

**Ringmore Parish Council (RPC) Meeting  
Tuesday, 21st January, 2025 at 7.00 pm in the WI Hall**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Cllr. Michael Campbell Chairman, (MC), Cllr C. Eddy (CE), Cllr. Mike Wood (MW), Cllr. John Reynolds (JR), Cllr. A. King (AK), DCC Cllr. R. Gilbert (RG), SHDC Cllr B. Taylor (BT), Ian Bramble (IB) (Clerk).

**7 members of the public (MsP) were in attendance.**

**County Councillor Updates:**

- At the Chairmans discretion RG reported at this stage of the meeting and gave an update on Devolution. If when details of the next stage are published on Jan. 24 and if Devon is included in the first group of Councils involved, the May 2025 DCC elections will be delayed until May 2026. In any event completion of the whole Devolution project is scheduled for 2028. The govt. has decided on the issue and there will be no public debate on it. Decisions on the details of the project rest with the Minister. DCC and City and District Councils will be abolished and new single tier authorities will be formed in Devon.
- 79% of all 'recyclables' collected in Devon are able to be, and are recycled.
- DCC has been allocated a further £86million for one off roads improvements and that Devon has more miles of roads than any other county in the UK. 80% of all road journeys in Devon are made on only 20% of its roads.
- DCC's Council Tax will increase by 3% in 2025/26 and with an additional 2% for adult social care.
- Ringmore will not be covered in the current expansion of fibre optic to the home and RG suggested other means should be explored. There is an existing voucher scheme and contacting The CEO of Openreach direct was suggested but evidence of poor connectivity would be required to add any weight to this approach.

**Members of the public were welcome and invited to speak in 'Open Session'**

- Mary Swan updated the Council with the third iteration of plans for their new development, with collaboration from SHDC and a new application is being prepared
- Richard Baker advised that given the SHDC's land supply is now down to 2.5%. Also, 'since Ringmore is in a protected area (the AONB/now National Landscape Partnership) - the JLP still applies in all its clauses since there is no requirement on AONB villages to provide a housing supply. Respondents to a planning application should quote the JLP as normal and this will be given the normal weight'.
- It seems that the National Planning Policy Framework, Joint Local Plan, AONB/NLP and Neighbourhood Plan policies still stand but it is impossible to predict for how long this will remain.
- It was noted that the Plymouth Freeport is a 25 year project and it is not possible to predict the demands for land in the South Hams

**To accept apologies for absence:**

Apologies received from Cllr. Kent-Woolsey.

**District Councillor Updates:**

- BT reminded the meeting that nominations for SHDC Community Awards are open until February 10<sup>th</sup> and that they can be received from individuals and groups,

including parish Councils. The three categories are for; individuals under 18; individuals over 18 and for groups

- Bottle banks throughout the District will be removed in the forthcoming weeks

**.Declarations of interest from councillors:**

None declared

**To receive and approve minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday November 19th, 2024**

MC proposed approval, JR seconded and Cllrs. approved unanimously.

**Matters arising:**

There were no matters arising.

**2024.134 Planning Matters**

**1 Planning Applications (AONB/National Landscape Partnership AONB/NLP)  
3861/24/HHO:- Higher Manor, Ringmore, TQ7 4HJ 20/02/25**

*Householder application for alterations & extensions to dwelling & construction of a new detached garage*

With regard to the garage, opinions were that removal of the dormer windows from the proposed garage with replacement with very large Velux roof windows did not effectively reduce fenestration of the garage and still leaves a habitable space with a spurious designation as "office space"; easy to make into habitable space given that plumbing and electricity for domestic use will remain.

The house, it is larger than the existing house with a massing and amount of fenestration within the (AONB/National Landscape Partnership (AONB/NLP) with consequent unacceptable light pollution, immediately alongside the road, which is a bat corridor. The build would be in conflict with JLP, Heritage Coast and Undeveloped Coast Policies and also Neighbourhood Plan [Dev 20/23/24/25, TTV29.2, SPT1/2, NP RNP 2.1/2/5, RNP 13.1 8,11,40] in this regard.

Although there is very little change since previous applications were refused the roof tile colour has changed to grey and the roof has been lowered but still does not comply with the Neighbourhood Plan RNP 2.5; i.e. equivalent but not higher than on immediate neighbours and would be overbearing and dominant to immediate neighbours and, being visible from the beach and footpaths within the AONB /NLP, would be detrimental to the visual amenity of the village,

Cllrs noted the references are made by the applicant to the planning permission granted in 2019, 1412/19/HHO but that they were not relevant since the 2019 permission is time expired and since that was granted the JLP and NP have been "made" and the plans do not conform to these regulations vis Dev 20/23/24/25, TTV29.2, SPT1/2, NP RNP 2.1/2/5, RNP 13.1 8,11,40. The application must be considered with respect to policies in force for Ringmore today and not as they were in 2019.

**2 To note planning decisions:**

**3544/24/TCA Works to a Tree in a Conservation Area Tree Works:-**

No Objection Raised

**4062/23/TCA Works to a Tree in a Conservation Area**

No Objection Raised

### 3 To note withdrawn applications:

None to note

### 4. Enforcement cases

All enforcement cases are sent to Parish Councillors directly, due to confidentiality and are not for public discussion

### 2024.135 Highways

MW reported that the yellow lining in Challaborough had now been completed but the appropriate restrictions' signage was still to be installed. **IB to action**

### 2024.136 Finance

To receive Bank reconciliation to December 30th 2024 at £15,712.24 and approve January payments due.

<b>Interim Cash Position as at 15/01/25</b>			
<b>Ringmore</b>		<b>£10,104.82</b>	
<b>PC Budget</b>		<b>£ 5,384.48</b>	
<b>Spreadsheet</b>		<b>£15,489.30</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Current AC</b>	<b>as at 30/12/24</b>	<b>£10,327.76</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>Savings</b>	<b>as at 30/12/24</b>	<b>£5,384.48</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>£15,712.24</b>

<b>Reserves</b>	Contingency		£2796.00
	NP Balance		£0.00
	Wildlife Verges		£725.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>£3,521.00</b>
<b>Funds Available</b>			<b>£12,191.24</b>

#### To note:- payments made November 1st, 2024 to December 31st, 2024

EDF Energy, Night landing site	16.00
I Bramble; Clerk's Salary Oct 1st–Dec.31st, 2024.	318.28
I Bramble:- Clerk's PAYE Oct 1 <sup>st</sup> --Dec 31st, 2024.	79.60
I Bramble:- Clerk's mileage, Nov. Parish Council	6.30
W.I. Hall:- November, 2024 hire charge at winter rate	16.00

#### January 2025 payments due:

EDF Energy, Night landing site	8.00
I Bramble:- Clerk's Salary; December 1 <sup>st</sup> – 31st, 2024	159.14
I Bramble:- Clerk's PAYE; December.1 <sup>st</sup> –Dec. 31st, 2024.	39.80
I Bramble:- Clerk's mileage, RPC November meeting	6.30
W.I. Hall hire:-December 2024 at winter rate	16.00

**Receipts:– November 1st –December. 31st, 2024**

Lloyds Bank Interest:- November & December 2024 8.99  
Balance of August Event account minus £101.66 to keep acct. open 4141.90

nb. Late notification of payments may add to the payments due list

**2024.137 Setting of 2025/26 Parish Precept**

The number of 'Band D equivalent' homes as at November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, provided by SHDC, has increased over the previous year due to 2<sup>nd</sup> homes paying a 100% council tax premium. This allows last year's charge per household to remain unchanged for 2025-26 while still providing an increase in the precept sufficiently to cover costs for 2025-26 after an inflation factor of 3% has been applied. Accordingly, Ringmore PC decided no increase the charge per household pa was necessary. MC proposed no increase in the charge to households, AK seconded and Cllrs agreed unanimously.

**2024.138 Movement of funds into a higher rate deposit account.**

**IB to action**

Comparison of interest rates with the Parish bank were discussed as was opening a new deposit only bank account with another bank, which would involve compliance, money laundering and data protection complications. After further discussion Cllrs preferred a 95 day notice account with Lloyd's, the PC's existing bank, paying an AER of 3.56%pa.

MC proposed movement of £8,000 into a 95 day account, CE seconded and Cllrs agreed unanimously.

**2024 139 Summary of Parish and WI marquee repairs.**

The WI marquee was found to be in such poor condition as to justify replacing it with new rather than repair it. This has been done by the event organisers to qualify for a 10% discount, at a net cost of £421.50.

The fabric of the Parish marquee is repairable at a likely cost of £250 and quotes will be obtained. Also new poles from the original supplier will be needed, c£550. The total above costs can be covered from Parish reserves and MC proposed a commitment of up to £1200. AK seconded and Cllrs agreed unanimously.

**2024.140 Challaborough**

Please see agenda item **2024.135 ref.** current Challaborough issues.

**2024.141 Environmental matters:**

No comments made for this month.

**2024.142. DCC Road Warden Scheme & Parish Lengthsman**

IB advised AK of the March Chapter 8 training date for which AK confirmed his availability and IB will book the date.

**IB to Action**

**24.143 To receive Parish Paths Partnership update**

No comments made for this month.

**2024.144 To receive National Trust paths update**

There were no comments about paths but the lease on the land for which RPC pays a nominal rent for the siting its storage container is due for renewal..

JP proposed renewal, MC seconded and Cllrs agreed unanimously. **IB to action**

**2024.145 SHDC Grants for Business and Parish Councils:-**

No new matters raised this month

**2024.146 Fibre optic installation into the parish**

After further briefing, Cllrs recognised that Ringmore Parish will not receive fibre optic broadband direct to homes as part of the current tranche of work planned. It was felt that Parish broadband speeds were not consistent within the Parish and the RPC will continue to explore ways of achieving raised speeds where needed and a Community Voucher scheme and other options will be explored before the Feb. Meeting, with a letter of application from RPC required. **MW to action**

**2024.147 Correspondence**

All correspondence received has been circulated to Cllrs.

**2024.148 New Councillor**

SHDC has received the Statutory Notice of a Councillor Vacancy and will advise if there will need to be an election. Upon receipt of that nominations will be called for and if none step forward then a candidate for co-option to the Council will be sought. Notice of the Vacancy will be published in the Community website, Facebook and the Parish WhatsApp group. **IB to action**

**2024.149 A.O.B.**

- BT reminded the meeting of SHDC's Community Awards.
- MW asked whether the commitment to the Church clock was for an annual service? Cllrs believed it was a commitment for when work was needed.
- IB advised that a possible new editor for the newsletter may have been found. Confirmation or otherwise will follow in due course

**Matters for discussion at the next meeting.**

None were raised.

The meeting closed at 21:25

**Next meeting is to be held on Tuesday February 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the WI Hall.**

Signed:.....Dated:.....  
Cllr. Mike Campbell, Chair, Ringmore Parish Council.