

# WEST ALVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

Date: 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2024		Venue & Time: West Alvington Village Hall, 19.00hrs	
<b>Present:</b> Cllr Liz Chin Cllr Steve Lees (in the Chair) Cllr Chris Povey <i>Part Meeting</i> Cllr Kathryn Rawlinson Cllr Helen Rhymes Cllr Derek Winser	<b>In Attendance:</b> Katharine Harrod – Parish Clerk Dist. Cllr Mark Long County Cllr Rufus Gilbert  Parishioners/Guests Present: 1	<b>Apologies:</b> Cllr Charlotte Oakey Dist. Cllr Samantha Dennis  Councillors RESOLVED to accept the apologies received.	

REF 2023/24 MINUTES

### 289 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

#### 290 PARISHIONERS OPEN FORUM (allocated time not longer than 15 minutes, a member of the public shall not speak for more than 2 minutes as per Standing Orders):

- Residents from Gerston and Collapit have expressed concern of the state of the road due to the tankers that are constantly operating (currently 180 movements per day), the road structure has severely deteriorated and is dangerous for users. There are also concerns regarding the bridge which appears to have started to subside. Cllr Povey has also received numerous representations regarding the state of the rural network and how poorly maintained they are.  
Cllr Long will investigate if the number of movements is limited.  
Cllr Gilbert advised that the water table is very high which is limiting the number of repairs that can be undertaken. It is the wettest February for 35 years and the wettest winter for 130 years. Due to the amount of works required DCC will not be able to catch up with repairs for many months.  
A complaint was made about the road by the new Baker Estates entrance, Cllr Gilbert will request Highways check the area with a view to getting the utilities companies to return to fix the issue.

#### a) DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL:

Cllr Rufus Gilbert, Email: [rufus.gilbert@devon.gov.uk](mailto:rufus.gilbert@devon.gov.uk)

- DIY waste taken to recycling centres: Four visits in any four-week period will be accepted OR an unbagged item up to 2 metres. Please refer to the website for details of chargeable items.  
[www.devon.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling](http://www.devon.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling)
  - Information regarding Devolution can all be found on the Devon County Council website.  
<http://www.devontorbaydeal.org.uk/>
  - It was noted the sink hole on the way to Avon Mill (by Sorley Tunnel) has been approved for repair in spring.
- Cllr Gilbert left the meeting.

#### REPORT IT:

Members of the public are requested to report all Highways issues through the Highways Website, enabling faster assessment of problem areas which can then be added to the repair/maintenance schedules. You can report potholes, overgrown vegetation, defective signs/lighting and much more.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

#### b) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

Email Cllr Samantha Dennis: [samantha.dennis@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:samantha.dennis@swdevon.gov.uk)

Email Cllr Mark Long: [cllr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk)

- South Hams Composting Pilots: With the support of South Hams District Council, Sustainable South Hams is conducting a series of compost pilots in the region. The pilots are starting at a small scale in a few locations, but if successful, will be rolled out more widely. Composting provides a valuable and easy way to reduce carbon emissions, increase soil fertility and encourage community engagement in climate and nature action. The objectives of the pilot programme are
  - To increase the knowledge and support for community composting schemes.
  - To put redundant brown bins to good use

# WEST ALVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

---

- To inspire and inform residents about home composting
- To explore ways to offer street level composting of food waste

This offer is also being made to Sustainability Groups across the South Hams so interested parties should liaise with your local group to avoid duplication.

2. Full council have approved the plan for the coming year, this includes an increase in council tax of 2.99%. They also approved imposing a premium (up to 200% council tax) for second homes, this will be imposed from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025. Changes will also be made to unoccupied properties both furnished and unfurnished. It is the intention of SHDC that all of the premium raised from this will be ringfenced and spent on affordable and social housing.
3. On 22nd February there was a council tax setting meeting to agree the final tax levels for 2024/25, bills are now being issued.
4. Council tax reduction scheme information can be found on the South Hams District Council website, <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/available-support-and-benefits/low-income-council-tax-reduction>
5. A wide range of information about support (financial and otherwise) can also be found on the website, <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/support-directory>
6. War pensions disregard policy. The Executive have agreed to recommend continuing to discount the full 100% pension income to continue to support veterans and their spouses who have fought for their country.
7. The Councils Overview & Scrutiny Committee met recently, this meeting saw the General Manager of Fusion Leisure attending to answer questions on some of the issues regarding cleanliness/maintenance. They have not met a number of standards and have a programme over the coming year to increase cleanliness/maintenance levels and to increase employment levels to bring the four centres back to standard. South Hams District Council will be meeting with them every six months.
8. Ward Councillors have both a Sustainable Localities Fund and a Climate Change and Biodiversity Fund - £2,000 each per fund. Full details are available on the District Council website.
9. The front office of the police station has now open to the public in Kingsbridge, Monday to Saturday 10am to 3pm.
10. Details of an empty property in the parish will be forwarded to Cllr Long.

**REPORT IT:** <https://apps.southhams.gov.uk/webreportit>

Missed Bins, Abandoned Vehicle, Damaged/Full Dog Bin, Damaged/Full Litter Bin, Damaged/Full Recycling Bank, Dead Animal, Dirty Beach, Fly Tipping, Litter/Dog Mess, Planning Breach, Stray Dogs, AND MORE...

---

### THE MEETING CONVENED

---

**291 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/AMENDMENTS TO THE REGISTER:** None received.

---

**292 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings of 1<sup>st</sup> February without alteration, they were then signed by the Chairman.

---

**293 CLERKS REPORT:**

1. Village Hall Update: We continue to investigate options regarding the renewal of the Village Hall lease. A report will be brought to the council at a future meeting. In the meantime, hall bookings remain strong and we are also looking to improve the heating at the venue.
2. The Annual P3 Submission has been made to Devon County Council.
3. The new noticeboard has now been fixed following a small issue with installation.

# WEST ALVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

---

4. The blocked drainage near Horsemans has been reported, reference W241719774. The significantly increasing potholes and grit between Tacketwood and Kingsway Park have been reported, W241723091, this area is being significantly damaged by the numerous South West Water tankers who are regularly pumping out along this road.
5. A community cleanup day is being arranged by the Friends of West Alvington Academy, due to take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 10.30am – 12.30pm, meet at the village hall, supervised children welcome and refreshments will be provided. Please bring buckets/sponges/weeding equipment if possible!
6. Steady on Your Feet, a document to encourage less fit people to look after themselves has been shared on the West Alvington News & Views social media page.
7. The New three-year tenders for parish contracts have now been issued, this includes the burial ground, village hall area and other areas that are dealt with on an ad hoc basis. The responses will be brought to the April meeting.
8. We remain in communication regarding obtaining a new set of anti-tamper tools for the play area equipment.
9. Snow Wardens/Road Wardens: Three people across the four parishes have undergone the first training session, we are currently awaiting information regarding the road closure training (previously known as Section 8). Once we have a qualified person we will be able to order the tarmac etc required to deal with potholes.
10. Reminder: Anthony Mangnall MP is due to hold a surgery at West Alvington Village Hall on 4<sup>th</sup> April between 6pm – 6.45pm.
11. The Alcohol Public Space Protection Order Consultation <https://alcoholinpublic.commonplace.is/> is open until 19<sup>th</sup> March, this was also shared via social media.
12. A tree preservation order was served at Collapit Creek House, this became active on 8<sup>th</sup> February, reference TPO1097
13. Westville Hill Lighting Update: Devon County Council have advised the following - This area is under a Section 278 agreement with the developer, and the light falls temporarily under their care whilst the development works are carried out. There would usually be some alterations to roadways and footpaths during development works, and lighting columns are sometimes removed in the interim; however, the area will be lit compliantly when the developer has fully installed the lighting scheme that they have been supplied with for the site.
14. Details of the Devolution Consultation were shared on social media, <https://www.devontorbaydeal.org.uk/> this consultation closes on 24<sup>th</sup> March.
15. A loneliness and isolation survey was shared on 5<sup>th</sup> February.
16. Townsend Road Parking: All Livewest residents will get receive a newsletter advising them that it was because of customer complaints that Livewest took a harsher stance regarding use of the car parks, the letter will state that they should use the car park areas and not the road. If problems continue, Livewest will have to consider other actions that can be taken. They have requested West Alvington Parish Council keep them appraised of the situation.
17. Communications to Councillors: National Landscapes November Minutes, Walking & Cycling Project Update, South Hams Policing Teams Newsletter, Sustainable South Hams Composting Pilots.

---

### 294 PLANNING, LICENSING & ENFORCEMENT:

- a. **Applications** received by the Parish Council and under discussion and consideration for the last period. Any recommendation by the Parish Council to the Planning Department is noted after the application details. Those without comment remain under discussion. When providing a response to applications, the Neighbourhood Plan will be referenced.
1. 0519/24/HHO, 18 Home Field, West Alvington, proposed rear sunroom extension replacing existing raised decking area, with new terrace, balustrading & steps down to garden level, including a rear window alteration to existing dining room 28/3. **Support.**

# WEST ALVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

---

2. Licensing: To vary the layout and design of the premises to include the “Shepherd Hut Servery” as part of the permitted licensable area. To add the following conditions to Annex 2.  
The “Shepherd Hut Servery” shall be used between the hours of 12:00 until 23:00 Monday to Sunday. The external area will remain open for customers for the consumption of food/drink until the premises closes to the public. 21/3. **Object.**

### SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL DECISIONS:

3. 3360/23/FUL, The Crabshell Inn, Kingsbridge, New shepherds hut/shack on wheels, consisting of a bar dispense area and pizza kitchen with servery (Retrospective) 22/2. **Refused.**
4. 0124/24/HHO, 4 Feoffees Cottages, WA, 22/2. **Approved.**
5. 4207/23/FUL, Demolition & replacement of Collapit Creek House 15/2 **Under Consideration.**
6. Non Statutory Consult: 0341/24/COM, Communication Station Ntl Site 13116 TQ7 3QD. **Refused.**
7. Non Statutory Consult: 0370/24/ARC, Baker Estates, Site K5, SX 729 440, West Alvington Hill, **Approved.**

#### b. Enforcement issues:

Parishioners are requested to report to SHDC full details of any violations that do not adhere to the original application for which permission was granted. ALL violations can be reported confidentially to Enforcement via <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/report-it>

---

### 295 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- a) Discuss the current LCWIP Walking/Cycling project and how to progress accessibility between the areas. The project considers walking/cycling access around the South Hams, where it could potentially be expanded and if there are any areas that require further consideration. Cllrs Lees & Povey will speak to some local landowners about the potential project. This project is fully supported South Hams District Council.
- b) To agree the next steps to delivering the Village roadside entrance gates.  
We have previously received positive feedback from Highways about the option to install a gateway to the village. Highways will be asked for further feedback as per their previous communications. Cllr Povey will obtain quotes for the gateway purchase.
- c) To discuss cutting back the hedging/foilage to a height of 3ft along footpath 3. This was discussed at length and deferred to April.
- d) To approve the purchase of dog signage in respect of the park. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase signage restricting dogs from the parish council playing field. It was further **RESOLVED** to purchase a private land, no access sign for the gate at Town Park Car Park.
- e) Police Councillor Advocate Update: Police Walk & Talk pilot scheme. Deferred to April.
- f) Town Park Car: Councillors **RESOLVED** to sign the new lease, the clause regarding run off has now been removed as requested. Councillors **RESOLVED** to award the car park works to increase the number of parking spaces at a cost of £3,210 plus VAT.
- g) We are speaking with a local tree surgeon regarding the tree defect previously reported.
- 

### 296 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

#### a) Receipts & Purchases Month 12

Accounts to pay: Mathias Property Solutions £95, SLCC Renewal £69.12

Monthly Payments: Clerks Salary & HMRC, SHEPS £80, HugoFox £11.99, Hall Hire £20

Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve all payments.

- b) **Governance:** The policy review has commenced, draft documentation for existing and potential new policies will be forwarded in due course.
- 

### 297 MEETING ENDS 20.52 Hrs

## WEST ALVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

---

The Councillors then went into closed session with the Ward Councillors to discuss and receive confidential Enforcement updates.

The closed session meeting then closed at 20:56 hrs.

---

<b>298</b>	<b>FUTURE MEETINGS 2024:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 7.00pm West Alvington Village Hall
------------	------------------------------	---

---

Signed as a true record: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Items and Updates; where possible please could these be submitted to Mrs Katharine Harrod by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in the month to ensure time for inclusion, circulation and study. If a Council Member is unable to attend a meeting it would be appreciated if they could submit a brief précis of progress on their actions, if applicable, (to Mrs Katharine Harrod for distribution) together with their apologies.

**Distribution List:** West Alvington Parish Council Councillors

**For Information: e-circulation to:** County Cllr R Gilbert, South Hams District Council Ward Councillors