

10 Members of the public were present

Present: Mr R Tully (Chairman), Mrs C Hunt, Miss E Bridge, Miss P Ellis, Mr P. Fenwick, Mrs R. Garner, Mr I Jones, Mr H Rawlings and Mr J Robinson.

In Attendance: District Cllr Rose Rowe

1 **Apologies** – County Cllr Trevor Pennington

2 **Police Report** – From a report received Cllr Robinson advised that no crimes had been reported.

3 **To confirm the minutes of the last meeting on 28th January 2013**

Taken as read and signed by the Chairman,

4 **Matters arising from the Minutes** – None

5 **Chairman's Report** – The Chairman thanked all the members of the Parish that attended the last meeting on 28th January 2013. The village support given to this Council and all Cllrs was very gratifying. The contributions and general discussion that took place showed the overwhelming support to our Cllr acting as Clerk Cllr Robinson. Cllr Tully advised that he knew how Cllr Robinson freely donated his time and energy in his involvement with the Parish Council. Cllr Tully stated that the swift response to e-mails, phone calls and walking around the village receiving comments and information was crucial to the accurate and effective manner this Council is run. Our County Cllr Trevor Pennington and District Cllr Rose Rowe both support Cllr Robinson and this Council and they are both qualified to comment even though Cllr Pennington thought his own Parish Council at Marldon was the most effective. Cllr Tully thanked Cllr Robinson for continuing in the dual role and advised that the financial savings to the whole Parish were greatly appreciated by most of the Parishioners. Cllr Hunt then asked Cllr Robinson if he wished to comment. Cllr Robinson thanked the Chairman for his kind words and advised that on a personal basis he was very moved by the amount of support shown for both himself and the Parish Council and was pleased to confirm that he would continue as a Parish Councillor and Councillor acting as Clerk for the duration of the current session of this Council.

6 **Reports from County & District Councillors** – Cllr Rowe advised that the Council tax for 2013/14 had been agreed. The annual cost would be £ 1517.91 for a band D property. This equated to £ 142.71 for South Hams District Council, £ 1116.36 for the County Council, £ 162.92 for the police, £ 75.39 for the fire service and £ 20.53 for the Parish.

7 **Reports from Sub-Committees** Cllr Fenwick advised that SHDC had generated a lengthy list of remedial work varying at Rows Meadow from demolition & rebuild of boundary walls in some places to scrape & repoint in others. Regarding Cavanna Homes he had attended a drop in / workshop at Dartington to gain an understanding of how the Master plan process is working and particularly how the Steering Group and workshops operate. Cllr Fenwick intends to get further inputs from South Hams to be held on Wednesday 27th February. Cavanna's current focus is to get the Dartington Planning submission into South Hams. There were a number of areas where working groups could become involved. They were AONB surveys and Management Plan: Preparing for 2014-2019. The following workshops were also planned: - . Planning and Sustainable Development on Thursday 28th February at Stoke Fleming Village Hall, 12.30 - 4.30pm, Biodiversity and Land Management on Wednesday 6th March at Aveton Gifford Parish Hall, 12 - 4pm, Food, Farming and Produce on Tuesday 12th March at Newton and Noss Village Hall, 12.30 -4.30pm. The South Devon Marine Conservation Zones designation Consultation is due by March 31st. This will cover the Dart estuary as well as Torbay and the Skerries. Cllr Rawlings advised that work on the updated web site was almost complete.

8 **Planning** The following planning application had been considered at a meeting held on 25th February 2013

1. Splatt Lodge, Aish Road – Alterations to ground floor **No objection**

Planning Applications Granted by SHDC –

1. 3 River View, Mill Hill – extension to property
2. Brook Cottage, Byter Mill Lane – Change of use to holiday accommodation

Planning Applications refused by SHDC – NoneApplications Withdrawn –

- 1) Land at SX 8458, Aish - Change of use of land to holiday enterprise to include erection of 8 yurts and toilet/shower block, storage containers and pond

Appeals Received by SHDC – NoneOngoing Applications – None

9 Items raised on behalf of the Clerk – Cllr Robinson advised that following the complaint about him under the Code of Conduct received by the Monitoring Officer at South Hams District Council he had received a reply to his letter to the Charity which the complainant apparently represented. The letter advised that the Board of Trustees had looked at the matter and were satisfied that Mrs Frost was acting in a personal rather than an organisational capacity. They regretted the fact that Cllr Robinson felt the need to write about one of their members on such a serious matter and pointed out that Mrs Frost stood down as a trustee on 1st November 2012. Cllr Robinson advised the Council that this was three days after the meeting that she had attended. Cllr Robinson also suggested that the Parish Council and County Cllr Pennington had been misinformed. From a question raised by the Chairman Cllr Robinson confirmed that the possibility of obtaining a Compulsory Purchase Order on a suitable piece of land for a future burial site was still on going with the District Council. Cllr Robinson advised that we had received a Reminder about the ‘Community Right to Bid’. The Localism Act places a new duty on the District Council to “maintain a list of land in its area that is land of community value”, as nominated by the local community. If any land or buildings on this list then come up for sale, the local community can be given six months to prepare a bid to buy the land. This new Community Right gives local communities more time to assist in buying key community assets that are for sale on the open market. The Right to Bid does not require the owner to sell to a community group; it only improves the opportunity of this outcome. Town and Parish Councils can nominate local assets for inclusion on the South Hams List of Assets of Community Value. Cllr Fenwick reminded that Cllr Jones had suggested that the Parish Plan Group be asked to submit ideas for this list. This was agreed

10 Hoyle Copse Cllr. Jones reported that work on the northern boundary and the quarry floor has been completed for this season. New trees and shrubs have been planted to increase the size and density of the Linden Homes screen and further work on this is in progress. Rob Teague has obtained quotations for a tawny owl box which had been ordered and has now been fixed to an ash tree in the centre of the Copse. At the same time tit boxes and a robin box were installed. Clerk to write to Rob Teague to thank him for his help and reimburse him for the cost of the tawny owl box at£75.00. The other boxes were donated by Channing’s Wood Prison.

11 Highway and Hedgerow Matters – Cllr Robinson requested confirmation that all public footpaths and been walked and checked. This was confirmed by those who had agreed to carry out this task. A copy of the footpath list would be submitted to Cllr Rawlings for the new website. Cllr Hunt reported that the stile at the entrance to the narrows had been damaged. From the floor Trevor Sedgbeer agreed to inspect the damage. A letter would be written to Torbay Council concerning the potholes at White Hill, Port Hill and in Yalberton Road. Cllr Jones advised that he was pleased with the way that Aish Road had been repaired. Cllr Fenwick reflected a parishioner’s concern about the risk of land slippage and falling trees along the north side of the Mill pool. It was agreed that Cllr Jones would carry out a risk assessment with the tree warden & Cllr Fenwick. Cllr Garner advised that cracks were appearing at the far end of Byter Mill Lane. A letter would be written to Devon Highways. Cllr Ellis advised that the very large potholes outside the Church Inn car park and outside Yarde in Paignton Road still had not been repaired. Cllr Ellis raised concerns over speeding in the village. Cllr Rowe advised that the police had been out recently with speed cameras. Cllr Ellis also requested the possibility of placing signs at the Waddeton Road end of Broadpath indicating that it was unsuitable for lorries. Regarding the clearance of ivy from the stone walls in the orchard Cllr Jones

advised that the job was in hand and would soon be completed. Cllr Robinson advised that he had heard from the owner of the land at the far side of the causeway who was concerned about a fir tree which had caused damage to a stone wall. Arrangements had been made to have the tree inspected and removed and he had placed a rope and no entry signs to prevent anyone accessing this area. When visiting the area the following morning the landowner found that the rope and signs had been removed. Cllr Robinson advised that the area beyond the causeway is private land with no right of public access.

12 Matters raised by Councillors – Cllr Fenwick proposed the replacement of the waste Bin at the seating area above the War Memorial as it was now broken. The cost would be bin £280 + Vat + £94-77 Fitting. The bin would be of 130 litre capacity, green in colour with internal seagull flaps and floor mounted. This was agreed by all and will now be ordered from SHDC. Referring to the report given by Cllr Fenwick concerning the stone wall at Rows Meadow Cllr Jones was concerned that despite numerous letters over a ten month period he had not heard from South Hams District Council about his complaint about the stone walling at a new property in Hoyle Lane. The letter to SHDC about stone walls in the Parish written by Cllr Robinson had also not been responded to. District Cllr Rowe suggested sending a copy to Marian Playle, Head of Planning. Following a suggestion from Dr Neil Millward, Cllr Jones proposed that in order to prevent future problems with the disregarding of the Planning Conditions relating to the use of local stone on building works, that a Village Stone Warden be appointed. This would be an unpaid position and the warden would ensure that only true local stone is used and laid in the correct style and a sample panel be approved before such work commences. It would also be a requirement of all planning approvals that any local stone removed from buildings or stone walls shall not be taken to a tip but gifted to the Parish and stored for future projects. A suitable storage site has been located. Details of this proposal will be firmed up and SHDC requested to include such provisions in future planning approvals. Dr Millward has offered to take on the position when agreed by SHDC. Cllr Jones and Dr Millward have been working on a village map to show the Parish boundaries, footpaths and places of interest etc. The scale of the map would be 1:5000 and it would be quite large and produced in a weather proof material. It was agreed to proceed with the project and possibly several copies produced to be displayed at prominent positions in the village. Cllr Bridge reported on changes to the South Hams District Council Local Allocation Policy. A key statement is that in very rural villages with general needs social rented housing stock of less than 100 properties, preference will be given to local households, provided they have an existing housing need ie bands A - D. Stoke Gabriel falls within this definition. Feedback is required on this policy by 15th March. Cllr Bridge proposed, seconded by Cllr Fenwick, that we confirm support for this Policy. This was agreed unanimously. Cllr Bridge suggested that a new housing needs survey was not necessary as the principle of the development of the land opposite the garage had already been agreed by the planning inspector. There was a survey of housing bands coming up soon. Cllr Ellis asked if the tree in remembrance of a Parishioner had been ordered as there was sufficient money left. Cllr Jones confirmed that it had. Cllr Bridge advised that the weather station was not working. The Chairman advised that County Cllr Trevor Pennington was retiring in May and it was agreed that the Council would make presentation to him. Cllr Tully also read out a letter from a Parishioner suggesting that the environment is increasingly becoming one of the major talking points in communities and could the Parish Council consider an environment subcommittee. It was agreed to consider this proposal and reply to the Parishioner.

13 Accounts

To agree the following payments

It was proposed by Cllr Ellis and seconded by Cllr Bridge to make these payments

J Robinson – Expenses	£ 145.49
Blacksnow – Parish Plan/ Parish web hosting	£ 255.87

It was agreed to make a payment to Dr Teague for the purchase of an owl box when the invoice is received.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.45pm

Date of next Meeting- The next meeting is Monday 25th March 2013