

RATTERY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting Held Tuesday 5th January 2010 at Rattery Village Hall
Meeting Commenced at 8.00pm

Present - Cllr P Smerdon (Chairman), Cllr J Hampton, Cllr M Daymond (from item 5c), Cllr S Levy, Cllr B Evans, Cllr A Coker.

Attended by – no public present

Apologies for absence – C Cllr T Pennington, D Cllr C Jones, Vice-Chairman – Cllr Mrs B Palk

1) Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 24th November 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 A Coker with all in agreement and duly signed by the Chairman – Cllr P Smerdon.

2) Police Report / Neighbourhood Watch – e-mail report received from South Brent Police – no crimes to report – 13 incident logs for the last month – 10 relating to the A38 – Police Surgery 10.30 to 11.30 every 1st and 3rd Tuesday at Rattery Village Hall.

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

a) Hedge Bank by Alms House Cross now looking as though its going to fall out - letter of concern to be sent to the occupier of the property concerned.

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

a) C Cllr T Pennington – no report given.

b) D Cllr C Jones – reported as follows - **Local Government Review** - The Boundary Committee has persisted in its misguided and unsubstantiated view that a mega-Devon Unitary Authority would work, so has recommended this to the government, which has given folk until 19 January to express their views on this final recommendation before taking a decision. As the recent letter from SHDC to all town and parish councils points out, the Boundary Committee is making some huge and dangerous assumptions eg that the financial model predicting savings is sound (despite its spectacular inaccuracy in forecasting what's now happening in Cornwall), that the proposal has a broad cross-section of support (despite all the consultation evidence to the contrary) and that the suggested Community Boards will actually solve the problem of most communities feeling too remote and powerless to influence the huge new authority (despite no evidence of such structures actually achieving this anywhere else in the country where - smaller - county unitary authorities have been created and district councils swept away). All in all, it's (another) poorly argued and shoddy piece of work, proposing a huge and very expensive gamble on the basis of very little evidence or support. Although my gut feeling is that government will probably now shelve the proposal simply because we're so near a general election, politics is a strange business and it would be dangerous to assume that will happen and that we can just not bother to submit our views this time around. **IF YOU SHARE MY VIEW THAT THIS IS NOT THE RIGHT WAY FORWARD FOR DEVON, PLEASE WRITE TO THE GOVERNMENT AND TELL THEM SO (AND WHY) BEFORE 19 JANUARY. SHDC Budget 2010-11** - Still in the melting pot, but difficult decisions and times ahead - a rise in the Council tax and some changes/reductions in services provided is inevitable. By February I will be able to tell you much more, but I will personally fight for fair treatment of our rural parishes such as Rattery.

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 39/45/1787/09/F – Mr & Mrs T Herbert – The Old Marley Lodge – Application for garage, carport and parking area. This application has now been withdrawn.
- b) Application no 39/2087/09/F – Mr R White – 1 Hatchland Bridge Cottages, Rattery TQ10 9LL – Householder application for erection of ground mounted solar panels. 1.16kw, 12sq metre area in the garden of dwelling. No objections from the Parish Council – proposed by Cllr B Evans and seconded by Cllr J Hampton with all in agreement.
- c) Application no 39/2212/09/F – Mr & Mrs A & E Richards – Churchview, Rattery – Householder application for extension to dwelling. No objections from the Parish Council – proposed by Cllr B Evans & seconded by Cllr J Hampton with all in agreement.
- d) Application no HS/39/2181/09/CLE – 2 Bulkamore Farm Cottages, Rattery – Application for Lawful Development Certificate for an existing use for residential use of the cottage in non-compliance with agricultural occupancy condition. The PC have noted this application but have no comment to make on this matter.
- e) Application no 39/2104/09/CLE – Annexe – Culver Park Nurseries – Lawful Development Certificate for the existing use of former annexe as single dwelling without complying with condition 3 of planning permission 39/0704/00/F (ancillary use only). The PC acknowledge the fact that the original plans passed were for ancillary use only and the conditions stipulated this fact, we consider that these conditions should be adhered to.

DECISIONS RECEIVED FROM South Hams District Council – none received.

6) Matters Arising.

- a) Travellers Site at Marley Head - nothing to report.
- b) Beating the Bounds 2010 – 8th May 2010 - nothing further to report at present.
- c) Willing Lane – DCC Definitive Map Review - Is map updated and can the PC have a copy letter to be written to DCC.
- d) Web site – setting up an exchange - this is now set up and in use the more people that join up the better used it will be.
- e) Golf Course at Reddacleave Brakes – Mr John Dance - the PC wrote a letter of support and the course is now closed to comply with enforcement. A new application will then be forthcoming in time.

7) Correspondence.

- a) The Boundary Committee – Structural Review of Devon – Advice to the Secretary of State - reiterate the PC comments - would like to keep the status quo with more working together of services.
- b) South Devon Carers Forum 25th January 2010 & Carers Leisure Day 4th Feb 2010.
- c) TDC – Local Development Framework – South West of Exeter – into envelope for Cllrs perusal.
- d) Audit Commission – External Auditor – new Auditor appointed for this year.
- e) SHDC – Play Area Insurance and Inspection - ask about insurance on the play area.
- f) SHDC Budget Meeting – 14th January 2010 – Chairman – Cllr P Smerdon to attend.
- g) DNPA – Whats on Supplement 2010.
- h) DAPC – 11th January 2010 – meeting at Follaton House, Totnes.
- i) SHDC – Sustainable Community Locality Fund – Chairman – Cllr P Smerdon to complete.

Matters not requiring discussion placed in the folder for circulation.

8) Main Agenda.

- a) P3 Report – Cllr S Levy – There is a large tree down which needs removing but it is in an awkward place where machinery is hard to get to, would be better to cut up and take away in the summer when it is dryer - will ask around to ascertain the owner of the tree as it has fallen from Private Lane as they need to remove it. Another smaller tree across in small lane.
- b) Reports from members of the Parish Council.
 - 1) SWWA e-mailed the Parish Council and they have visited site by the old post office and put a camera down and have confirmed that the drain has collapsed - it is in hand to be done but a road closure may be necessary to undertake the works.
 - 2) Chairman – Cllr P Smerdon - spoken to Andrew Parrish and Dartington Housing have not renewed their interest in the field behind the Village Hall and so in the future the field will possibly be sold, an idea might be to try and purchase it on behalf of the Village or for the Village Hall. The possibility of this is currently being looked into.
- c) Highway Maintenance - Cobberton Hill - water flowing down the hill from blocked up drains which need clearing. Grit Bins - these have been filled up again as has been requested by the Chairman - Cllr P Smerdon who contacted DCC at Newton Abbot.
- d) Precept 2010/2011 – last years £4,000 - as there is a balance in hand and all were in favour of a 0% increase stay at £4,000 again this year.

9) Cheques for Signature.

Cheque no 460 = £65.85 Steve Levy (P3 Expenses).

Cheque no 461 = £29.43 Castles (Computer repair).

Bank Balances

Bank Account January 2010 = £5,881.16

P3 January 2010 = £125.97

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 9.30pm NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - TUESDAY 2nd February 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 .