

RATTERY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting Held Tuesday 24th November 2009 at Rattery Village Hall
Meeting Commenced at 8.00pm

Present - Cllr P Smerdon (Chairman), Cllr J Hampton, Cllr Mrs B Palk (Vice-Chair), Cllr M Daymond (from item 5b), Cllr S Levy, Cllr B Evans, Cllr A Coker, D Cllr C Jones.

Attended by – 5 members of the Public.

Apologies for absence – C Cllr T Pennington

1) Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 13th October 2009.

The minutes of the above meeting has been distributed to Cllrs and read, they were proposed by Cllr J Hampton and seconded by Cllr B Evans with all in agreement and duly signed by the Chairman – Cllr P Smerdon.

2) Police Report / Neighbourhood Watch – Vice-Chair – Cllr Mrs B Palk reported that the Police brought to her attention the fact that there has been a spate of burglaries whilst people are away at weddings and funerals.

3) **Parishioners Question Time** - (15 minutes)

a) Cllr B Evans - opposite the old post office, blockage in drains which has been looked into and has now been cleared but this problem keeps happening and has been like this for the best part of 30 years - letter to SWWA to ask them what is happening to prevent this matter reoccurring.

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

a) C Cllr T Pennington – no report given.

b) D Cllr C Jones – reported as follows - no news from the boundary committee - hoping now that this will be ignored if a recommendation comes through but it does not look like anything is going to happen. Budget - SHDC feeling the pinch, car parking and planning income down, and government is asking for them to cut costs further. Shared services with West Devon - further sharing is being proposed and this will take in further savings. Business Rates - has the revaluation affected anybody in the area - would be interested to know if this has happened - SHDC opposed what is going on as this is affecting businesses in the South Hams - there is a petition on the website and this Thursday at Follaton House - South Hams Business Forum meet and this is top of the agenda. Play areas - approx 105 areas in the South Hams in total - 65 owned by SHDC and other 40 owned by local bodies and Parish Councils - in the past SHDC has provided a free service of maintenance, inspection and service, insurance etc - they are asking for a £100 contribution next year and may be more the year after - asking SHDC to reconsider what is being proposed because it could work out to be unfair for smaller Parish Councils.

5) **Planning Applications & Decisions.**

Applications received from Dartmoor National Park

a) Application no 0489/09 – The Road House, Marley Head – Temporary change of use for five years from a disused HGV training centre to a gypsy and traveller site accommodation up to 15 pitches with construction of a bin storage area. Reiterate the Parish Councils comments as before – Proposed by Cllr J Hampton and seconded by Vice-Chairman – Cllr Mrs B Palk with all in agreement. These were as follows – The Parish Council refuse this application – The site is already occupied and the applicants should be removed before the application is considered. It is an area of development within the Countryside and therefore contravenes Planning rules. Any approval would set a precedent for further applications. It would impact on neighbouring properties. It is very close to a busy major road – highways issues.

Hygiene and sanitation are major concerns for the site.

Decisions received from Dartmoor National Park – None.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM South Hams District Council

- a) Application no SP/CP/TPO 749 – Work to Tree Preservation Order Trees – Syon Abbey, Marley Head, South Brent. No objections from the Parish Council.
- b) Application no 39/45/1787/09/F – Mr & Mrs T Herbert – The Old Marley Lodge – Application for garage, carport and parking area. Site meeting proposed by the Parish Council.

DECISIONS RECEIVED FROM South Hams District Council – none received.

6) Matters Arising.

- a) Travellers Site at Marley Head - a new application has now been submitted - see planning DNPA item 5a.
- b) Beating the Bounds 2010 – 8th May 2010 - carried forward to next meeting Jan 2010.
- c) Cummings Pond Lane – Works to Hollywood - SHDC enforcement officer has been to have a look and confirmed that all is in order - no further action to be taken.
- d) Willing Lane – DCC Definitive Map Review - This has been passed onto DCC - no further reply has been received at present.
- e) Web site – setting up an exchange - look into (Rattery Exchange) and start up.

7) Correspondence.

- a) Meet DCC Leader – 7th December 2009 - Chairman – Cllr P Smerdon to attend.
- b) Empowering Communities Devon – 25th Nov 09.
- c) Letter from Peter Whittaker & John Dance – Re: Golf Course at Reddacleave Brakes - the letter to be circulated to all Cllrs - the golf course is closing in January 2010 - and he is trying to drum up support to keep it open. He has received a tremendous amount of Public Support and will then take this again to DNPA who are willing to listen if they have the support of the Public. Papers have been circulated to Cllrs and the matter of support will be considered and a decision to be reached before the next PC meeting which will then be reported on the 5th January 2010.
- d) DNPA Forum Meeting – 27th November 2009 – Vice-Chairman – Cllr Mrs B Palk to attend.

Matters not requiring discussion placed in the folder for circulation.

8) Main Agenda.

- a) P3 Report – Cllr S Levy - nothing much to report - machinery breakdown cost £60 for the cutting tool all a bit too wet at present to do much.
- b) Reports from members of the Parish Council – no reports given.
- c) Highway Maintenance.
 - 1) Noted that a car has been parked in a difficult to pass position in the Village, the Plains vegetation has been cut back to make parking easier but the car is still in the difficult to pass position - Cllr B Evans will speak to the owner if not this matter will be passed onto South Brent Police.
 - 2) Lower Knowle flooded.
 - 3) Drybridge Closure - Highways Agency has confirmed that this is not the case - there would be considerable consultation if this were to be even considered.
 - 4) Potholes on Brownstone Lane.
- d) Sending of Minutes by e-mail - all in agreement that this should be done.

9) **Cheques for Signature.**

Cheque no 458 = £994.00 Sharon Raggett (6 months wages).
Cheque no 459 = £103.50 Audit Commission (Annual Audit).

Bank Balances

Bank Account November 2009 = £7,352.22
P3 November 2009 = £191.82
Playing Field = £151.87

Proposed by Cllr J Hampton and seconded by Cllr M Daymond with all in agreement.

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

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.22pm NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - TUESDAY 5th January 2010 - 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 .