

RATTERY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting Held Tuesday 25th November 2008 at Rattery Village Hall
Meeting Commenced 7.30pm

Present - Cllr P Smerdon (Chairman), Cllr A Coker, Cllr J Hampton, Cllr B Evans, Cllr M Daymond (from item 3), Cllr Mrs B Palk (Vice-Chairman), D Cllr C Jones, C Cllr T Pennington.

Attended by – 20 members of the Public & Mr John Halliday DCC Highways – Chief Assistant Engineer for Area South.

Apologies for absence – South Brent Police, Cllr S Levy.

Before the meeting began – Chairman – Cllr P Smerdon confirmed that item Re: Traffic speeds on the A385 would be dealt with under Item 3 to allow Parishioners to speak.

1) Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 14th October 2008.

The minutes of the above meetings have been distributed to Cllrs and read, they were proposed by Cllr J Hampton and seconded by Vice-Chair – Cllr Mrs B Palk with all in agreement and duly signed by the Chairman – Cllr P Smerdon.

2) Police Report / Neighbourhood Watch – Vice-Chair – Cllr Mrs B Palk - nothing to report for Neighbourhood Watch, she confirmed that she had been unable to attend the meetings as they have clashed with Parish Council meetings. Chairman – Cllr P Smerdon – Written Police report received – in the last month 17 incident logs – two crimes – Burglary and a Domestic Incident, Parishioners please be vigilant as there have been a spate of day time burglaries within the South Hams.

3) **Parishioners Question Time** - (15 minutes) extended to include item 6c).

Mr John Halliday from DCC - Chief Assistant Engineer for Area South - deals with all roads in the area except for the A38, been involved in highways in the South Hams for 13 years and aware that the A385 has been a source of concern for many years. Accident and speed statistics have been looked at and speed by viaduct - east bound average over a week was 40.7mph (85 percentile 48mph) and west bound towards Marley Head 36.7mph (85 percentile 44mph). They are average speeds and around 2500 vehicles per day in volume going in each direction. These are the figures that have to be worked on in policy terms and policy is set by government as it is at present and speed limit in rural areas is generally the national speed limit and 30mph in towns or a community 30mph which is 20 accesses onto the road in question.

Parishioners comments -

30mph speed limit wanted ? - not in alignment with national policy so it cannot be done.

Totnes to Dartington - 30mph limit all the way through now? - this was in response to a survey done by South Hams Community Transport, this was against the policy but since this speed limit has been imposed there have been more crashes than when the 40mph limit was in force.

Elderly not safe to walk along the A385? - this does not mean that the speed limit has to be reduced in this area.

Can this be a special case because of the fact that there is no pavement? - the guidelines are just the same with or without a pavement.

What can be done? - at present the national policy and evidence put forward does not constitute a speed limit to be put on it.

Can this part of the Parish be perceived as a Village? - local policy dictates that it is not a village being the outer part of Rattery.

Could a footpath be provided? - there is no possible way a footpath could be provided as it would cost several million pounds.

The bridge by Culver Park Nurseries needs to be observed as there are many scrapes occurring daily here?

When would DCC change their mind on a speed limit - when the number of accidents which are much more severe occur?

Can any traffic signs be used which can be put along this stretch of road? - the signs that are already in situ are deemed to be adequate with government policy.

Reactive signage? - these are to be deployed where there have been a series of accidents to a particular hazard.

Bridge signage? - this will be looked at by the traffic team to see if it can be improved also maybe Bus Stop signs on the roads to denote where the 2 bus stops are situated.

Mr Halliday will take the concerns back to the DCC senior colleagues and voice the Parishioners concerns., but they are all bound by the policies that they have.

4) District and County Councillors Reports.

a) **C Cllr T Pennington** – reported as follows: - Dartington New School work has now started - costing around 7 million pounds, looking at providing a link between Bidwell Brook and the new school which is being pursued. Village Hall - £28,000 grant application has been submitted and the grant application has been acknowledged. £15,000 has been granted for Staverton and also £40,000 for South Brent Primary School enable scheme.

Task group on Religious Education in Secondary Schools - it is a requirement that they provide some in each schools, this encompasses personal social and moral development also now not just bible studies. Quarry Buckfastleigh - not on planning agenda today has been put back for further information.

Vice-Chair – Cllr Mrs B Palk - Travellers - now extending outside the boundaries of the site at Marley head - 2 horses on the side of the road one tethered and one behind an electric fence. C Cllr T Pennington will speak to gypsy and traveller liaison officer tomorrow. Bourton Lane, Littlehempston – Travellers Site will be possibly be subject to an enforcement shortly. Main Government is providing 97 million for the provision of sites.

b) **D Cllr C Jones** – South Hams magazine which has now been distributed - recycling in the district 2nd best record of any district in the county. Less waste per household to landfill than any household in the country. Local Government Review - not too late for comments which are still being accepted a recommendation to be made at the end of December 08. Budget - National Government may cut back on their settlement for District Councils because of the economy nationally. Affordable Housing - fewest houses to be built this year since the last war forecast. Affordable is provided within new development so this may cut back on the availability of these. Initiatives are being looked at to get round this - departure sites possibly will be considered and exceptions made and possibly looking at building the affordable housing part of the site and not the open market until things in the economy look better.

5) Planning Applications & Decisions.

Applications received from Dartmoor National Park - None.

Decisions received from Dartmoor National Park – None.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM South Hams District Council

- a) Application no 39/2064/08/F – Mr & Mrs Daymond – Allercombe Farm, Rattery – Conversion of Granary building to ancillary/holiday accommodation. Cllr M Daymond has declared an interest and left the room. No objections from the Parish Council – proposed by Cllr B Evans and seconded by Cllr J Hampton with all in agreement.
- b) Application no 39/1996/08/F – Mr A Hughes – 4 Garden Park, Rattery – Retrospective application for erection of shed to house mobility scooter and associated access works. No objections from the Parish Council – proposed by Cllr B Evans and seconded by Vice-Chair – Cllr Mrs B Palk with all in agreement.

- c) Application 39/2222/08/F - Mrs L Corbett – 2 Cherry Trees, Rattery – Amendments to planning permission 39/0492/08/F for new studio/garage to replace existing. No objections from the Parish Council – proposed by Cllr M Daymond and seconded by Cllr B Evans with all in agreement.

DECISIONS RECEIVED FROM South Hams District Council

- a) Works to Tree Preservation Order Trees – Grant of Exemption – Syon Abbey, South Brent – Remove Dead Wood from T34 Lime.
- b) SHDC Agreement that Hedgerow May be Removed – Little Well, Higher Velwell Barns, Dartington.
- c) Planning Permission Granted – Application no 39/1682/08/F – Mr Monroe – Tinca, Mill Cross, Rattery – Erection of detached garage.
- d) Planning Permission Granted – Application no 39/1023/08/F – Mrs O Seck – 4 Hood Cottages, Dartington, Totnes TQ9 6AB – Variation of condition 2 of planning approval 39/1710/04/F to allow use of garden building for Bed and Breakfast accommodation and erection of garage.

Planning Matters

- a) Devon Violet Nursery – Agricultural Tie – A reply has now been received from Dave Kenyon SHDC – all permissions are being adhered to and the property still does have an agricultural tie – NFA on this matter.

6) Matters Arising.

- a) Housing needs survey & possible housing in the Village - nothing further to report at present.
- b) Willing Lane - nothing further to report – C Cllr T Pennington will chase this matter up as it seems to be taking a very long time.
- c) A385 Speed Limit and Signage - dealt with in Public Time Item 3.
- d) Community Planning – Parish Plan – DAPC at meeting on 6th January 09 for presentation – Gregg Davies – 7.30pm. D Cllr C Jones confirmed that the Community Development Fund SHDC can give out grants towards this.
- e) Sport and Play Course – 8th December 08 – Rattery Village Hall – 2pm to 5pm – 2 spaces have been booked.
- f) Consultation – Making and enforcement of Byelaws – comments by 20th November 2008.
- g) CCD – Community Buildings Training Programme – 9th December 08 at Lustleigh Village Hall – Mrs J Smerdon will attend regards the Village Hall.

7) Correspondence.

- a) E-Mail from CCD – Car Share Schemes – None operating in Rattery Parish.
- b) E-Mail from DNPA – Travellers Site at Marley Head – This was read by Chairman – Cllr P Smerdon – a report is awaited in the New Year and progress at present is very slow.
- c) E-Mail from CCD – Small Play Groups – None operating in Rattery Parish.
- d) SHDC – Parish Remuneration Panel meeting – 2nd December 2008.
- e) SHDC – Local Government Review – What do you think? – Placed into the envelope for Cllrs perusal.
- f) Totnes & Dartmouth Ring & Ride – Request for Donation - £15.00 proposed by Cllr B Evans and seconded by Vice-Chair – Cllr Mrs B Palk with all in agreement.
- g) SHDC – Budget Meeting – 15th January 2009 – Chairman – Cllr P Smerdon to attend.
- h) South Hams – CAB – request for donation - £15.00 proposed by Cllr J Hampton and seconded by Cllr B Evans with all in agreement.
- i) DNPA – Forum Meeting 28th November 2008 – Vice-Chair – Cllr Mrs B Palk to attend.

Matters not requiring discussion placed in the folder for circulation.

8) Main Agenda

- a) P3 Report – Nothing to report - Cllr S Levy not in attendance.
- b) Reports from members of the Parish Council – No reports given.
- c) Highway Maintenance.

- 1) Lower Knowle - nothing has happened since last month - fencing needs replacing.
- 2) Hedges now being cut, lots of trimmings on the road and some still to be done.

- d) Website - Nigel King is interested in taking on the running of it and updating that it needs – Chairman - Cllr P Smerdon will meet with him to discuss.

Parishioners in the Village are having trouble getting onto Broadband its very slow - letter to go to BT as only seems to be 1meg at present in the area ask when it will be updated. Trench at Wayside looks to be water coming out of as a spring arising from the road. Its possible water could be getting into the BT cables.

9) Cheques for Signature.

Bank Balances

Parish Council November 2008 = £6,963.97
 Playing Field = £280.47
 P3 = £450.20

10) Any Items to go onto the next Parish Council meeting Agenda.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.35pm NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - TUESDAY 6th January 2009 - 8.00pm at RATTERY VILLAGE HALL.

ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAS SPECIAL NEEDS AND REQUIRES A COPY OF THESE MINUTES SENT TO THEM – PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK – 01364 644109 – They can also be found on the Parish Web-site www.ratteryvillage.co.uk .