

Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council
Held at the Hall on Tuesday 2nd October 2018 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors: Mr T Brand (Vice-Chairman in the Chair), Mr T P Shire, Mr C Dowse and Mrs E Elliott. County Councillor Mr D Ruddle, District Councillor Mr M Tucker and 19 members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Mr G R Cox (Chairman), Mr G Stoddart-Stones and Mr M Turpin.

Public Observations/Questions - No matters were raised.

1. Casual Vacancies inc introduction of expressions of interest.

There have been no expressions of interest in respect of the remaining two vacancies and The Vice-Chairman urged Councillors and members of the public, if they knew of anyone who might be interested in becoming a Councillor, to encourage them to put their name forward.

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

3. Minutes of meetings held on 4th September 2018 - It was resolved that the minutes should be signed by the Vice-Chairman as a true record.

4. Matters Arising, not covered by the Agenda

Defibrillators: Under the Managed Service that the PC contracted, the ownership of the defibrillators remains with Community Heartbeat Trust for four years but may be bought for £1 at the end of that time. Alternatively, the contract may be extended to ten years under the same terms. The defibrillators are insured by CHT whilst the contract is extant. Mr Ellerbeck no longer being a member of the PC, a new contact with CHT is required. As Mr Turpin undertakes inspection of the defibrillators it was agreed to ask him if he would be willing to undertake this position.

5. County Councillor's Report

Mr Ruddle said that when the PC undertakes its budgeting process for next year, it should bear in mind the cuts to be made by the County Council.

He reported that 7 million pounds has now been secured for the new School at Somerton.

6. District Councillor's Report

Mr Tucker reported that at the Area North Committee in September, a report was received from Derek Davies of Highways. He said that it is evident that the County continues to struggle to identify sufficient finances to undertake their work programme to a level expected by residents. The list of surface dressing is forever getting shorter, the roads to be treated with salt in the winter fewer and the verge cutting is getting less. In these times of financial hardship, it is recognised that public safety is still a priority so if there are roads in urgent need of repair, visibility splays needing foliage cut back at junctions, schools etc needing salt treatment, he encouraged that concerns are raised as a matter of public safety.

The

At Full Council a report was received from Director of Assets for Yarlinton Housing Association who was keen to inform the Council how many staff they employ, how many live in South Somerset and therefore an estimate of the financial contribution within the District. He was less keen to explain why they are falling behind on their delivery programme.

Mr Tucker said, in fairness, Yarlington has pledged to build 1,500 new homes by 2021. Currently there are just over 9,000 properties owned by Yarlington in the district. They are however building a substantial number outside of the county.

He said that he has not been asked to input to any planning in LS since the PC's last meeting but no doubt the PC would have been informed that the Long Sutton House application for change of use of agricultural storage barns to domestic storage and workshop for LS House, change of use of barn to 1 holiday let, change of root cellar to 1 dwelling, siting of tennis court and change of use of agricultural land to domestic use (Part retrospective) was refused. Also, the appeal for 4 detached dwellings at Little Upton Bridge was dismissed.

7. Planning:

Application 18/02799/CPO: Proposed re-opening of former quarry including proposed temporary processing building and internal access track. Batts Lane Quarry.

The applicant's agent was invited to address the PC. She outlined the details of the application for the small scale excavation of blue lias and gave details of working hours etc. She said they had relied on specialists' advice and all concerns raised are addressed.

Members of the public were then invited to address the PC. Of those who spoke, all objected to the application. The grounds raised included noise, dust, scarring of the landscape, access; Batts Lane not being wide enough for lorries and the devaluation of property.

The applicant's agent urged all those who had not written to SCC to do so as did the Vice-Chairman.

The PC then went into meeting and following discussion of the application it was proposed Mr Shire, seconded the Vice-Chairman and unanimously resolved that the PC do not support the application because there is insufficient detail with regards to:

Noise and dust attenuation; Numbers of vehicles; Drainage and Access to the site.

Application No: 18/02249/FUL: Alterations and the installation of 2 velux rooflights to rear and the removal of existing cladding and face with natural stone. Old Stables Cottage, Knole.

It was unanimously resolved that the PC has no objection to the application.

Application 18/02925/FUL: The formation of an access and driveway. 20 Langport Road and

Application No: 18/02543/HOU: The creation of a new access driveway and off road parking/turning area to side/rear of dwelling. 19 Langport Road.

Although the application for Number 19 had only just been received, it was felt that as Numbers 19 and 20 are adjoining, both applications should be considered at the same time. It was proposed the Vice-Chairman, seconded Mr Dowse and unanimously resolved that there was no objection to either application.

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

A financial report has been received which states the Current Bank balance as £3,995.96. This reflects a payment of £4,000 for the newly installed security system.

Thanks have been received for the PC's allocation of £2,000 to be spent on repairs to the Recreation Facilities. Various work has already been undertaken, including jet blasting of the whole of the drainage system from the Pavilion to the main sewer. Further work is in hand.

The Hall now has Wi-Fi throughout and a permanent ceiling-mounted projector and the committee room has a screen for presentations.

It was reported that an email had been received from Somerton Bee Keepers who were unhappy with the treatment they received following the holding of their annual Honey Show at the Hall and it is therefore likely a regular booking has been lost.

9. Finance:

9.1 Balances and Accounts for Payment

Unity Trust Account		39,888.97
Less Alcs/Payment agreed Sept meeting	2,609.63	
Pd out of meeting:		
PKF Littlejohn – External audit fee	240.00	
CW – Contribution towards a locked tool box & Stolen equipment	400.00	
Services charges	18.00	
Clerk's Salary (Sept) paid by SO	<u>300.00</u>	<u>3,567.63</u>
		36,321.34
Add SSE Energy Payment		<u>2,623.57</u>
		<u>£38,944.91</u>
A/cs for payment		
HMRC (tax on Clerk's salary 2 nd quarter)		121.00
Clerk - Balance of salary for 2 nd quarter over and above SO		104.00
CW - Fee for September 556.50 + Provision of second Arborist, chipper and fuel £190.00		746.50
Timeback Accounts & Payroll		4.50

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

9.2 Langport Cycleway: A request for a donation has been received. As this is not however in Long Sutton, it was resolved that a contribution should not be made. Any funds available being better spent on this Parish.

9.3 PWB Loan Re Solar Panels at VH: The Vice-Chairman asked Councillors to give consideration to a repayment of principal and if so, the amount that should be repaid. Any amount repaid will not however reduce the term of the loan but will reduce the amount of future repayments.

10. Review of appropriate Financial Regulations

The Vice-Chairman said that he has to meet with the Clerk to discuss these.

11. Community Warden Scheme

The CW has continued with vegetation management. He has put a further coat of wood preserver on all the notice boards in the Parish in readiness for the winter and has taken advantage of the road closure to remove the hazardous tree at Martock Road as well as surveying the rest of the trees on the verge. He says that there are a couple of trees on that verge not looking too healthy that might require some attention this winter.

He is to tidy the War Memorial.

Mr Tucker said that Amanda Chuter of High Ham PC has agreed to be the main co-ordinator of the Scheme.

12. Allotments

In order for the PC to provide allotments, at least 6 people must have expressed an interest. There are presently 5 people who have said they are interested in renting an allotment. It was agreed that a notice should be put in the Newsletter to see if any further people come forward.

When the Council investigated this over a year ago, insufficient interest had been expressed by residents and having a legal obligation to get best value from its assets the Council chose at that time to let all its land under Farm Business Tenancy Agreements.

Should a sufficient number of residents interested in an allotment come forward then the Council would have to reconsider its renting Policy but in any event it would be necessary to give the appropriate notice to the Tenant of any land which the PC might wish to reclaim.

13. Representative Reports and any other matters regarding:

13.1 Community Safety: There have been 134 investigated crimes in Area North for September, 27 arrests and 30 reports of ASB. It was agreed that a representative from the Police should be asked to attend the PC's meeting.

13.2 Highways:

13.2.1. Traffic Calming & Speedwatch: There was nothing to report. A notice has been put in the Newsletter requesting volunteers for speedwatch.

13.2.2 Update on other highways matters

Mr Shire reported that the parking of vehicles near the junction of Shute Lane with the A372 is once again causing problems. He will endeavour to contact Highways.

13.3 Environment

Mrs Elliott expressed concern regarding the forthcoming Bonfire Night and how inconsiderate letting off of fireworks can have a detrimental affect on animals. It was suggested she might like to put a note in the Newsletter.

13.4 Footpaths

Mrs Elliott said that she is still awaiting a response from the DC regarding the footpath at Knole.

14. Correspondence not previously distributed - None

15. Date of next meeting - 6th November 2018.

The Vice-Chairman raised the idea of starting the PC Meetings at 7pm and after a brief discussion, it was agreed to discuss the matter more fully at the next meeting.

16. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting

The Vice-Chairman will arrange a wreath and lay this on behalf of the PC on Remembrance Sunday.

Mr Shire said that plastic WW1 commemoration soldiers can be purchased, but it was decided not to go down this route.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.