

# SOUTH HUISH PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

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| <b>Date:</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2023  |   | <b>Venue &amp; Time:</b> Galmpton Village Hall, 7.00pm  |
| <b>Present:</b><br>Cllr Jan Carter<br>Cllr Jo Hocking (in the chair)<br>Cllr Darren James<br>Cllr Steve Pearson<br>Cllr Anne Rossiter<br>Cllr Tom Windle | <b>In Attendance:</b><br>Kathy Harrod (Parish Clerk)<br>SHDC Cllr Mark Long<br>Parishioners/guests: 6 | <b>Apologies:</b><br>Cllr Alan Rundle<br>SHDC Cllr Judy Pearce<br>DCC. Cllr Rufus Gilbert<br><br>Cllrs resolve to accept the apologies given. |

REF 2022/23 MINUTES

### 160 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

### 161 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & ALTERATIONS TO REGISTERS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

### 162 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 meeting without alteration, these will be signed by the Chairman at the March meeting.

### 163 CLERKS REPORT

1. The election will be either non-contested or contested. If there are seven or less candidates, they will automatically be elected. If there are eight or more candidates it becomes a contested election which will be determined by those parishioners on the electoral roll either by postal vote or at a polling booth on the day.

Nomination papers require candidates to include the electoral numbers of their proposer and seconder, this information can be obtained from the Parish Clerk if you do not already have those details. Please note that you will only receive the electoral numbers and NOT a copy of the electoral register.

Legislation allows candidates to have their home address excluded from the Statement of Persons Nominated and the ballot papers – there is a form to complete in the nomination pack if this is their wish. It should be noted that the person who witnesses the home address form MUST also be the person that signs their Consent to Nomination form.

Candidates must put their full name on the nomination paper but they can complete the ‘commonly used’ section if they are known by an abbreviated or different name. However, a candidate cannot use their first name as a commonly used name so that only their first name and surname appear on a ballot paper, thus excluding their middle name.

Nomination papers must be hand delivered between the hours of 10am and 4pm from Thursday, 23 March and Tuesday, 04 April (to the Civic Entrance, South Hams District Council, Follaton House, Plymouth Road, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 5NE). They will be dealt with on a first come first served basis and will try to process them quickly and efficiently to save any long waits. Before formally accepting any papers, they will do an informal check – if there are any minor errors it is possible that these can be amended if the candidate is present, otherwise papers might need to be rejected and resubmitted (therefore, candidates please submit sooner rather than later!)

Please see the following link if you are considering standing as a parish councillor:

- <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-01/Overview%20Parish%20LGE.pdf>

2. Parsons Lane – We received a query re Parsons Lane, where it was and what evidence there is for the name. The History Group responded by saying this runs between Lower and Higher roads in Galmpton. Before Holy Trinity

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was completed the parson rode his pony from Galmpton to St Andrew's in South Huish. The mounting stone he used is still amongst the ivy in the lane. The parsonage is near the bottom end of the green lane. We have also been given details of a parishioner born at Weymouth Farm who was unaware of any other name being given to the lane.

3. The National Trust are having an open session on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 4pm – 7pm at Malborough Village Hall Annex, they've been making improvements for nature on the land we look after between Bolt Head to Bolt Tail. Come along to find out more about their work so far and see what's coming up.
4. Scam Alert - Police are warning people to be on their guard after an elderly couple from Gloucester lost more than £20,000 to fraudsters this week. The couple were called by the scammers, who claimed they were police officers from the Met investigating a criminal transaction. Officers believe that other people in the county could now be targeted and are reminding family and friends to keep an eye on elderly and vulnerable loved ones. We'll include information in the next newsletter.

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**164 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).

1. A large hole has appeared in the car park at Outer Hope, presumed to be South West Water.
2. Property below The Lanterns (Cliff House?) has had approximately three or four buckets of cement thrown in the hedge.
3. Cliff erosion adjacent to the Lobster Pods: There has been another fall, bringing the cliff edge nearer to the coast path – approximately 12in - 18in closer to the fence. It is understood that SWW viewed the area. It will be raised again with them due to this latest fall.
4. The uploaded documents on the planning portal tend to be simple drawings with notes concerning the visual effect. If a parishioner visited Follaton House would they be able to see the type of plans that would normally be sent to Building Control i.e., to incorporate Radon information. SHPC will write to Planning and Building Control to obtain a response.
5. St Clements is rarely used, there has been a suggestion that an artisan carpenter be allowed to use the building in connection with his business. If anyone would like further information or to express an interest please contact Cllr Tom Windle.

**165 DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT:**

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

1. New DCC CEO and Head of Children's Service have both settled in and getting to grips with the myriad of issues.
2. DCC Council Tax confirmed at 4.9%

**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/>

**166 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:**

Email Cllr Judy Pearce: [cllr.judy.pearce@southhams.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.judy.pearce@southhams.gov.uk)

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

1. There are discounts & premiums available in respect of business rates for selected hospitality businesses. This is available for one year only, full details are available on the South Hams District Council website.
2. Due to the Business Rates revaluation coming into force on 1 April 2023, the Government has announced a relief scheme for businesses which will cap bill increases at £600 per year for any business losing eligibility for some or all Small Business Rates Relief or Rural Rate Relief at the 2023 Valuation. If your business was receiving one of

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these reliefs, the limit in the increase in your Business Rates bill will be set at £600 per year whilst the scheme exists. You do not have to apply for this relief as it will automatically be applied to your Business Rates bill.

3. Council will deliver section 249a of The Housing Act 2004 in order to issue civil penalties as alternative to prosecution. These provisions give the local housing authority the power to issue a financial penalty for certain Housing Act 2004 offences as an alternative to prosecution.
4. South Hams District Council have now officially adopted the Armed Forces covenant.
5. The Budget for 2023/24 was endorsed at Council on 16 Feb, this included all the town and parish precepts.

| Precepting Authority                         | Band D 2023/24       | £ Increase       | % Increase   |
|--|----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| South Hams District Council                  | £185.42              | £5.00            | 2.77%        |
| Devon County Council & Adult Social Care     | £1,419.21<br>£214.92 | £46.62<br>£31.05 | 4.99%        |
| Devon & Cornwall Police & Crime Commissioner | £261.56              | £15.00           | 6.08%        |
| Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue               | £96.79               | £5.00            | 5.45%        |
| Average Parishes/Towns                       | £83.29               | £3.22            | 4.02%        |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                                | <b>£2,261.19</b>     | <b>£105.89</b>   | <b>4.91%</b> |

6. The Modbury Neighbourhood Plan is going to referendum on 9th March.
7. Cllrs Brazil & Long proposed that public conveniences are no longer charged for across the South Hams, this was recently approved by the Executive and will be actioned in due course.
8. A schedule for street sweeping will be shared with the Parish Council once the final details have been agreed. New refuse routes are also being reviewed.
9. Waste bins across the South Hams are being reviewed.
10. The garden waste collection scheme commences 6th March. Those taking part in the scheme have been provided with the relevant stickers. If you are not part of the scheme but would like your brown bins collected please make a request for this on the SHDC website.
11. A question was raised regarding the precept increase from two years ago.
12. What are South Hams District Council doing to help people who are being evicted from their residential properties. Cllr Long advised there is a specific team who are responsible for people in this category. Feedback from a local person in this situation is that they have been to Follaton House twice and have been made to feel belittled and they have been passed between people with no continuity. Details will be forwarded to Cllr Long.
13. What happened to the furniture and fitted fixtures (believed to be oak) that were removed from Chambers? Cllr Long advised that elected councillors had no detail about the decisions made until after the sale. Unelected Officers had made all the decisions with no referral. Cllr Long will provide full details of the sale and subsequent discussions to South Huish Parish Council.
14. A copy of the survey report of Grand View Road prior to Lantern Lodge works commencing has been requested by Cllr Long. South Huish Parish Council awaits sight of the document.
15. **Photo ID will be required for the May 4th Elections for anyone intending on voting at a polling station. No ID is required for postal votes. If a parishioner does not have the required ID they can either apply for a postal vote or to SHDC for a Voter Authority Certificate. More details can be found at <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/voter-ID>**

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It takes two minutes to report a problem, please help keep our community beautiful.

<https://apps.southhams.gov.uk/webreportit>

Abandoned Vehicle, Damaged or 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...

### 167 PLANNING, DECISIONS & ENFORCEMENT

#### a) LIST OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED/FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Sand Pebbles, 4031/21/FUL, Planning Inspector Appeal. We await the appeal reference.
2. Land adjacent to 39, Weymouth Park, Planning Inspector Appeal, reference: APP/K1128/W/22/3303969. Following discussion it was resolved to forward a response detailing the issues raised by parishioners and Councillors.
3. 0211/23/HHO, Maryland, Grand View Road, rear extension, front porch & new balcony, 9/3. **Object.**
4. Further to the February meeting, three Councillors have written to the Parish Clerk to request that the decision made regarding 4362/22/HHO, The Nutshell, be reviewed. Having met the requirements for a review within six months of a decision the Councillors were permitted to discuss the application again. Further to new information being received regarding this application, South Huish Parish Council resolved to request their first response be withdrawn and replaced with an **objection**.

#### 5. Neighbourhood Plan Update

The alteration to the plan is a proposed minor amendment and only concerns policy SH H2 Principal Residence. This currently states that new build properties must be a principal residence and that unrestricted new builds will not be supported at any time.

The proposed change is for the Principal Residence clause to be made stronger by making it subject to a S106 Principal Residence agreement. Essentially, over time, a PR policy can get "lost" in the paperwork, whereas a S106 PR clause would be immediately obvious each time a property comes up for sale. **South Huish Parish Council resolved to progress this alteration to help safeguard the long term community in Hope Cove due to the incredibly high number of second homes/holiday homes in the parish.**

A six week consultation will take place once we have received clarification from South Hams District Council as to exactly is what is required of us to achieve this minor amendment. No other section of the plan will be updated.

#### SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS:

1. 2886/22/HHO, 39 Weymouth Park, rear extension/alterations (22/9) **No Decision Yet.**
2. 3910/22/FUL, Sea Thrift, 22/12. **Refused.**
3. 1321/22/FUL, Thurstlestone Rock, Thurstlestone Sands, 5/1 . **No Decision Yet.**
4. 4082/22/FUL, SX 677 403, Weymouth Park, 05/01 **Refused.**
5. 4454/22/HHO, The Willows, 26/1. **Conditional Approval.**
6. Little Shear, Hope Cove (0865/21/VAR), Planning Inspector Appeal.
7. 4444/22/VAR, 39a Cove Lodge. Withdrawn.
8. 4491/22/HHO, 2 Channel View Drive. **No Decision Yet.**

#### b) ENFORCEMENT

Please note that the Enforcement Lists are confidential and issues concerning Enforcement cannot be discussed at a public meeting.

South Hams District Council are responsible for the enforcement of all planning breaches, the Parish Council have no authority to deal with issues of this nature.

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Please will all parishioners continue to report full details of any violations that do not adhere to the original application for which permission was granted. ALL violations can be reported to Enforcement via [www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3043/Report-a-Planning-Breach](http://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3043/Report-a-Planning-Breach)

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### 168 BUSINESS TO BE NOTED/DISCUSSED:

- a) Coronation Update & resolution to approve funds for the event. £1,000 was put aside for community events in the last budget, it was resolved to fund the project up to a cost of £400, any additional funding requirements could be approved at a future meeting.
- b) To consider renewal of the Defibrillator lease at £3,000 plus VAT due January 2024, for a four-year contract subject to the same terms and conditions as previously agreed. Councillors resolved to renew the contract when it falls due in January 2024.
- c) To resolve the purchase of a scanner to scan the minute books and upload to the website. Councillors resolved to purchase a scanner costing £173. A request will be made for localities funding. Cllr Windle suggested the History Group may be able to assist with the project.
- d) To resolve to cut back overgrowth by the public seating next to the South Hams District Council parking, Inner Hope. Cllr Windle agreed to undertake the works to improve the viewpoint.
- e) SMASH Update – No March meeting was held. The next meeting is due on 5<sup>th</sup> April. A suggestion was made to encourage parishioners to improve their awareness of positive carbon decisions when undertaking repair/replace/gardening projects. This will be taken to the SMASH group.
- f) Parking Project. See Appendix A.
- g) Signing of the Civility & Respect Pledge. The Civility and Respect Pledge was signed by the Chairman as resolved in September 2022 ref 132, b, 3.

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### 169 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

- a) Receipts & Payments – Month 12, Clerks Salary & HMRC

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At 20.38 hrs the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.

#### Items for the next agenda:

**2023 Meeting Dates:** 12<sup>th</sup> Apr, 16<sup>th</sup> May, 14<sup>th</sup> Jun, 12<sup>th</sup> Jul, 13<sup>th</sup> Sept, 11<sup>th</sup> Oct, 8<sup>th</sup> Nov.

**2023 Parking Project:** 22<sup>nd</sup> Mar, 26<sup>th</sup> Apr, 28<sup>th</sup> June, 27<sup>th</sup> Sept, 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

**Please watch the website and noticeboards\* for details of meetings and other pertinent information.**

**\* SHPC are not always able to update the noticeboard opposite the Post Office due to vehicular obstruction.**

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

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

Agenda Items and Updates; where possible please submit to the Clerk by the first Wednesday 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 the Clerk for distribution) together with their apologies.

**Distribution List** : Cllrs Carter, Hocking, James, Pearson, Rossiter, Rundle & Windle **for Information to:** County Cllr R Gilbert, Dist. Cllr Judy Pearce, Dist. Cllr Mark Long, South Huish Parish Council Notice Boards, National Trust, Richard Pollard, Dave Illingworth