

## PETROCKSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Baxter Hall on  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September July 2018 at 7.30pm.

Cllrs present: M Busby (Vice Chair), J Jeffs, J Harris, A Hunkin, D Kelsey,  
CCllr A Saywell, PCSO M Baker, F Lowe (Clerk

23. **Apologies of Absence.** Apologies were received from Cllrs I Fisher and C Pink. DCllr Wiseman did not attend.
24. **CCllr Saywell.** With permission of the Chair, CCllr Saywell gave his report; the A3124 is closed for essential work to build a retaining wall. Work should be finished by end of Nov at latest, and temporary traffic lights will be used as soon as possible. Highways contactor performing well – Sanska has had mixed first year and got behind with drain/gully clearance in the bad winter weather. Currently completed 81,000 of 150,000 drains so are ahead at 54% done. Hoping to have all done by end December to reduce number of floods and therefore number of potholes and to be able to concentrate on bad weather in Jan/Feb. There has been the purchase of 2 new cleaner/ sucker vehicles. CCllr Saywell left.
25. **PCSO Baker.** With the permission of the Chair, PCSO Baker gave her report as been called to “cows in the road”. Over the past 2 months there have been Crimes - 1 assault ABH, 2 common assault, 1 harassment without violence. Logs – 1 abandoned call, 1 online grooming, 1 concern for welfare, 1 violence related, 2 personal antisocial behaviour, 1 suspicious behaviour. PCSO Baker explained that this seems a lot but logs may create crimes i.e. the ABH crime was from the violence related log this has the effect of doubling up the crime stats. She asked all parishioners who are experiencing any sort of crime to report it to the police, and if evidence is provided it could be taken further. PCSO Baker left.
26. **Declarations of Interest.** None
27. **Public Session.** None.
28. **Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> July 2018, having been previously circulated were approved and signed as a correct record.
29. **Correspondence.** Cllrs agreed that they had received the correspondence as listed from 12<sup>th</sup> July to 9<sup>th</sup> September 2018 inclusive.
30. **Matters arising from previous minutes.**
  - a. HGV/Sibelco lorries. Steve Lark had advised the Clerk that the new signs are due to be delivered in the next couple of weeks and will be erected promptly.

- b. No 4 The Square. The owner had been in contact with the Clerk. Work is completed on the roof and internal plastering is due to start soon. The owner hopes to be moving down permanently.
- c. Phone Box refurbishment. Michael Harris has completed the repair and repainted. There are still 2 broken panes of glass. Following discussion, it was agreed to ask Barrie Jeffs to board the empty spaces.
- d. Signs at Petrockstowe Station. The Highways Officer has replied that cyclist warning signs were not felt to be required, as it is possible to see and hear cars at adequate distance. However, he observed cyclists and pedestrians using the road in a hazardous manner. He has contacted Public Rights of Way (PROW) team who have responsibility for the Tarka Trail who are looking into the possibility of moving the gate. This will be looked into. The Clerk will ask for updates.
- e. Hedge at Tanyarde. The Clerk chased this, and received an update that a (further) friendly letter has been sent. The Clerk to monitor.
- f. Overgrown vegetation on Smith Hill. This has been cleared by PROW. There is a scheme for PC's to work with PROW to report issues called P3 Partnership. Following discussion, Cllrs Jeffs and Harris agreed to co-ordinate inspecting all footpaths in the Parish. The Clerk to ask Jonathan Richards if he is willing to walk them. It was also noted that the signpost at North Town Cross is missing the directional pointer to Shebbear and the Public Footpath post is out of the ground at the top of Brandize Hill. The Clerk was asked to report these.

**31. Current Business.**

- a. Update bank signatories to include current Vice Chair. All in favour so the form was signed by Cllr Hunkin and the Clerk and given to Cllr Busby to take to the bank.
- b. Repair to bench at Oaklands. Cllr Harris reported that although it is being used; a support strut is missing. Cllr Jeffs agreed to ask Barrie Jeffs to inspect it and make any necessary repair. Cllrs were reminded that the Asset Maintenance review is due at the next meeting, and that Grit Bins need checking. Cllr Busby advised that Grit Bin 3418 (top of Townlands Rise) was empty. The Clerk to arrange a refill.
- c. North Devon Records Office. Cllr Fisher asked that this be discussed in her absence. She declared a conflict of interest as she volunteers there. Following a discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Harris and seconded by Cllr Kelsey to advise the Record's Office that this Parish Council will give £50 per year for the next 5 years. The Clerk to advise and add payment to schedule.
- d. New Councillor course. The Clerk to contact Cllr Pink and advise of dates. Cllr Harris would like to attend also.

**32. Planning.**

- a. **Decision.** Ref: 1/0431/2018/FUL dated 2nd August 2018 for the proposal of retrospective application for the retention of extension to livestock building at Bank's Land, Petrockstowe, Okehampton, Devon. **GRANTED**
- b. **Application.** Ref: 1/0660/2018/FUL dated 24th August 2018 for the
- c. proposal of the creation of all weather riding area with change of use at Appledown, Petrockstowe, Okehampton, Devon. Following discussion, the Clerk was asked to give comments of "No objections".

**33. Councillors Reports.**

- a. **Sports & Social Club.** The cricket season is over and the team are 5<sup>th</sup> in the League table. It is hoped that golf games can now be played. The ground was used as a rest point in a recent charity cycle race and will be used as a campsite for Guides for one night. More social events are being held and there will not be sheep on the field the winter, enabling work to be done on the buildings and the ground to be enjoyed by all.
- b. **Play Area.** This is being well used and enjoyed. Ian Fisher is thanked for spraying the weeds.
- c. **Baxter Hall.** A successful 40<sup>th</sup> celebration was held with 90 attending. Thanks go to all the pudding providers and helpers. Suggestions are already coming in for the 50<sup>th</sup> celebrations! There will be a Punch & Pie in conjunction with the Ladies Group, Ferret Racing run by the Church, the AGM on 16<sup>th</sup> October and lots of private bookings. At the AGM, the cost of hiring will be discussed as the price of electric for the heating has risen sharply.

**34. Financial Items.** All payments approved, and cheques signed by Cllrs Harris and Hunkin.

- a. Mr M Harris – repair/repaint of phone box - £250.00 cheque no 374
- b. Precept payments as previously agreed (November 2017):
  - i. St Petroc's Churchyard – £250 cheque no 375
  - ii. Citizens Advice - £10 cheque no 376
  - iii. Baxter Hall - £201 (includes play area lease £1) cheque no 377
- c. Lord Burnett – Rec Grd Lease - £1 cheque no 378
- d. Clerks expenses - £36.19 cheque no 379

A Planning Meeting will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2018, if required. Cllr Jeffs will be on holiday, and the next PCM will be on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

With no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Chairman ..... Date .....

Initials of Chair .....