

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF SHUTE HELD AT WHITFORD VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2015 AT 7.00PM**

Those present: Cllrs. D Loud, B Marshall, J Pearce, Ms C Miltenburg, R Orsman, P Rugg, Mrs E Sweetland and R Wood, C Cllr A Moulding, Dist Cllr I Chubb, two members of the public and Mrs M Thomas (Clerk).

### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr W Marshall and Christopher Pole-Carew..

### **MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

The circulated minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 10th April 2014 were approved and duly signed as correct.

### **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM**

No matters were brought forward

### **ANNUAL REPORT BY THE PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman of Shute Parish Council reported During the year we have held nine meetings, three at Whitford and six at Umborne when 24 planning applications have been discussed namely extensions or alterations with others at Sumarai Boatyard and land opposite Shute Garage, these two sites still seem to be our nemesis but with continuous monitoring and action we will carry on to try to keep them as tidy as we can although it is again with regret I have to report EDDC do not seem to care a great deal.

The precept by was raised by £500 which allows for election expenses but otherwise it is felt monies held will allow for inflation and any other small projects which may arise. We obtained a grant of £1,320.00 for Parishes Together with Kilminster for clearance work at the Hicthcock Land and with thanks to Cllr Carol Miltenburg obtained a Lottery Grant of £4,400.00 Clearance work is now completed and it is hoped to provide seats and paths to make it a tranquil area for all to enjoy.

The Parish Council together with the East Devon Housing Enabler looked into providing Affordable Housing for the Parish. Various sites were identified however again the District Council did not support this venture stating the sites were unsuitable for various reasons. After further investigation not enough support from parishioners came forward so this project was dropped.

Through the Parish Plan it was revealed more Notice Boards were requested and having gained a grant from the East Devon AONB which provided some finance towards this a further three notice boards have been erected within the parish and the Parish Council assisted with finance for a new notice board at Whitford.

To conclude my report I would like to thank all those who assisted me and the parish council through the year, Ian Chubb District Councillor, Andrew Moulding County Councillor, Mary Thomas our Clerk and finally once again my fellow Councillors who work tirelessly without remuneration to help their local communities.

### **REPORT BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR ANDREW MOULDING**

County Councillor Andrew Moulding gave a report giving details on the County Council budget, highways, superfast broadband, Parishes Together fund and Locality Budget. Full report attached to the minutes.

C Cllr Moulding also added there is a meeting the following evening regarding the closure of Axminster Hospital which is still being fought.

### **REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

Dist Cllr I Chubb reported this is the 5<sup>th</sup> year EDDC has not increased their part of the rates and are continuing to work hard to keep council tax down.

Regarding the relocation of the District Council offices it has been agreed for the move to go ahead to Honiton with a sub-office at Exmouth.

As for waste control EDDC are re-tendering with the hope of a new contractor who will take plastic and cardboard. At seafront locations there are big belly bins which are solar powered to compact rubbish.

### **POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Andy Trott reported there were no crimes reported in March and now all crimes committed can be seen on the police website. At present this shows in the past year Axminster Town has gone up but Axminster Rural remains low. It is hoped the move the new station will be the end of April beginning of May and a new Beat Manager, Simon Aldred has been appointed, there is no longer a Sergeant at Axminster or Seaton, all come under Honiton. There will be 5 Response Officers, 3 Neighbourhood Officers and 1 Beat Manager at Axminster. 15 Specials have been recruited at Honiton who will be working with the Neighbourhood Support Officers. He reminded everyone he can be contacted at [andrew.trott@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:andrew.trott@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk).

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

It was noted further records of Shute Parish Council have been deposited in the Archives of Devon County Council.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.40pm.



## **SHUTE & WHITFORD PARISH COUNCIL – 9<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

### **Annual Parish Report from County Councillor, Andrew Moulding**

I am pleased to present my annual report as County Councillor for the Axminster Division. Within the Place Scrutiny committee, this year I have set up Task Groups or Spotlight Reviews to look at Flooding, Energy Policy, the Future Delivery of Highway Services, Young People and Unemployment, and Community Resilience.

#### **County Council Budget**

Over the past four years the County Council's funding has been cut by 27% as a result of a Government squeeze on local government spending and savings of nearly £128 million have been made. This year (2015/16) a further saving of £50 million has been required as a result of the Government's latest Comprehensive Spending Review. This will be followed by a saving of at least £34 million in 2016/17. This will have a considerable effect on services such as Highways, Adult Care, Youth Centres, Libraries, Public Transport, etc. The County Council's share of Council Tax is set to go up by 1.99%. This will enable continued support for vulnerable people, support for the CAB's, extra funding to cushion the effect on bus services and the continuation of road gritting.

#### **Highways**

The original budget reduction proposals for consultation on highways included the following: Withdrawal of second gritting and snow clearing fleet; Review of gritting and snow clearing routes; Annual restocking of grit bins; Closure of picnic sites; Grass cutting (Only work undertaken will be to maintain visibility at junctions and on the inside of bends); Weed treatment; Parish lengthsman's service; Rationalisation of Neighbourhood Highway Teams. Following the consultation, the annual restocking of grit bins will be undertaken and the majority of priority gritting and snow clearing routes will be continued. The proposal for the lengthsman is to make cleaning of drainage features, such as grips and easements and cleaning of gullies, their only duty. Therefore, this would be one of the activities where a local contractor may need to be deployed, or work carried out through the "Community Self Help and Road Warden Scheme".

I recently carried out a tour of parish highways "hot-spots" with Councillor Peter Rugg.

#### **Superfast Broadband**

I recently called for a report on the effectiveness of the Superfast Broadband project. Reports will be presented to future meetings of Place Scrutiny to monitor the programme roll-out.

#### **Parishes Together Fund**

I am delighted that Shute & Whitford has joined with Colyton to help fund the urgent repairs to Coxley Lane, between Easy Bridge and Three Sycamores, with the assistance of a volunteer group from the parish.

#### **Locality Budget**

I am pleased that the Locality Budget has been able to support the cost of providing a new interactive computer screen for Shute Primary School.

Councillor Andrew Moulding – April 2015