

Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council
Held at the Hall on Tuesday 6th November 2018 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors: Mr G R Cox (Chairman), Mr T Brand, Mr T P Shire, Mr C Dowse, Mrs E Elliott, Mr G Stoddart-Stones and Mr M Turpin. County Councillor Mr D Ruddle, District Councillor Mr M Tucker and 4 members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: None

Public Observations/Questions - The matter of the holiday let application at Upton which has been approved by SSDC, despite the PC's objection and that of the Ward member, was raised and also the re-consultation of the application regarding the Quarry at Batts Lane; further information now having been provided. The Chairman said that this application was not on the agenda for discussion this evening, the further information not having been received in time.

1. Casual Vacancies inc introduction of expressions of interest.

Mr Richard Fell of Back Street expressed an interest in joining the PC and was invited to introduce himself to the Council. As he has only lived in the village for the past 6 months he is not at present on the the Electoral Roll. The Clerk will contact the DC regarding this.

2. Declarations of Interest - There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of meeting held on 2nd October 2018 – It was resolved that these should be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. Matters Arising, not covered by the Agenda

Defibrillators: Mr Turpin confirmed that he carries out the inspection of both units but is currently awaiting access details from CHB in order to be able to update the log for the LS unit.

Allotments: It was agreed that no action should be taken at the present time.

5. County Councillor's Report

Mr Ruddle said that the financial situation is not good. They are to receive an extra £9 million but are still going to be £10 million in the red.

There has been discussion regarding parking permits to increase revenue.

The County Council will no longer be offering a mobile SID programme, the interest having been expressed, being insufficient to cover the costs of this.

It was suggested that if there is an issue regarding speeding a Highways Engineer should be called out and also that pressure should be put on the Police.

Mr Tucker said that High Ham want to share a SID.

6. District Councillor's Report

Mr Tucker said that there was no meeting of Area North in October. The expected report on the closure of Langport Information Centre is to be made in November.

He has been involved in scrutinising the Economic Development strategy and remains disturbed that the focus of economic activity remains on the principal town of Yeovil and the market towns of Wincanton and Chard. The supply of commercial development land local to LS is almost non-existent. He said that he continues to press the authority to look closer

at the towns of Langport and Somerton, who at the moment are competing with each other for the provision of services.

He had been asked for input on planning application number 28/01981/FUL for 4 holiday lodges and was disappointed when the application was not accepted by the Area North Chairman for their consideration. The best he was able to negotiate with the planners, as the application was not to be referred, was conditions 3, 4 and 8.

The landowner is being spoken to regarding barriers which have been erected across a footpath in Knole.

7. Planning:

Application 18/02907/HOU: Erection of two storey rear extension to include balcony. Red Brick House, Hermitage Road.

It was proposed Mr Brand, seconded Mr Shire and resolved that there was no objection to the above application.

Re-consultation Application No: 18/02799/CO: This will be discussed at the next PC meeting. The Clerk will contact the Planning Officer accordingly.

8. Village Hall and Recreation Ground: Matters brought forward by the Committee

An email has been received from Mr Ellerbeck the Chairman of the VHC. Due to the resignation of three members of the committee, to include the Booking Clerk, from December they will be down to 3 members. There having been no response to the advertisement for volunteers which the PC placed two months ago, Mr Ellerbeck will be placing a further advertisement.

Concern was expressed regarding the lack of support from the wider community and the Chairman agreed to write to regular users of the hall setting out the importance of them supporting the management of the hall. In addition it was suggested that he contact those who attended the recent meeting to discuss the future of the shop who had offered volunteering time, to see if they might consider supporting the VHC.

Mr Stoddart-Stones reassured the PC that things are under control, albeit with a small committee.

At the moment there is only one PC representative on the Committee, namely Mr Stoddart-Stones who is also the Hon Treasurer. The Chairman did put his name forward as the second representative but it was felt that he might not be the most suitable Councillor to join the Committee. Mr Chris Dowse did however agree to be the second representative.

Regarding the workload, both Mr Brand and Mr Shire offered to carry out any jobs within their DIY skills and the PC will offer the CW, Craig to carry out any work he may be able to help with, for which the PC will pay.

The PC was sorry to learn of the resignation of the Booking Clerk which is a vital role and needs covering as soon as possible. Mrs Elliott said that she might be interested depending on what the role involves. The Chairman said that another option, in that they are now recruiting for a new Parish Clerk might be to add the role of Booking Clerk to the job description.

9. Finance:

9.1 Balances and Accounts for Payment

Unity Trust Account

38,944.91		
Less Alcs/Payments agreed Oct meeting	976.00	
Pd out of meeting		
Clerk's Salary (Oct) paid by SO	<u>300.00</u>	<u>1,276.00</u>
		<u>£37,668.97</u>

A/cs for payment

CW's Fee for Oct	586.31
Timeback Accounts & Payroll	4.50
Wreath for Remembrance Sunday	25.00

It was proposed Mr Shire, seconded Mrs Elliott and resolved that the accounts be paid.

There is a workshop regarding Council Tax Setting on 19 November at the Council Chamber, Brympton Way 16.00 to 17.30. The Clerk said that she is unfortunately unable to attend.

9.2 PWB Loan Re Solar Panels at VH

The Clerk had previously supplied Councillors with a statement of the receipt/payments to date regarding the solar panels.

The next Loan Repayment of £1,405.84 is due to be taken by DD on 26 November 2018.

There was some discussion regarding the amount of principal that should be repaid. This will be decided in conjunction with the setting of the budget for 2019/2020. In this respect the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Mr Stoddart-Stones will arrange to meet to discuss the budget and put forward recommendations to the Council. The Precept Notification Form needs to be with the DC by 31st January 2019.

10. Review of appropriate Financial Regulations.

Mr Brand said he will be sending these to the Clerk.

11. Community Warden Scheme

During October the CW has been carrying out vegetation management in various locations. He said that a stile on the footpath off Crouds Lane could do with some repairs. He has inspected the dead treed on the roadside verge at Harding's Hill and it could be possible to fell them into the field which would save installing traffic management. He will clear around the war memorial and trim back the overhanging hedge.

Mr Shire will speak to him regarding the work to be carried out and whether he has yet procured a locked tool box. He said he thought it would be nice to invite the CW to a PC meeting.

Other matters reported which the CW is to be asked to attend to are the weeds on the footpath from Cross Lane to The Old Vicarage and a blocked culvert at Knole.

12. Representative Reports and any other matters regarding:

12.1 Community Safety: The Police Report for Area North for October is 124 investigated crimes, 26 arrests and 18 reports of ASB.

The Clerk reported that she had emailed the Police asking if a representative could attend the meeting but had not received a reply. A further email is to be sent.

12.2 Highways:

12.2.1 Traffic Calming & Speedwatch: There has been no response to the advert placed regarding volunteers required for speedwatch so the matter is closed.

Our District Councillor will liaise with High Ham PC and Mr Stoddart Stones of this PC regarding the sharing of a SID and the outcome of these discussions is awaited.

12.2.2 Update on other highways matters: Mr Shire said that he is still investigating the parking at the junction of Shute Lane/A372. He also reported that the property owner has said that he will arrange for the trees/foliage overhanging Crouds Lane to be cut back.

12.3 Environment: Nothing to report.

12.4 Footpaths: The Clerk has found some old correspondence relating to a proposed footpath at Hammocks Drove which never came to pass. The Chairman is to forward this to Mr Turpin to look at.

13. Retirement of Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

The present Clerk has indicated her impending retirement which it is anticipated will be at the end of February next year. The Chairman thanked her for her service to the Council. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Mr Stoddart-Stones will meet to discuss the Job Description for a new Clerk in order to place an advertisement.

14. Correspondence not previously distributed - None

15 Start Time of PC Meetings and Date of next meeting - It was proposed Mr Shire, seconded Mr Brand and unanimously resolved that future PC meetings should start at 7pm. The next meeting will be on 4th December 2018 and the January meeting will be on the 8th January 2019.

16. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9pm