

Stoke Climsland Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2008 COMMENCING AT 7.15PM IN THE PARISH HALL, STOKE CLIMSLAND

PRESENT: M Cox (Chairman), Councillors B Cox, D Parsons, S Cazaly, S Howard, B Empett, M Joll, C Vulliamy
IN ATTENDANCE: V Tatters all - Clerk to the Council.

Andrew Counsell - Principal Duchy College

Kieran Ryder - Warden Duchy College

9 members of the public

M Cox opened the meeting and welcomed those present. The meeting has been held in order for the community to discuss the College activities with representatives from the College.

Andrew Counsell thanked the Chairman and introduced Keiran Ryder.

For 2008/9 the College had 18,000 enrolments (throughout the SW and not just at Stoke Climsland campus). The amount of full time students at the Stoke Climsland Campus is roughly 10% of the total enrolment figure. This figure is predicted to rise to 20,000 during 2009/10. There are currently 4/500 full time students, with 92 residential students and 108 living in the community with private landlords. The likely growth for 2009/10 and 2010/11 is approximately 200 in higher education and 50 in further education. The proposed Halls of Residence would provide accommodation for 300 students therefore taking them out of the community.

Other campus sites include: Rosewarne, Base on Royal Cornwall Showground, Dartington, Exeter, N Devon, Dartmoor Prison, Somerset

Andrew Counsell provided an in-depth breakdown of the large range of activities and opportunities that the College currently provides. He also provided the meeting with information about the achievements and awards of the College and those it is currently working towards.

Andrew Counsell went on to explain about the development plan for the College, this has included a large scale refurbishment of the internal fabric of the existing buildings to meet "Bream" requirements.

It is proposed that the existing dairy farm will also be redeveloped with the tractor sheds currently on the main campus to be moved to this site. An internal access track will be installed to prevent farm traffic having to go out on the public highway.

The existing facilities provide local small businesses with an opportunity to expand and develop. The college also works externally with companies such as Sainsbury's, Ginsters and Samuel Brothers to provide training opportunities.

It was noted that the current application being discussed was put before the parish council two years ago. It has not been progressed any further because of minor alterations that have had to be made.

Andrew Counsell extended an invitation to the community to attend the College to see the activities and proposed development. He also confirmed that he is happy to attend public meetings to continue to keep the community informed about the activities of the college.

The meeting was opened up to comments and questions from the public, with the following comments made:-

- the traffic through the village - Andrew advised that the College is currently working with students on a National Awareness Scheme for young drivers. The College is also in discussion with CCC regarding traffic calming measures at the Penpill junction.
- it was noted that the 5mph speed limit signs are only on the driveway on the way into the College but not on the way out. It was felt that a "no right turn" road sign is needed on the main carriageway rather than just on the driveway of the college. It was requested that an article is put in the parish newsletter advising what action is taken against students who drive in an inappropriate manner.
- issues regarding parking
- issues around the Bar
- the conduct of some of the students when they are off campus in the community
- litter
- light pollution from the campus
- concern over the proposed 10% increase of students which does not provide a balance in different age groups coming into the community. This will need to be managed very carefully.
- disappointment over the fact that the community cannot access the facilities or activities that are going on at the College.

Andrew Counsell reassured the meeting that the College takes the reputation of the College very seriously and has a zero tolerance policy with those students behaving in an inappropriate way. There is also a formal complaints procedure. Students have to sign up to service standards and adhere to a Student Code of Conduct.

The following was agreed:-

- that a public meeting should be held once every 6 months.
- the College would provide regular articles for the parish newsletter
- the College would provide the parish council with a copy of its 10 year development plan
- the College would provide copies of its internal newsletter to the post office and Old School

M Cox reconvened the meeting and expressed his disappointment at the poor public turnout. Thanks were expressed to the Andrew and Kieran, the parish council and members of the public for attending.

The meeting closed at 9.02pm