

Minutes of the meeting of Bigbury Parish Council (BPC) held on **Wednesday, October 11th, 2023**,
at the **Memorial Hall (MH), St Ann's Chapel** at 7:30pm.

Present: Cllr. S. Watts (SW), Chairman, Cllr. V. Scott (VS), Cllr. C Case (CC), Cllr D Molesworth (DM), Cllr. H. Marshall (HM), Cllr. J. Fish (JF), Clerk, I. Bramble (IB) and 17 other members of the public (MsP).

1. Welcome

Talk by Ms V Garner South West Water.

Constrained by time, Ms Garner's presentation and accompanying slides, available on the Community Website, described the combined sewage and storm water systems which predominate in the south west and the circumstances under which sewage overflow occurs. Major points brought up by SWW in the time available were; that the treatment process removes up to 90% of bacteria and that ultra violet treatment at the final stage improves removal of bacteria to achieve a water purity level of over 99%;

- there are 1042 storm overflows in the SW all of which are now monitored, with a commitment by SWW to reduce overflows to target levels by 2040, ahead of government targets
- the break and blockage in the discharge pipe which had caused pollution just offshore, earlier in the year has been repaired
- infiltration into the system from sea water, chemicals in agricultural run-off are problems in the SW
- further seepage into the system also occurs from overflow and urban run off
- new housing developments are required to keep sewage separate from storm overflows
- based on monitoring results SWW insist that bathing water at B on S. rates from 'good' to 'excellent'
- The Environment Agency (EA) monitors water quality not SWW

MsP commented strongly about the observed levels of pollution during the summer months and on one occasion the EA had ordered closure of the beach at B. on S. due to problems with the discharge pipe from the B. on S. sewage treatment works. Also, that tankering of sewage away from B. on S. was still occurring at weekends and late evening.

2. Open Session: Members of the public are invited to speak on matters of concern.

- i) The matter of new white lining needed for the road around Bigbury Green was raised. **IB action**
- ii) A MP complained about the installation of leylandi hedging by a neighbour, and also noted that it is not a species native to the area. SW explained that this was a legal issue between neighbours and not a planning matter, which BPC could control or influence. VS advised that it is allowable for trees to be planted by residents without planning approval, which only becomes necessary if a part of a landscaping plan, for which planning approval would then be required.
- iii) A MP raised the matter of hoardings now erected in front of the Seafront site and for which planning approval had not been obtained. This is to be investigated. **IB action**
- iv) Also raised were examples of house sale notices being left in place for too long with the sign at the Royal Oak site, left up long after the housing has been sold and serves now only as an advert for the developer and its contact details and is an unnecessary distraction at a dangerous corner. **IB action**
- v) A MP brought up the matter of overhanging trees impeding vision in Parker Road. **IB action**

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Wainwright, DCC, Cllr Gilbert and SHDC Cllr. Taylor.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Approval of minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, September 13th, 2023

Subject to a deletion from Minute 22, a repetition from Minute 21, SW proposed approval, CC seconded and Councillors approved unanimously.

6. Matters arising from the meeting held on Wednesday, September July 13th, 2023

- i) The roadside mirror in St Ann's Chapel has been removed, with its support framework left in place on site
- ii) Councillors were asked to advise BPC of their membership of outside bodies, with regard to BPC expressing a desire to be represented on some outside bodies. SW volunteered to replace CC as the PC

representative on the Memorial Hall committee.

- iii) The landowner concerned has agreed to cut back foliage etc at Harraton Cross to improve visibility at the junction
- iv) The new Parish laptop is in place with the inclusion of Windows Office 11 taking it slightly over budget, see below.
- v) Pothole Register:- Reports from Parishioners are now being registered by the Clerk.

7. County Councillor's report

RG had nothing to report this month on specific DCC matters.

8. District Councillor's Report

In his absence BT asked for SHDC's Strategy Document to be mentioned. It is now available on the parish website.

9. Planning Related Matters

SHDC Response Date

3149/23/FUL:- Noddon Farmhouse, Ringmore, TQ7 4HF

26/10/23

VS reported that the proposed change of use of land, within the AONB and in the Heritage and Undeveloped Coast, concerned the Neighbourhood Plan Committee (NPC), as agricultural land would be lost by bringing it within the curtilage of the house and possibly leading to further residential development on what is now agricultural land. Therefore, the proposal was considered to conflict with Joint Local Plan policies; TTV26(Development in the Countryside); DEV 5 (Supporting the rural economy), DEV24(Undeveloped Coast and Landscape Character), DEV25 (Nationally Protected Landscapes). It would also be contrary to Bigbury Neighbourhood Plan Policy BP18 (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty). Councillors discussed the above issues after which SW proposed objection for the above reasons, DM seconded, VS agreed, JF agreed; HM abstained and CC objected.

3108/23/VAR:- Cleveland, Warren Drive, Bigbury on Sea, TQ7 4AH.

2/11/23

Application for variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning consent 0583/23/HHO

VS advised that the NPC had discussed and considered the proposals not to be harmful to neighbours, nor detrimental to the street scene, nor the AONB. Councillors discussed the proposal and noted that plans were missing from the SHDC website and had not been available at the time of discussion by the NPC. VS proposed no objection, DM seconded and Councillors agreed unanimously

VS presented a review of planning application decisions during the last month and reported that the 'Sea Haven' proposal for which BPC had recommended objection had been recommended for approval,, initially by the Case Officer, then taken to the Development and Management Committee which voted to approve the proposal.

10. Financial Statement

Payments due in October 2023.

£ 11.70: - I. Bramble; Clerk's mileage: Bigbury. Oct. 2nd NHC meeting 45p/mile
£ 8.10: - I. Bramble; Clerk's mileage: St Ann's Chapel, BPC Sept. 13th 45p/mile
£ 852.60: - I. Bramble; Clerk's salary, July, Aug. & Sept. 2023££
£ 192.60: - I. Bramble; Clerk's salary increase backdated to April, 2023; Minute 13., September 13th BPC
£ 95.88: - I. Bramble; Clerk's payment of annual Dropbox cloud storage subscription
£ 5.33: - I. Bramble; Clerk's printer ink
£ 32.03: - I. Bramble; Clerk's payment for emulsion for pothole repairs supplied by Wolseley, Plymouth..
£ 13.12: - Cllr S.Watts purchase of dog warning signs, supplied by Seton UK
£ 531 00: - TGO Web Services Parish Laptop and installation, inc.Microsoft Office 11
£ 20.00: - CPRE Donation

The cash book has been updated to September 30th, 2023 for uploading onto the Bigbury Parish website. The cash book and bank statements have been reconciled to September 30th, 2023 at £61,482.29 and the working surplus stands at £17,038.29

After presentation of the above statement SW proposed approval, HM seconded and Councillors was unanimous.

11. Budget and monitoring PC expenditure

SW advised that the 'Forecast and Cash Flow' document was still being developed and that it would be ready and usable for the precept discussions in November.

CC asked that precept requests from any parish organisations should be made known to BPC before those precept discussions.

12. Progress on play park improvement

SW summarised the position now that it appeared that the Trustees of the playing field and play park would be unlikely to agree a long term lease on it, thus inhibiting development. Alternative options were discussed with the most straightforward being the repair and improvement of kit on the exiting site. VS suggested the approval to develop the green space would be unlikely, while the question of S106 funds earmarked for the re-equipment being time limited was raised. The need to move the project to the stage of obtaining firm quotes for the equipment

required and its fitment into the playpark was recognised. CC proposed that quotes be obtained for the November meeting, SW seconded and Councillors supported unanimously. **CC to action**

13. Pothole repair update and Pothole Register

SW reported on progress. Repairs by our own Lengthsmen and two volunteers had started without mishap on 2 nd October and that with further order of bitumen due for delivery on October 18th, work can move ahead.

13. Nutrient Neutrality

Not discussed due to the cancellation of the original government proposals.

14. Defibrillator Training and First Responder Training.

Dates for availability are still awaited from SWAS

IB action

15. SHDC Cluster group meeting.

IB reported on the recent meeting of SHDC Parishes at which the leader of SHDC, Cllr Brazil. outlined the Council's strategy for the next 4 years, with 4 'areas of focus'; Housing, Economy and Jobs; Community Services and Climate and Biodiversity. The full document is on the Community website. Cllr Brazil expressed strong support for community volunteer groups.

16. GDPR - review of draft document pre-circulated (SW)

Councillors were concerned that BPC should conform to the GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) that came into force on May 25 th 2018. DALC had been consulted. Also, the 'bcc' facility should be employed when sending emails to avoid unnecessary disclosure of contact information. It was pointed out that the document was a 'living document' which can be developed with time.

SW proposed that the document presented be approved, JF seconded and Councillors supported unanimously. The new GDPR policy is now available for inspection on the Bigbury Community website.

17. Correspondence received

An invitation to the AGM of the South Hams CVS had been received

An environmental group in Chardstock in East Devon has written asking for support for DCC to turn street lighting off completely, or at least after 10:00pm. IB to reply that BPC supports SHDC's dark skies policy. **IB action**

18. Any Other Business

No other matters were raised.

The meeting closed at 9:50pm.,

Also

Draft minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held in **the Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel at 7:30pm on Wednesday, November 8th, 2023.**

Signed Chairman

Dated.....