mrs D. O'Callaghan, Sir Simon Day, Mrs R. Skirton & Mrs N. Lamble.

Apologies for absence: Mrs G. Doyle & Mrs S. Howells

Open Forum: Mr Peter Everitt gave a presentation regarding his planning application for School Cottage explaining what alterations he would like to make, whilst maintaining it's original character. The Chairman thanked him for taking the time to come along to the meeting.

Mr J. Laphorn (parishoner) representing the Rev. Osler and the PCC raised the question of the possibility of siting a car park where the school playground is currently. It would be purely for the use of the Church. He came along to ask whether the Parish Council would support such an application. The Chairman asked if we could come back to this subject later in the meeting as there are other issues regarding the Village that could encompass this request.

Mrs M. Kitt raised concerns about the amount of vehicles parking on the pavement below the Village Hall and on the corner of the road. It is extremely dangerous not only to other vehicles but to pedestrians. It was suggested that we contact Highways Dept. to see if anything can be done.

Mr A. Clarke raised further concerns about the Church wall bulging and that with the amount of rain we have had lately there is water seeping out. One Parishoner seemed to think that a surveyor may have been looking at the wall today. It was agreed that we contact Mr A. Smythe regarding the progress of the planned works.

Invited Guests: Mrs R. Skirton & Mrs N. Lamble:

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Skirton and Mrs Lamble to the meeting to hear some of the comments and concerns over future communications between the Parish Council and the School. The Parish Council has a responsibility to keep communications going as the school does rent land etc from the Council and since Mr D. Dainty has resigned from the Governing body we have lost our direct link to the school. We want to work closely with Charleton Parish Council so that the two schools will have a strong link. It was felt it would be nice to have more of an involvement, to ensure a good working relationship. West Alvington needs to retain the school as we have lost all our other assets, ie: the shop and the pub. Mrs Skirton suggested that we write to Mr Reg Rew the Chairman of the new

Governing Body and put a proposal forward once the new committee is in place. She suggested we could ask for quarterly reports to be submitted to the Parish Council so that we are always fully informed. Sir Simon Day offered his help in any way he could. Mr J. Laphorn thought that perhaps we were looking on the pessimistic side and should be more confident that communications would continue as they were before. Mrs O'Callaghan suggested that as Malborough and Stokenham Primary Schools were already amalgamated we should enquire as to how they work with their Parish Councils.

District Councillor – Mrs D. O'Callaghan: Reported that following the requests for disabled access on West Alvington unfortunately nothing can be done, the slope is too steep according to the report by the Highways engineer. She is going to look into funding for new Village Halls and how to finance them. The concessionary bus passes can now be used after 9.00am instead of 9.30am for Stagecoach buses, Tally Ho will still be 9.30am. The application for the new skatepark has been withdrawn and revised until further discussions regarding the security fencing have been held.

Appointment to Village Organisations – (deferred from the last Meeting)

It was resolved that Mr D. Dainty once again be appointed as representative for the Council at the Church. All in favour.

It was proposed that in her absence Mrs G. Doyle be appointed as representative for the Village Hall. All in favour.

It was resolved that Mr B. Toms once again be appointed as the representative to undertake the P3 position. All in favour.

Other representatives are as follows:

Parish Fun Day -	Mrs L Lawrence & Mr A. Clarke
Parish Social Activities –	Mrs S. Howells
Best Kept Garden Competition -	Mr D. Dainty
Parish Web site-	Mr S. Wright
Parish Work Parties-	Mr A. Palmer
Parish Open Spaces-	Mr D. Horton
Parish Allotments – None at present	Mrs F. Newsham

Minutes: The Minutes of the last Meeting being the A.G.M held on 22nd May 2009 were confirmed and signed. Copies thereof having been supplied to each Councillor prior to the Meeting.

Matters Arising:

a. Street Light for the Town Park Car Park: The Chairman reported that the cost for this would amount to £2,449.83. Sir Simon Day has very kindly agreed to give a donation towards the costs. The Chairman asked if this matter could be left until the next Meeting to ratify the details once we have this in writing.

b. Main Road Parking: The Chairman reported that there are ongoing discussions with Devon Highways. The suggestion of widening the footpath is unlikely to happen, as it is thought that this will push the traffic further out into the path of oncoming vehicles. As for the problems with Woodlane regarding the exit of vehicles although this is a private road they are going to come up with a proposal which may alleviate some of the difficulties. We await their report.

Local Development Framework and the results of the Parish Meeting regarding this matter: The Chairman opened this part of the meeting by giving a brief summary of the Parish Development meeting held in the village hall on 9th July 2009. Minutes taken parish Plan then during this meeting had been distributed amongst all those that attended and given to each Councillor. The Chairman explained that if we were to follow the results of the Parish Plan then a Development scheme should be adopted and put forward to the South Hams Council. If Kingsbridge were to take the whole allocation West Alvington would receive nothing.

Mr Clarke raised the question of occupancy and would we have the right to say who would be allocated the houses. Mr Dainty asked what the boundaries were, would it apply to the South Hams Council. We need to maintain the affordability for local residents.

In the ensuing debate the four sites were discussed. Mr Horton declared an interest and was unable to vote.

It was decided that the pink area be dismissed, all in favour of this

It was decided that the blue area be dismissed, all in favour of this.

Yellow area 6 in favour

Green area 1 in favour 4 against

It was resolved to adopt the area shaded in Yellow as the preferred option to be included in the South Hams Council Local Development Plan

Chairman's Report: The Chairman reported that he had attended a recent Saltstone Meeting. We have complained to Devon Highways about the amount of weed on the verges and pavements in and around the Village. Apparently they have a new chemical weed killer that is kind to the wildlife unfortunately it doesn't kill the weeds either!

Resurfacing works are to take place at Woolston on a patch and repair basis next year it will be re scalped. Lower Street to Longfields is to be patch repaired and again re

scalped next year. Unitary Devon, the target date was 15th July but as there were legal challenges from other districts the whole scheme has now been put on hold. The Chairman attended a meeting organised by the Princes Foundation, it was a whole days event where by discussions took place regarding the future plans for housing et in Kingsbridge. Part of the plan was to “redesign” Kingsbridge to encompass the desired new houses. It was suggested that all of the industrial 195 premises be relocated and their land be used to meet the criteria for housing needs.

Parish Reports:

a. Church: Mr D. Dainty reported that the Rev. Osler had now taken up residence in Thurlestone Vicarage and that the vicarage in West Alvington was being let to a young family. He also mentioned the car park proposal mentioned earlier in the meeting by Mr J Laphorn. The Church are to introduce a loop system for the hard of hearing for its services. The PCC are having a toilet installed in the Church to meet new legal requirements. It is hoped that the Church wall will be repaired soon.

b. School: The official opening of the canopy took place and it is hoped that this will continue to be a very useful area. The appearance of it has been well received generally. The leavers service was an excellent occasion despite it being Mr Butlers final farewell. He has left the school with a good legacy in art, music and digital photography.

The Chairman thanked Mr Dainty on behalf of the Council for his commitment to the school over the last 38 years as a member of the Governing Body.

Village Hall: Mrs G. Doyle was unable to attend the Meeting. However, it was noted that there appeared to be no fire policy. Mr Dainty and Mr T. Reeves are about to undertake this.

Parish Beating of the Bounds Event: In Mrs S. Howells absence the Chairman gave a report. The event was well attended and everyone seemed to have a good day, Mrs Howells organised a lovely buffet lunch on their return which was appreciated by everyone.

Best Kept Garden Competition: Mr D. Dainty reported that this had turned out to be quite good fun. Although the judges were rather serious. The winners names were posted on the noticeboard and it is hoped this will be the start of an annual event. The Chairman thanked Mr Dainty for his hard work.

Parish Fun Day: Mr A. Clarke reported that he and Mrs L. Lawrence were making good progress with the organisation of the event. The date for this will be Saturday 19th September. The following stalls have been arranged:-

Book, Tombola, Lucky dip, Wheel of Fortune, Snail racing, Bric a brac, Raffle, cake stall, cream teas, darts competition, BBQ, stocks, Mano- crepes, hunt the mice, guess

the weight of the duck, school to organise some races. Face painting, pimms stall, and fancy dress with a nautical history theme. We will need certificates for the races, prizes for fancy dress and competitions, someone to take some photos.

The tourist information have been asked to promote our event and we will put an advert in the Gazette along with lots of posters. Any profit from the day will be put in the “coffers” and we will decide from there what to do with it.

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Parish Website: All is continuing well with the website and we continue to have regular hits.

Parish History Initiative: Mr B Toms approached the Chairman about the possibility of the school children meeting with the older members of the Parish and recording some of their old tales with the idea of producing a book. It would be nice to record some of the history of the Village through their stories and memories. Mr Toms has pledged £50 to get the project started, and it was felt that the Parish Council could match this. It was suggested that we talk to the new Headteacher and get her views on such a project.

Planning Decisions:

a. Dr & Mrs Morris: Grant of Planning Permission for alterations to dwelling and extension to domestic curtilage at The Shippen, Butts Farm, West Alvington.

b. Mr S. Wright: Grant of Planning Permission for erection of an agricultural workshop and store at Oldaway Barn, West Alvington.

Financial Report:

The Clerk reported the following balances:

Lloyds TSB	Current Account	1.787:73
Lloyds TSB	Savings Account	112:33
Lloyds TSB	Parish Plan Fund	647:55
Abbey National	P3 Account	378:83

Cheques to be drawn:

Prize Money for Best Kept Garden Competition	210:00
Village Hall	20:00
Nicola Fox	40:00
Audit Commission	161:00
DAPC Subscription	104:20

Repairs to the bench & a new noticeboard: We have received a quote for the repairs to the bench, it will cost £81.89. Everyone was in favour that the work should go

ahead. The new noticeboard to be sited at Tacket Wood will cost £215:00. Six were in favour and there was one abstention. It was agreed that the work should go ahead.

A.O.B. by direction of the Chairman: The Chairman reported that we had received an invoice from the Diocese Registry for the consecration of the new burial site. We were under the impression that the PCC were going to meet the costs so we had
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forwarded the invoice to them, they on the other hand thought that the Parish Council were meeting the costs. It was resolved that we contact the Diocese Registry for confirmation and also to challenge the amount that they are requesting for payment. Two cars have been removed from the car park because they were untaxed. Nothing seems to be happening with the pub.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 9.30pm. The date of the next Meeting to be confirmed as we have to change the date as it clashes with the Harvest Supper.

Signed..... Dated.....

(The Meeting will now be held on Friday 2nd October 2009 @ 7.30pm)