

RATTERY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting Held Tuesday 6th January 2009 at Rattery Village Hall
Meeting Commenced 7.30pm

Present - Cllr P Smerdon (Chairman), Cllr S Levy (from item 3), Cllr J Hampton (from item 3), Cllr B Evans, Cllr Mrs B Palk (Vice-Chairman), Cllr T Pennington.

Attended by – 2 members of the Public & Gregg Davies from CCD.

Apologies for absence – Cllr A Coker, D Cllr C Jones, Cllr M Daymond.

1) Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 25th November 2008.

The minutes of the above meeting has been distributed to Cllrs and read, they were proposed by Cllr B Evans 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 – Police report had been received by e-mail – 13 incident logs in the last month 11 relating to the A38. Chris Pooley will be the new PCSO at South Brent as Vicky Gummow has now left.

3) **Parishioners Question Time** - (15 minutes) extended to include Gregg Davies from CCD regards Parish/Community Plans.

a) Road markings been done by DCC around the Village for patching works to be completed.

b) Gregg Davies - Community Council of Devon - Community Plan - CCD support rural parishes across Devon, unfortunately this year there is no money to offer so far as grants for the community plan but they can offer lots of support. The plan should try to engage the whole community and should take about 12 months to complete, it should involve subjects which are relevant to each individual parish and each is different with common themes such as traffic, village shops etc. It gives the community a chance to voice concerns and values for the community. The finished document can be used to influence Councils, DCC and bodies to go to for grant giving. SHDC - Community Grant Fund can be applied for towards to plan with regards to promoting a healthier community. District Councils use parish plans to feed into their planning documents. Actions from the plan can be achieved whilst the plan is in process and after it has been achieved. The plan process should be community led and not driven by the Parish Council - the first move would be to hold a public meeting to get people in and raise interest and form a steering group of 8 to 10 people and a couple of Parish Councillors also people from various groups within the community, then maybe some community consultation events need to be undertaken to find out what people want to talk about, what actions need to be taken and what are parishioners concerns. The steering group then takes on the role of driving the plan forward, and other people can help in other ways if they do not want to join the group and take on a less involved role.

4) **District and County Councillors Reports.**

a) **C Cllr T Pennington** – reported as follows: local government review put back to 13th Feb 09 now. Willing Lane- nothing further heard and will try to find out what is happening and when possibly the inquiry will take place. Gypsy Horses at Marley Head - were removed for a while but keep being moved back to the same place by Marley Head Roundabout - will speak to Serena Thomas – the Gypsy and Travellers liaison officer again at DCC. Village Hall Solar Panels - CCD will meet in Feb and DCC were very supportive of the issue when it arose at a recent meeting.

b) **D Cllr C Jones** – short e-mail report submitted – Deadline for Boundary Committee now date put back to the 13th Feb 09 – This is because the Secretary of State has felt obliged to offer new guidance to the Boundary Committee over the term `in aggregate` in its initial guidance (in respect of the capacity of any proposals to meet the 5 criteria for unitary authorities) and which is was unconvinced that the

Boundary Committee has correctly addressed in its financial and other deliberations. My own take is that it illustrates the weakness of the Boundary Committees work and makes it easier for government to distance itself from the Boundary Committees final recommendation even if that is for a big Devon as in its draft proposal. If I were a betting man I would put a modest wager on no change as the final outcome of the exercise – especially if (as some political commentators believe) there will be a general election this year rather than next. But to avoid the potential disaster of a huge Unitary Devon we must not become complacent, we need to keep campaigning and lobbying MPs if necessary. Budget – The process is well underway at SHDC but more of that once it becomes clearer what SHDC can do to keep the Council Tax down and what the Government does to help or hinder the process.

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 39/2257/08/F – Mrs P King – Lower Park, Rattery – Construction of ménage, stables and associated works. No objections from the Parish Council - proposed by Cllr J Hampton and seconded by Vice-Chair – Cllr Mrs B Palk with all in agreement.

DECISIONS RECEIVED FROM South Hams District Council

- a) Planning Permission Granted – Application no 39/1996/08/F – Mr A Hughes – 4 Garden Park, Rattery – Retrospective application for erection of shed to house mobility scooter.
- b) Listed Building Consent Granted – Application no 39/1862/08/LB – Mr T Walker – West Bulkamore, Rattery – Removal of existing window, installation of new glazed doors and installation of cooker vent to external wall.

6) Matters Arising.

- a) Possible Affordable Housing in the Village - nothing further has been heard and nothing further to report at present.
- b) Willing Lane - Mr Woodley - confirmed that Helen Buckingham DCC has now passed the matter onto the next stage. C Cllr T Pennington confirmed in his report that he would chase this matter up to find out when a possible inquiry will take place.
- c) A385 Speed Limit and Signage - Cllr B Evans reported that he had spoken to some residents and advised them to get an action group together and contact the various organisations involved with ideas and to have a spokes person to speak on their behalf. If the Parish Council have heard nothing from DCC after Februarys PC meeting they will chase the matter again.
- d) Village Hall Photovoltaic cells—Parish Council involvement in this project – Chairman – Cllr P Smerdon - grant funding has been sought from various bodies and applications should be supported by the Parish Council by way of verbal support and funded by a grant - proposed by Cllr B Evans and seconded by Cllr J Hampton that £500 be given as a grant from the Parish Council – all in agreement.

7) Correspondence.

- a) SHDC – Devon Wide Choice Lettings Scheme Consultation Events – 12th January 2009.
- b) SHDC Charity Cricket Match – 11th January 2009.
- c) SHDC – Local Development Framework – Sustainable Development – placed into the envelope for Cllrs perusal.
- d) SHDC – Parish Cluster Meetings Cancelled.
- e) Totnes Town Council – Civic Dinner – 16th January 2009.
- f) SHDC Affordable Housing Surgery – 13th January 2009.

- g) Boundary Committee Update – confirming that the date has been put forward to the 13th February 09 as previously reported.
- h) Communities and Local Government – Consultation – Comments by 12th March 2009.
- i) CCD – Courses for Jan/Feb 09 – South Brent – 26th January 09 – ask Cllr A Coker if he would like to attend.
- j) DNPA – Dartmoor Whats on Supplement 2009 – to be given to the Village Hall Committee,
- k) TRANSITION Totnes - workshops taking place in January 2009 – into the envelope for Cllrs perusal.

Matters not requiring discussion placed in the folder for circulation.

8) Main Agenda

- a) P3 Report – Cllr S Levy - funding report to be completed - new lawnmower to be purchased from the remaining money. Still to attend a Chainsaw course when possible.
- b) Reports from members of the Parish Council -
 - 1) Vice-Chair – Cllr Mrs B Palk - DNPA - Forum attended and some paperwork obtained to be placed into the envelope. Meeting was mostly regards the preservation of Dartmoor particularly the bogs and how they are being dried out - 80/90% of water supply comes from Dartmoor and so the preservation of these is essential. Travellers mentioned - and DNPA are awaiting on the Regional Spatial Strategy - but they will not be exempt from Travellers transit sites - 33 pitches being looked at along the A38.
 - 2) Chairman – Cllr P Smerdon - sport and play workshop attended at the Village Hall, Rattery - lots of information on Disability Discrimination Act and Disabling Barriers and exclusion. Also applying for funding was covered and useful information given regards grants.
- c) Highway Maintenance - Roads are currently being patched and are being marked - they will be surface dressed. Lower Knowle - nothing has happened to the broken down fence. Brownston Lane - in urgent need of attention.
- d) Website - maybe a good opportunity to put this onto the Parish Plan questionnaire.
- e) Precept – 2009/2010 - £4,000 – proposed by Cllr J Hampton and seconded by Cllr B Evans with all in agreement.
- f) Freedom of Information Act 2009 – to be adopted by the Council – proposed by Vice-Chair – Cllr Mrs B Palk and seconded by Cllr S Levy with all in agreement.

9) Cheques for Signature.

Cheque no 432 - £20.00 – DAPC – Capital Projects Training Seminar.

Proposed by Cllr B Evans and seconded by Chairman – Cllr P Smerdon with all in agreement.

Bank Balances

Parish Council January 2009 = £6,533.43

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 9.40pm NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - TUESDAY 3rd February 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 .