

Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council
Held at the Hall on Tuesday 4th September 2018 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors: Mr G R Cox (Chairman), Mr T Brand, Mr T P Shire, Mrs E Elliott and Mr G Stoddart-Stones. County Councillor Mr D Ruddle, District Councillor Mr M Tucker and 3 members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Mr M Turpin

Public Observations/Questions

The matter of the missing signpost to Somerton was raised. This had been taken away for repair and lost. Mr Ruddle said that he could provide a number in order to source parts for these signposts.

Concern was expressed regarding the volume of traffic now speeding through the village.

1. Casual Vacancies inc introduction of expressions of interest.

Mr Chris Dowse, who was present at the meeting and had expressed an interest in becoming a Councillor, was invited by the Chairman to introduce himself to the Council. It was then proposed by the Chairman, seconded Mr Shire and unanimously resolved that Mr Dowse be co-opted onto the Council.

Mr Dowse having signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office was invited to join in the meeting.

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

3. Minutes of meetings held on 4th July, 31st July and 7th August 2018

It was resolved that the minutes of the 4th July, 31st July and 7th August should all be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4. Matters Arising, not covered by the Agenda

Planning Application No: 18/01981/FUL: A copy of the Business Plan was received and circulated to Councillors. It was felt by a majority that there was no material change to the comments previously submitted by the PC.

Speedwatch: The Chairman reported that 5 Parishioners attended the meeting on 17th July. Mr Stoddart-Stones has agreed to be the Communicator but a Co-ordinator is needed and also further volunteers in order to make this viable. A note will be put in the October Newsletter.

Freedom of Information Request: The Chairman confirmed that he personally delivered the information requested on 5th July 2018.

Defibrillator outside Hall: The Clerk confirmed that she had contacted Mr Foy regarding the log pack for the defibrillator and had forwarded the reply received to Mr Turpin.

5. County Councillor's Report

Mr Ruddle reported that the County Council have to make stringent cuts immediately.

If the proposals are approved by the County Council's Cabinet, there will be no Youth Grants; the Citizens Advice Bureau will be hit massively; the Road Safety project to be discontinued; the Park & Ride in Taunton suspended; Bus services will be affected; the

supply of Bags of Salt to Parishes to be discontinued and the Gritting service will be cut back.

Mr Ruddle said that they are really struggling at the moment and there is no good news.

6. District Councillor's Report

Mr Tucker reported that a fairly light Area North Meeting was held in August with no reports presented and just one planning application within the Turn Hill Ward at Knole for the temporary consent for an agricultural workers dwelling which was approved. In July a presentation was given by Chris Cooper of Streetscene. Fly tipping reported incidents in the Turn Hill Ward were given. In LS, one took place in March and one in April.

Chris Cooper's team have now taken on the management of the Crematorium. Streetscene have also now installed an MOT testing station which will reduce waiting times and provide an opportunity to generate an income.

A report in July on the grants programme identified that Area North projects benefitted by approximately £30,000 with 24 projects supported. In total the project costs were £214,000 for which Town and PCs contributed £114,000. This was the highest of all the areas.

He said that the Economic Development Strategy is up for review this month and at a recent members workshop, support for rural businesses was the item that returned the highest response.

7. Planning:

There are no new applications at present.

It was confirmed that there is no news on the LS House application.

Applications granted by SSDC are:

Application No: 18/01921/FUL Alterations and the erection of a two storey side and single storey rear extension to dwellinghouse and front entrance canopy. Primrose Wyld, Knole Causeway.

Application No: 18/01018/FUL Formation of an access track to serve ground worker's yard (retrospective). Land OS1900 North of Tengore Lane.

Application No: 18/01868/FUL Erection of a new dwelling and construction of a parking area to serve adjacent dwelling. Land rear of Westview, Shute Lane.

Application No: 18/00769/FUL Erection of an agricultural building and the stationing of a temporary agricultural workers dwelling. Land at East Lodge, Bineham Road, Knole.

Mr Ruddle said that they are down to 4 years land supply and applications all come down to sustainability. The Local Plan 2 is being reviewed.

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

Mr Stoddart-Stones said that there was little to report due to the summer recess. The accounts are still with the auditor.

Mr Brand reported that Chris Vigar from the Cricket Club had written to him with observations about the state of the Pavilion, one of which is a drainage issue.

The Chairman, Mr Ellerbeck and Mr Godfrey are to leave the VHC at Christmas. It was agreed that a notice should be placed in the Newsletter requesting volunteers for the VHC, the Hall being an essential part of the village.

It was proposed the Chairman seconded Mr Shire and resolved that the PC's annual £2,000 donation to the VHC should be paid, with a request that this be used towards the maintenance of the Pavilion Building.

9. Finance:

9.1 Balances and Accounts for Payment

Unity Trust Account		42,435.57
Less Alcs agreed July meeting	1,004.44	
Pd out of meeting:		
26/7 Timeback Accounts & Payroll	4.50	
1/8 Cosmic – Annual Website Support	144.00	
1/8 Clerk's Salary (Jul) paid by SO	300.00	
6/8 CW's fee for July	524.16	
6/8 Timeback Accounts & Payroll	4.50	
14/8 SSDC fee for Data Protection Training	35.00	
14/8 Community Heartbeat – Annual subscription	230.00	
3/9 Clerk's Salary (Aug) paid by SO	300.00	2,546.60
		<u>£39,888.97</u>

A/cs for payment

CW - Fee for August 589.63 + Weed killer £20	609.63
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It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded Mr Brand and unanimously resolved that the account be paid.

Citizens Advice South Somerset have asked that consideration be given to making them a grant. This was not however felt to be appropriate at this time in view of the report by Mr Ruddle of the lack of funding to be provided in future by SCC.

The Clerk reported that no payment has yet been received from SSE in respect of the solar panels, following the meter reading submitted at the beginning of August. The amount due, from a recent statement received, would appear to be £2,623.57.

It was agreed that consideration should be given to a further capital payment to reduce the PWB Loan and this will be put on the next agenda.

9.2 Langport Cycleway

As the Clerk did not have a copy of the letter received to hand, it was agreed that this matter should be put on the next agenda.

10. Review of appropriate standing orders and financial regulations

Mr Brand was asked to forward the Financial Regulations to the Clerk once these have been drafted.

11. Confirmation of arrangements for insurance cover in respect of all insured risks

Following discussion in regard to the War Memorial it was agreed that the sums insured should remain as per the Insurance Schedule.

The Clerk said that she did not know if the defibrillators are insured by Community Heartbeat. She was asked to contact them to make enquiries and if appropriate contact the PC's insurers for a quotation.

12. Review of the Council's policy for dealing with the press/media

It was agreed that this should remain as per Standing Order 21. All requests from the Press/media being referred to the Proper Officer (Clerk) and Chairman.

13. Community Warden Scheme

During August the CW continued with the vegetation management. The finger post on the Village Green has been painted. He asks for the go ahead regarding the removal of the decaying ash tree on Martock Road next week while the road is closed, thus removing the necessity to hire traffic management. He has contacted Wessex Water who have no objection to this work being carried while the road is closed.

The CW also says that on the 10th August he had some equipment stolen from his truck in the Village Hall Car Park while clearing the visibility play. The Police have been informed.

Mr Shire will confirm with the CW regarding the work to the tree and other matters requiring attention and also regarding the stolen equipment.

14. Parish Website

Concern has been expressed regarding the lack of updating of the website. The Chairman has spoken with Ruby Coombes but will contact her again to confirm matters.

15. Representative Reports and any other matters regarding

15.1 Community Safety: The Police report for Area North for August is 161 investigated crimes, 21 arrests and 24 reports of ASB.

15.2 Highways:

15.2.1 Traffic Calming & Speedwatch

The Chairman will contact Nick Cowling, SCC Service Manager – Transport Data and Road Safety.

Speedwatch was dealt with under Matters Arising.

15.2.2 Update on other highways matters – No other matters were raised.

15.3 Environment – No matters were raised.

15.4 Footpaths

There was nothing to report on the proposed new footpath at Hammocks Drove.

Mrs Elliott said that she is still trying to resolve the situation regarding a footpath at Knole and has contacted the DC.

It was reported that a post is on the ground at Plot Form and a collapsed stile was also reported. Mr Shire will speak to the CW regarding this.

It was felt that money for footpath repairs should be considered in the next budget.

16. Correspondence not previously distributed

Various training events to be held by SALC were brought to the attention of Councillor.

An email has been received from the Police wishing to be made aware of any Remembrance events on the 11th November, which this year mark the 100th Anniversary of the end of the First World War. It was however felt that time is too short to organise anything in this respect.

17. Date of next meeting - 2nd October 2018. The Chairman and Mr Stoddart-Stones gave apologies.

18. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.57pm

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