

SHEVIOCK PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the **Annual Parish Council Meeting** held on Monday 10th May 2010 in the Chapel Schoolroom, Crafhole at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT. Councillors JM Snowling Vice Chairman, Mrs. D Mathias, Mrs. E Heapy, P Nicholas, C Wallin, P Harrison PC P Libby Sgt A Crow, the Clerk DMG Dunn and the new Clerk C Crawford. There were no members of the public present.

1. APOLOGIES.

There were apologies from C Kennedy and G Trubody.

2. OUTGOING CHAIRMANS ANNUAL REPORT.

The Vice Chairman presented the outgoing Chairman's annual report.

2009/10 Annual Report: Sheviock Parish Council.

In general terms the functions of the Council are:

- To exercise statutory powers conferred by legislation and those that may be delegated by Cornwall Council.
- To protect, enhance and promote the environment of the Parish.
- To protect, enhance and promote the collective interests and well-being of the residents of the Parish.
- To make representations to Cornwall Council and any other Statutory Body or Public Utility on matters affecting the residents of the Parish.

In real terms, this means that the Parish Council has direct responsibilities for local amenities including grass cutting and footpaths and has a consultative role on matters such as Planning and Highways and Dog Control Orders. The consultative role involves working with County Councillors and Council Officers to try and get funds made available for work in our area and to try and ensure that local views are given due weight when deciding on Planning issues.

Our successes over the past year have included getting Sheviock Lane repaired and most recently getting the main road through Crafhole resurfaced. The latter should reduce noise and vibration from the lorries for residents living along the route. We remain in discussion with Cornwall highways for an additional speed hump near Sheviock Lane to reduce speed through the narrow section and approaching the village hall, better advanced signing of the mini roundabout and a build out at the roundabout itself to protect pedestrians approaching the shop.

A second post box has been introduced in Crafhole during the past year resulting from a request to the forum on the Parish Council website and the Council subsequently approaching the Post Office. When first introduced it caused some disquiet over its position, but generally it now seems to be accepted and Steve the Postman has told me it is well used.

We have also been successful in revising the Cornwall grant towards grass cutting of the footpaths in the Parish. Historically this has been set at around £270 and the Parish has subsidised the work. This year we renegotiated the agreement and increased the grant to £695, almost entirely removing the need for subsidy. The move to a Unitary Authority

also provides the opportunity for the Parish Council to take on additional responsibilities and functions. We negotiated with Cornwall Highways to take over the responsibility for cutting grass over amenity areas within villages of the Parish. These areas should be cut 4 times a year but previously highways had cut them when it was convenient and often only once or at most twice a year. We now get our costs covered to carry out the work and arrange it to be done when it needs to be cut, to maintain appearance and safety, and also make sure the 4 cuts are applied.

The storm damage to warning signs erected by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) on Blackball Beach and their subsequent re-location over the past 10 years, has led a number of parishioners to ask if there really is a risk of injury by using the beach when firing is taking place. The Parish Council has held a number of meetings with the MoD who have been very open in the information provided. It has become clear from these meetings that the risk of ricochets occurring, which could result in injury to those using the beach, is significant. The Parish Council has, as a consequence, recommended to the MoD a warning sign, explaining the danger when red flags are flying, should be placed on the gate along the permissive footpath that gives access to the beach.

All the councillors are committed to make the processes of the Parish Council open and transparent. During the past year we have continued to make significant changes in the way we work. In an effort to make it easier for residents to inform councillors of their concerns and expectations we have introduced Council Surgeries. These are held every second month on the Saturday morning preceding the monthly Parish Council meeting, between 9.30 and 10.30 and rotate between the Hotel in Portwrinkle, the Community Shop in Crafhole and St Mary's Church in Shevioc. Although not yet the busiest hour councillors spend, residents are attending and we offer this as an additional way of contacting us because we cannot address your concerns unless you make us aware of them. Details of the times are in the Parish Newsletter and on the Parish Council website www.sheviocparish.org.uk.

The most contentious issue of the year has undoubtedly been the debate over dogs on the beaches in Portwrinkle during the summer months. After discussion at three Parish Council Meetings and two Parish Meetings a consensus was reached and it was agreed that the current Bye Law banning dogs on both beaches should be replaced by a Dog Control Order banning dogs from the Slipway, Harbour and Harbour Beach from Easter Day to 1st October. A request to this effect was submitted to Cornwall Council but they have not actioned our request. It seems that this will now not happen until 2011; it is very unfortunate that the localism we were promised from the new Unitary Authority is badly lacking when it comes to implementing requests that have gone through a local democratic process.

Our major ongoing issue remains speed on the A374 and in particular the speed in Shevioc. We continue in discussion with officers from Cornwall but this is proving to be a slow process. Even if eventually we are successful in getting agreement on lower limits, ultimately it will come down to finding sources of funding to cover the cost of changes to traffic regulations and of erecting new signs. Nevertheless this remains a major priority for the Parish Council and we will continue to press for change in any way we can via our new MP, our County Councillor, George Trubody and the officers from Cornwall Highways.

The most significant change that you will all notice in the running of the Parish Council will result from the retirement of our Clerk, Dave Dunn. Dave has been the Clerk for over 7 years and has tremendous experience of the role and, of course, many more years than that of local knowledge. We will certainly miss him but wish him a long and very happy retirement. We have appointed a new Clerk, Caroline Crawford from Torpoint. Caroline will overlap with Dave for a few weeks before commencing the duties on her own from mid May 2010. Caroline will work in the Bill Warren Room at the Memorial Hall in Craffhole and will be available to members of the public every Tuesday from 2 to 5 pm except for her holiday periods; this is another change in our working that will provide greater access for all residents to the Parish Council.

Our consultative role in harnessing opinion and influencing Cornwall Council remains our major way of influencing opinion and improving the well being of the community but we can only be successful in this if we are aware of your issues and aspirations and can demonstrate the weight of local feelings. To achieve this we encourage everyone to contact the Parish Council using all the options available – writing to the Clerk at the Bill Warren Room, telephone or e-mail to the clerk or the Councillors, submitting a note to the Forum under the Community tab on the Parish Council website, attending the Public Participation Session at the start of each Parish Council Meeting, coming to a Parish Surgery, or simply talking to councillors when we are out and about.

Chris Kennedy

Chairman 2009/10

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

It was proposed by Councillor Snowling and seconded by Councillor Heapy that the existing Chairman be re-elected. Carried.

Councillor Kennedy was re-elected as Chairman.

4. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN.

It was proposed by Councillor Harrison and seconded by Councillor Wallin for Councillor Snowling as Vice Chairman. Carried.

Councillor Snowling was duly elected as Vice Chairman.

5. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11th MAY 2009.

The minutes were proposed by Councillor Mathias and seconded by Councillor Nicholas. Carried.

The Vice Chairman signed the minutes.

6. ELECTION OF THE FOLLOWING REPRESENTATIVES.

CALC. The Chairman and Vice Chairman were duly elected.

CAPTC. The Chairman and Vice Chairman were duly elected.

PLANNING. Councillor Mathias was duly elected.

TREE WARDEN. Councillors Kennedy and Nicholas were duly elected.

FOOTPATHS. The Chairman and Councillor Nicholas were duly elected.

TRANSPORT. Councillor Nicholas was duly elected.

RAME PENINSULA TRANSPORT. Councillor Harrison was duly elected.

RAME PENINSULA TRUST and HOUSING GROUP. Councillor Nicholas was duly elected.

MEMORIAL HALL. Councillors Mathias was duly elected.

POLICE REPRESENTATIVE and POLICE PACT LIAISON OFFICER. Councillor Harrison was duly elected.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.10 p.m.

**DMG Dunn
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