

Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council
Held at the Hall on Tuesday 7th March 2017 at 7.30pm

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

Apologies for Absence: Councillor: Mr G Farenden and County Councillor Mr D Ruddle.

Public Observations/Question Time: No matters were raised.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes of meeting held on 7th February 2017 - It was unanimously resolved that these be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

Triangle at Shute Lane: Vehicles are still driving over this.

4. County Councillor's Report - Councillor Ruddle was unable to be present.

5. District Councillor's Report

Mr Tucker reported that he had been away for a couple of weeks and missed both the last full Council and Area North meetings. The first was very much focused on the budgets for next year and there will be an increase of approximately £63 per band D Household which included the Police, SCC, Drainage Board and SSDC elements. The only business conducted at Area North last month was planning applications for which there were none for Long Sutton.

Since the last meeting, he was asked for an input on the aluminium windows application for a property in the conservation area in Knole. It was pointed out that some windows have already been replaced with aluminium and he therefore supported the planners' recommendation, with the suggestion of a condition that the aluminium should be timber effect.

He said that it was good to see a representation at the Area North Parish Workshop in February. He did however personally feel that the presentations on the three subjects aired were a little light and would have liked to have heard more debate. The networking opportunities were however good.

Mr Foy said that following the closure of the A372 Langport Road the wheelie bin recycling had not taken place at Crouds Lane. Mr Tucker said he would make enquiries regarding this.

6. Planning

6.1 Any Planning Matters (no new applications have been received)

Consent/Permissions granted by SSDC:

Application No: 16/05378/TPO Notification of intent to remove 1 Beech tree at Hill House, Langport Road.

Application No: 17/00054/FUL Proposed creation of new vehicular access. Land adjacent to Langport Road.

Application No: 1700132/FUL Replacement of 3 wooden windows with aluminium window and the insertion of a conservation velux roof window at Old Stables Cottage, Knole. A letter was received from the DC regarding the decision reached.

It was reported that a property at Langport Road has taken down the front wall to create an access. The Clerk was asked to contact the Planning Department regarding this. A mirror has also been put on the telegraph pole opposite.

6.2 Parish Development - Updating of Parish Plan

In view of a comment made by the Development Manager regarding the usefulness of the Parish Plan, there was discussion regarding whether to proceed with this. It was however, agreed that the updating of the Plan should still take place.

One of the matters raised by the public at the meeting regarding the Parish Plan was the lack of Police presence in the Parish. Mr Ellerbeck read to the Council a letter he had drafted to the Chief Constable. He said he felt it was important that this be sent in view of recent acts of vandalism that have taken place in relation to the Hall. It was unanimously agreed that the letter should be sent.

The Chairman said that he had recently met with the Beat Manager who was in favour of the letter being sent as they are very stretched at the present time and expect to be more so. The Chairman said that he had raised the matter of speeding in the Parish and asked if the speed camera could visit more often but was told this was unlikely and that resurrecting speed watch would be very useful.

7. Village Hall and Recreation Ground:

7.1 Maintenance

Mr Ellerbeck reported:

That the electricity check has not yet taken place. A further quote is awaited.

The new cooker has been installed. Cost £674.97.

Hedge laying has started.

A quote is to be obtained regarding the drain covers which are bent.

7.2 Lease Re Cricket Club

Mr Ellerbeck reported that any Lease would have to be drawn up by a Solicitor. Mr Vigar is consulting with other Cricket Clubs to see if they have a similar document in order to reduce legal costs.

7.3 Any Other VH Matters

Mr Ellerbeck reported:

That fundraising activities were discussed by the committee. All forms of alternative funding streams are to be investigated.

The drinking licence has now been passed.

Anona Hawkins is no longer able to act as Booking Clerk and Carole Wooding has been asked to take this on.

After discussion regarding usage of the Recreation Ground, it was agreed to contact the Headmistress of the School, offering the use of the ground by the children, free of charge, for team sports etc. The cricket square to be roped off.

Mr Foy said he had been asked why the BMX track, which is no longer used, is not put back to flat ground. This was felt to be a good idea from an insurance point of view.

8. Finance:

8.1 Balances and Accounts for Payment

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|---|---------------|------------------------|
| Unity Trust Bank A/c | | 40538.85 |
| Less A/cs paid last meeting | 762.01 | |
| Clerk's Salary paid by SO 1 March | <u>300.00</u> | <u>1062.01</u> |
| | | 39476.84 |
| Add SSE Energy Payment | | <u>243.43</u> |
| | | <u>39720.27</u> |
| A/cs for payment | | |
| CW's fee for Feb to include Scalpings of £20.04 | | 459.23 |
| LS Church – Contribution to expenses | 250.00 | |
| Newsletter | <u>260.00</u> | 510.00 |

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

Mr Ellerbeck said that the invoice for the defibrillators should shortly be received and that he had received an invoice from AJM who have carried out the fitting of these. It was proposed Mr Foy, seconded Mr Agnew and unanimously resolved that these could be paid out of meeting.

The Clerk reported that the Auditors appointed for the 5 years commencing 1st April 2017 are PKF Littlejohn LLP.

8.2 Pension Schemes

The Clerk reported that she had contacted SALC regarding the Workplace Pension Scheme and was told that although she herself did not want to join a Pension Scheme, the PC should put something in place for the future. Following discussion, Mr Foy agreed to research the PC's obligations.

9. Allotments/Farm Business Tenancies

Mr Ellerbeck reported that he had an appointment with Greenslade Taylor Hunt tomorrow morning regarding the FBT Agreements. They feel that the present rent being charged is low and are prepared to negotiate a rent with the tenants on the PC's behalf and report back. Their charges will be somewhere in the region of £300 to £400. Mr Ellerbeck therefore proposed that he should hand over the documentation held by the PC to GTH at the meeting tomorrow. This was seconded by Mr Foy and unanimously agreed.

10. Community Warden Scheme

Mr Ellerbeck reported that the CW's contract comes to an end on the 31st March and he has prepared a new contract on the same lines. The PC does however have to decide if they wish to give the CW a pay rise. He said that he had not been in touch with the other Parishes, but proposed an increase of 2% be awarded. This was seconded by the Chairman and unanimously agreed.

Regarding the servicing of the mower purchased by the Scheme, Mr Ellerbeck said that he had negotiated for the servicing of all the CW's equipment with the DC. It was however pointed out that at the last meeting, as the CW did not think the DC would undertake this,

it was agreed that he should go ahead and get the mower serviced and the cost would be taken out of the balance of funds in hand prior to distribution.

11. Parish Website

Mr Godfrey reported that he had received a request to put a business advertisement on the website. There was a great deal of discussion regarding this and where to call a halt to the type of content that should be allowed on the website. Mr Godfrey will speak to the people concerned.

Regarding the Freedom of Information, the Clerk said that the PC had adopted back in 2008, the model code produced by the Information Commissioner and the PC therefore need to indicate the type of documents applicable to them that would be available on request and the charge for this if any. This information had been available on the Council's previous website.

Mr Godfrey will contact SALC for a suggestion regarding wording.

12. Neighbourhood Watch/Community Safety/Civil Contingencies:

There has been no report from the Community Safety Officer and Mr Shire will get in touch with him regarding this.

Mr Ellerbeck reported that there have been a lot of thefts around the area of sheep, cattle, cars with keys in them, a tractor etc. A meeting was held at the Edgar Hall for the local farming community on the prevention of crime.

12.1 Update Regarding Defibrillators

Mr Ellerbeck updated the PC on matters regarding the defibrillators which are in place, but are not yet registered with the NHS. They are however serviceable. Insurance is through Community Heartbeat at the moment. They have adopted the kiosk in Knole and after a year will sell it to the PC for £1. He said that the defibrillators need to be inspected on a weekly basis and he has put his name down for the moment, but required someone to do this when he is not available. Mr Foy agreed to inspect the one at the Village Hall and Mr Turpin the one at Knole.

There will be two briefings for the Parish, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. The Western Gazette and the Ambulance Service will be invited to attend.

The Chairman said he would like to record the PC's thanks to Mr Ellerbeck for all his work in connection with the defibrillators.

12.2 Other matters

The Police Report for Area North for February is 102 investigated crimes, 22 arrests and 15 reports of ASB.

13. Restoration of Parish Pump - There was nothing to report; Mr Farenden not being present at the meeting.

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 additional nameplate for Shute Lane has been ordered as has the speed indicator pole for Upton Bridge Farm which will likely have to wait until the next financial year to be installed.

A location has been identified for a speed monitor at Martock Road.

There was discussion regarding the triangle at Shute Lane. It is thought that it would cost around £1200 to kerb this but Mr Foy suggested any action should wait until the works on the A372 have been completed in view of the amount of traffic using Crouds Lane.

Mr Shire said the generators have been removed from the pumping station by Wessex Water, but after recent heavy rain, the tank filled up and this is thought to be coming from the roofs of houses. It is understood that Wessex Water will be investigating this.

Mr Shire requested that the triangle at Shute Lane should be put on the next agenda to try and resolve how to prevent the recurrent damage that is being caused.

Regarding the work to the Village Green, another quote for the work has been obtained but this is £140 more than the first one which was for £4024. Mr Foy said he felt that the work would be best carried out as one job. Following discussion, it was proposed Mr Godfrey, seconded Mr Agnew and unanimously resolved that the remaining funds from the granting of the rights of way over the Green should be used for this purpose. There was also discussion regarding the type and height of the bollards to be used and it was agreed that before any instruction to proceed is given, samples of the styles of bollards available will be obtained.

14.2 Footpaths: Potential new footpath at Hammocks Drove

Mr Turpin confirmed he has drafted the agreement in accordance with the template supplied by SCC. A plan needs to be produced showing the proposed route for the footpath and he will meet with Mr Walford regarding the marking of this. There was discussion regarding the footpath signposts and it may be that 3 will be supplied.

14.3 Environment: There was nothing to report.

15. Correspondence

Letter from SSDC Re: Public Space Protection Order: Under the new legislation if a TC/PC requires a Dog Control Order for land in their ownership, this would need to be put in place by the DC.

Email from SSDC regarding the Office of National Statistics 2017 Test Census

16. Date of next meeting - 4th April 2015. The Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm followed by the normal monthly PC meeting.

17. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting

Concern was expressed regarding the unstable condition of a boundary wall at Martock Road. The Clerk will arrange for a general note to be put in the Newsletter requesting householders/landowners to inspect their boundary walls and make good in the interests of public safety.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm