

**13 Members of the public were present**

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

In Attendance: District Cllr Rose Rowe

**1** Apologies – Mrs C Hunt and Mrs R. Garner

**2** Police Report – From a report received Cllr Robinson advised that there was criminal damage to a vehicle in the area of Rowes Meadow in March and criminal damage to the village hall in April. Theft of lead occurred at the Gabriel Court Hotel on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April. The Police have requested that if residents in Stoke Gabriel are victims of criminal damage please call 101 and report. They have heard second/ third hand reports of damage in the village but residents need to report this and call at the time to report the damage and not wait to see an officer in the village as they lose valuable investigation time by waiting. Cllr Robinson advised that the Chairman of the village hall committee has met with the Head teacher of the school regarding complaints that users of the village hall are blocking the emergency fire exit from the primary school.

**3** To confirm the minutes of the last meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2013

Taken as read and signed by the Chairman,

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

**5** Chairman's Report – The Chairman had nothing to report other than the items on the agenda.

**6** Reports from County & District Councillors – Cllr Rowe advised that since her last report issues had progressed at Follaton House and the Annual Meeting would be held in May.

**7** Reports from Sub-Committees From a report received from Cllr Garner Cllr Fenwick advised that she had attended the SHDC planning seminar last month - topics included the NPPF, the Localism Act, and Neighbourhood Plans. There was a call to ask if any Parish Councils had any specific topics they'd like further seminars on - Sustainability and Neighbourhood Plans were mentioned. The Parish Plan Group held their first Open Meeting. Richard Harris' talk was well attended, and we will be following up with a further discussion next month on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 9.15am Baptist Chapel Meeting Rooms. People are aware that the input they have may be limited, but they wanted to start becoming aware of the issues and discussing for themselves so that they're prepared for the official Master planning process. Richard's talk was an informative and helpful preparation for Cavanna's forums, and his discussion document may also act as a focus to begin creating a Village Design Statement. Community Assets were also discussed - we have made a shortlist which we are now looking at the implications of. We'll have a completed list for the PC's perusal at May's PC meeting. Cllr Robinson raised concerns over the item shown in the minutes of the Parish Plan meeting advising that eight sites offered to SHDC for re-development were owned by local people. He was also concerned that having paid for three years web hosting the Parish Plan web site had not been updated since 2008. Cllr Robinson questioned the list of assets which appeared on a new village site. From the floor Mrs Lovejoy advised that this was a list of assets not a wish list and agreed to discuss this with Cllr Robinson after the meeting. Cllr Fenwick reported that the Council were still having difficulties in getting responses from SHDC & DCC highways, and on one topic Linden to progress outstanding issues. We have had a non-committal response from Dave Kenyon. Cllr Fenwick has issued his intent to escalate in all three organisations and believes that as a Parish Council we should do this to Chief Execs and MD of Linden. Cllr Fenwick asked for agreement. It was agreed to wait until the next meeting with Linden Homes scheduled for next week. Regarding the Cavanna development the following Parishioners had agreed, subject to Parish Council approval, to join the Steering Group for the Paignton Road project. They are Paul Bedford, Michael Webster, Rebecca Gilmore and Richard Addison. These members will be in addition to Cllrs Fenwick and Robinson and the District Councillor, as well as a SHDC planning officer and Cavanna representatives. Cllr Fenwick requested approval which was given by all. Cllr Fenwick would encourage as many people as possible to participate in working groups throughout the process we are about to embark on. The Parish Plan

Group have already begun an excellent process to generate ideas & discussions towards this and I would encourage as many people as possible to join these. Regarding the Paignton Neighbourhood Plan Meeting it seems likely that Taylor Wimpey will resubmit at Collaton rather than appeal. Collaton is recommended for development possibly beyond 5 years time by the consultants advising on the local plan. Cllr Fenwick had attended this meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> April. The intention is to produce a draft plan by September. What is obvious is that this is a highly complicated process and even when led by a highly competent and qualified individual it is difficult and time consuming. Regrettably because of the housing supply shortage in South Hams he believed that we should be giving this route serious thought to try and get some control over our housing destiny – right now we are a sitting duck. Since a plan must conform to a local development plan which is now under review the advice from SHDC is watch this space. However he believed that we should get independent quotes to assess our need and way forward, I personally have neither the expertise nor the time to lead this process. Cllr Rawlings advised that progress on the new web site was on going and had received an offer from a Parishioner who has agreed to take on the task of putting the actual content in, and he have met with her to show her how to use the system he has set up.

**8 Planning** The following planning application had been considered at a meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2013 at which the following councillors were present: Ellis, Robinson, Tully and Bridge.

1. 3 Rowes Farm Barns, Aish Road – Erection of conservatory **Objection Would accept hard wood design not aluminium**
2. 9 Andrews Park, Rowes Meadow - Erection of hard wood conservatory **No objection**

Planning Applications Granted by SHDC –

1. Splatt Lodge, Aish Road – new study and kitchen
2. The River Shack, Mill Hill - Timber decking and window sills

Planning Applications refused by SHDC – None

Applications Withdrawn – None

Appeals Received by SHDC – None

Ongoing Applications – Cllr Robinson advised that he had attended a District Development Committee site inspection during the afternoon. He was appalled at the way this meeting had been conducted with only three District Cllrs being able to vote and no consideration being given to the views raised by both himself and Cllr Rowe. It was agreed that a strong letter be written to the Chairman of the Development Control Committee.

**9 Items raised on behalf of the Clerk** – Cllr Robinson passed copies of the Countryside Voice and Devon Senior Voices magazines to the Cllrs present. He read out a thank you letter received from District Cllr Pennington and advised that to celebrate 140 years in business Luscombe Maye wished to donate a specimen oak tree to all Parishes. It was agreed to accept this kind offer. Cllr Robinson confirmed that a further letter had been written to the Local Government Boundary Commission regarding their decision to reduce the number of District Cllr from 40 to 30. A reply had been received from South Hams regarding the winter cleaning of the Parish toilets. They advised that further consultations were in hand and would contact us further with our offer of taking on this task on their behalf. Cllr Robinson advised that both halves of the field behind Rowes Meadow had now been sold but to the same person. Cllr Robinson had met with the owner who had agreed to consider selling to this Council the top half adjacent to Hoyle Copse and the access strip already owned by the Council. A price of £ 30,000.00 had been suggested. This would include a permitted pedestrian access strip from the Hoyle Lane entrance to the field. Cllr Robinson advised that before further discussions could take place confirmation was required from South Hams District Council that change of use on the land to a burial site would be accepted but requested approval from the Council for him to continue enquiries. Cllr Jones proposed that this should be accepted and requested that the Council's thanks to Cllr Robinson for his quiet and careful negotiations approach to this deal be minuted. This was agreed by all. Cllr Ellis reminded the Council that Cllr Robinson had acted as Clerk without payment for the last six years to enable the Council to save sufficient funds to ensure that a future burial site could be purchased.

**10** **Hoyle Copse** Cllr. Jones reported that work in the Copse had now finished for this season as bird nesting was in full swing. Work carried out last month included strimming areas previously cleared of brambles and also clearing and tidying up the area near the Copse entrance in Path field. Cllr Jones advised that the “Copse Gang” should be very proud as despite unfavourable weather conditions for many weeks much was achieved including major work on the north side of the Copse, clearing the quarry and planting new areas of woodland. The Gang has now commenced work in the village orchard. Two new cider apple trees have been planted and new signs were required for those who had donated them. Cllr Jones was pleased to be able to show the Chairman and Cllr Robinson around the Copse recently. Both Cllrs agreed that the Copse was looking magnificent and thanked Cllr Jones for his time.

**11** **Highway and Hedgerow Matters** – Cllr Ellis expressed concern over the wall in Coombe Shute which had been propped up by two steel posts but was considerably weakened. The road sign in Flood Street needed to be replaced on the wall. From the floor Trevor Sedgbeer agreed to arrange this. Some of the Parish benches required work. It was agreed to speak to Dudley Holmes. The toilet sign was missing outside the Church House Inn and a pothole had appeared in Broad Path. Cllr Bridge reported that the ditch in Lembury Lane had become dangerous. Cllr Rawlings reported that there were potholes in Flood Street, Holye Lane, Vicarage Road and Stoke Hill. Cllr Robinson advised that Hoyle Lane outside Willow Cottage would be closed between 15<sup>th</sup> July and 19<sup>th</sup> July for essential water infrastructure works.

**12** **Matters raised by Councillors** – Cllr Ellis requested consideration to place boards showing the names of the species of apple trees in the Parish Orchard. Cllr Jones agreed to look at this.

**13** **Accounts**

Cllr Robinson advised that £ 350.00 had been received from Devon County Council for their annual contribution towards verge cutting.

**To agree the following payments**

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

J Robinson – Expenses	£ 37.10
DALC – Annual Subscriptions	£ 280.45
Came & Co – Annual Insurance	£ 613.36

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.45pm

**Date of next Meeting- The next meeting is the Annual General Meeting to be held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2013**