

Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council
Held at the Hall on Tuesday 3rd January 2017 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: Mr R W Fry (Chairman), Mr J A Ellerbeck, Mr P A F Godfrey, Mr T P Shire, Mr J Foy, Mrs H Ibbotson and Mr G Farenden. County Councillor Mr D Ruddle, District Councillor Mr G Tucker and 1 member of the public.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors: Mr M Turpin and Mr D R C Agnew

Public Observations/Question Time:

It was reported that the Footpath sign between the Golf Club and the new house being built is broken. It was thought that this had previously been reported. Mr Foy said that he would check this and if it has not been reported he will do so.

It was confirmed that it is now possible to report problems with footpaths, roads, street lighting etc to SCC on line.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes of meeting held on 6th December 2016 - It was unanimously resolved that these be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

3. Matters Arising:

Sign at the bottom of Hardings Hill: This has now been removed.

4. County Councillor's Report

Mr Ruddle reported that he has contacted Martyn Ford, Snr Enforcement Officer at SCC regarding the dumping of rubbish at Landmoor Lane.

A new contractor has now been appointed to deliver phase 2 of superfast broadband. Mr Ellerbeck reported that the problem in LS is that the Exchange cabinet is fully subscribed. He has made representation regarding this.

Mr Ruddle said that if any difficulties are experienced reporting problems regarding footpaths to let him know.

Mr Godfrey raised the matter as to whether parking charges are to be imposed at Somerton. Mr Ruddle said that some charges are to be made in respect of long stay parking to help recoup some of the expenditure on new parking facilities. Somerton having taken over responsibility for all its car parks.

Mr Shire congratulated Somerton Town Council on its Christmas lighting.

5. District Councillor's Report

Mr Tucker reported on the application to extend the length of the planning permission for the solar farm at Tengore Lane by 5 years which was discussed at the Area North December meeting. He said that he had voted against this as insufficient evidence had been provided to warrant an extension for a further 5 years and the application was unanimously refused.

He said that at the same meeting there had been a presentation from the Police and he had specifically raised the question of rural crime and how we may become involved by working collaboratively to address the issues. The response was however bland and

without substance. He asked if there is sufficient concern within LS to press this point. It was explained that problems had been experienced in the past but although there was some local theft, things were relatively quiet at present. Farm Watch and Neighbourhood Watch is covered in the Parish. The PC however expressed an interest if a meeting was to be arranged.

He also said that he had become aware that there is an issue among three Parishes regarding the capacity of the sewerage systems and asked if there was sufficient concern for him to arrange a joint meeting with Wessex Water. He was informed that the PC had held a meeting with Wessex Water last year when their representative explained the problems and what action will be taken.

The Annual Parish Workshop on 9th February will take place from 6pm at the Edgar Hall.

6. Planning

Application No: 16/05378/TPO Notification of intent to remove 1 Beech tree known as Tree Preservation Order SSDC (Langport 1) 1993

The plans received related to a property in Langport.

The application was for information and no comment is to be made.

Application No: 16/04516/FUL Demolition of existing building and erection of a detached dwelling with associated access, car parking, landscaping and ancillary development. LS Farm Cottage, Martock Road. Permission granted by SSDC.

Application No: 16/04659/ADV Display of 2 free-standing non-illuminated signs at Friends Meeting House, Shute Lane. This application has now been withdrawn.

A copy of the Refusal relating to Application No: 16/03768/S73A to extend the length of the permission by 5 years in respect of Tengore Solar Farm has been received.

Mr Ellerbeck reported that the Planning team had a very useful meeting with David Norris the Planning Development Officer at which the Enforcement Officer was also present. Mr Norris will instruct his Planners to respond to the PC taking note of the comments which have been received. He will also come and give Councillors some training, in closed session, an hour before the PC Meeting on 7th March.

Parish Development – Meeting Re Parish Plan at 7pm on 17th January 2017

Mr Ellerbeck said that he has been through the Parish Plan and is going to do a powerpoint presentation at the meeting. The meeting is to be recorded. The Plan will then be updated to reflect the views received. A team consisting of Mr Ellerbeck, the Chairman, Mr Godfrey and Mrs Ibbotson will assist with the work involved.

7. Village Hall and Recreation Ground:

7.1 Update on Claim Re Injury at Children's Play Area: The Insurance Company will inform the VHC when a resolution has been reached.

7.2 Request for Permission to spend £1170 on hedge laying: It was proposed Mr Ellerbeck, seconded Mr Foy and resolved by a majority (1 abstention) that this be granted.

7.3 Village Hall Maintenance/Other Matters

Mr Farenden gave examples of the petty vandalism which has been suffered by the Hall. From the beginning of January anyone wishing to book the Hall will be required to pay a deposit of £125 upfront. This does not include the regular users.

Mr Ellerbeck said that he has not as yet taken the matter regarding the Cricket Club any further forward. This will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

8. Finance

8.1 Balances and Accounts for Payment

Unity Trust Bank A/c		43640.76
Less A/cs paid last meeting & VH Grant	3186.48	
Pd to PWB	3783.29	
Service charges	18.00	
Clerk's Salary payable by SO	<u>300.00</u>	<u>7287.77</u>
		<u>36352.99</u>

A/cs for payment

HMRC - Tax on Clerk's salary	225.00
CW's fee for December	486.92

It was proposed Mr Godfrey, seconded Mr Ellerbeck and unanimously resolved that the accounts be paid.

The Clerk reported that the CW had ordered materials in respect of the notice board at Knole but had not yet received the invoice. It was agreed that this could be paid upon receipt.

She also reported that the area in front of the Upton notice board was very muddy and wet. Mr Shire will look into getting this rectified.

8.2 Precept for 2017/18

The Clerk said that if the estimated expenditure to 31st March 2017 is correct this could result in the balance carried forward to 2017/18 being approximately £3,000 less than for 2016/17.

Following further discussion of the Budget for 2017/18 it was proposed Mr Ellerbeck, seconded Mr Farenden and unanimously resolved that a Precept of £18,950 should be requested, which together with the estimated grant of £160 from Central Government will meet the Budget requirement of £19,135. This is equivalent to a Band D Charge for 17/18 of £49.11 being an increase in charge of £1.30 on last year (2.72% to the Tax Payer).

9. Allotments/Farm Business Tenancies

Mr Ellerbeck reported that all the existing Tenants have indicated that they would like FBT Agreements. This does not however come without cost. Following discussion it was agreed that Mr Ellerbeck should make an approach to Mr N Bond who is a Chartered Surveyor regarding the drafting of the Agreements.

10. Community Warden Scheme

During November the CW has been finishing up vegetation management and carrying out some leaf blowing. He has weeded around the War Memorial and trimmed back the encroaching hedge. On wet days he has worked on drainage. He has also been working on and installing the new notice boards.

11. Parish Website

Mr Godfrey said that there was nothing really to report regarding the website.

He did however report that the microphone for the PC audio recorder had been found to be faulty. Although outside the warranty period, this has been replaced by Philips Dictation as a gesture of goodwill.

He is also working on the PC laptop, installing new antivirus etc.

12. Neighbourhood Watch/Community Safety/Civil Contingencies:

12.1 Update Regarding Defibrillators and Funding

Mr Ellerbeck reported that he has been sorting out matters regarding the telephone kiosk at Knole. Following conflicting emails from SSDC, Community Heartbeat who work closely with BT have offered to adopt the kiosk for £1 on behalf of the PC. The order for the defibrillators has been placed through Heartbeat, but they have been asked to hold off taking delivery of the purchase until the PC receives the money from the Lottery. Enquiry is to be made as to when this is likely to take place.

The existing telephone will be removed from the kiosk but Heartbeat are allowed by BT to put in an emergency landline in an area of poor signal.

12.2 Other matters

Mr Ellerbeck reported that he has put some Farm Watch information on the website regarding thefts etc.

No report has been received from our Neighbourhood Watch/Community Safety Officer.

The Police report for Area North for December is 114 investigated crimes, 26 arrests and 19 ASB reports.

13. The Great British Spring Clean Initiative

Following discussion, Mr Shire is to obtain further information from Streetscene so that a decision can be made at the next meeting as to whether to take part.

14. Representative Reports and any other matters regarding:

14.1 Highways: Update on outstanding matters, to include Work to Village Green and Speeding in the Parish

Mr Foy reported that the nameplate for Shute Lane is on SSDC's list for ordering. He has contacted Wessex Water's Transport Manager regarding the damage to the triangle at Shute Lane and has been told that he should receive a reply within 10 days.

SSDC have found the missing finial for the finger post. The rest of the signpost has however gone. It will therefore be necessary to arrange the actual finger signs.

He contacted SCC regarding the bollards and work to finish off the lower end of the Green but due to a new Contract coming into force in the New Year he was told that this facility may not now be available.

It is understood that Mr M Mitchell has the appropriate licences to carry out the work and Mr Foy and Mr Shire will meet with him to discuss the options that are available and report back to the PC.

Mr Foy confirmed that he is continuing to press for a speed survey by Upton Bridge Farm.

There was a great deal of discussion regarding the issue of speeding in the Parish and how to deal with this. Mr Foy will ask SCC for their suggestions.

- 14.2 Footpaths:** Mr Foy said he would re-report the problem regarding the footpath mentioned by a member of the public at the start of the meeting.

Emails have been received from Mr Walford regarding a potential new footpath at Hammocks Drove. He is waiting for information from the County Council before discussing this with the PC.

- 14.3 Environment: Dumping of Rubbish at Solar Farm, Landmoor Lane.**

County Councillor, Mr Ruddle confirmed earlier in the meeting that he had been in touch with Martyn Ford suggesting that he contact the PC if further details are required.

Mr Shire reported the dumping of rubbish outside the gate at the top end of the Recreation Field and said he would arrange to remove this.

Mr Ellerbeck said that he had taken advantage of Keinton Mandeville's scheme for recycling Christmas Trees and that perhaps this was something the PC might consider next year.

The PC did in fact receive notice from SSDC regarding their recycling scheme, it having been raised at the last meeting.

15. Correspondence

Avon & Somerset Police Crime Plan.

Somerset School Admission Arrangements 2018-19.

A request has been received from BSA Vintage Car Run to use the Green again this year on May 13th from 11 a.m. This was agreed on the same conditions as in previous years.

16. Date of next meeting - 7th February 2017

17. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.25pm