

Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council
Held at the Hall on Tuesday 7th April 2015 at 7.30 pm

A Quorum of Councillors were present, namely Mr N A Gould, Vice-Chairman in the Chair, Mr N E Pomeroy and Ms P Jukes. District Councillor Mr S Pledger and 4 members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors, Mr R W Fry (Chairman), Mr T P Shire, Mr S Hart, and Mr D C Francis and County Councillor Mr D Ruddle.

Public Observations/Question Time

Mr Walford once again raised concerns regarding speeding at Langport Road and said that he felt there should be some permanent speed warning signs.

He also raised the matter of a public footpath at Hammocks Field and said that he felt the approach regarding this would be best coming from the PC.

Mr Gould said that contact would be made with the Police and County regarding these matters.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes of meeting held on 2nd and 3rd March 2015 - (previously circulated) were approved as a correct record and signed by the Vice-Chairman.

3. Matters Arising

Long Load Bridge: The Clerk reported that she had written to Paul Tucker of SCC as to whether the bridge could take the increase of traffic which the planning application close to Stapleton Close could generate. Mr Tucker is however fully committed at the present time and has passed the matter to his colleague Paul Nation to look into this. A reply has not yet however been received.

District Councillor Mr Pledger confirmed that planning permission has been granted but they have not yet got detailed planning permission. He said that a construction management plan could be requested. The PC unanimously agreed that this should be requested.

Boarded Up Property at Martock Road: The Clerk confirmed that a reply had still not been received from the Church Commissioners Agents despite a reminder being sent.

Training Re Planning, Revision of Standing Orders etc: To be dealt with by the new Council.

PC's Insurance Policy: The Clerk confirmed that this did not cover a Councillor who wished to take action against another party.

4. County Councillor's Report - Mr Ruddle was not present.

5. District Councillor's Report

Mr Pledger confirmed that the last Area North Meeting had taken place at LS Village Hall. The provision of a hearing loop would be an advantage and it was confirmed that this is being looked into by the VHC at the present time.

Mr Pledger reported on the awarding of grants by the DC. £40,000 having been awarded to Kingsbury Episcopi towards the total cost of a new Community Centre, Shop, Cafe and Sports Changing Facilities. This is subject to the application for a Lottery Grant being successful. The rest will be provided by their own funding. Work is expected to start by January next year.

It was agreed that the provision of the Footpath at Hammocks Drove, requested by Mr Walford, should be dealt with next on the agenda. This is for a formal right of way to run down the drove across fields to the river bank. Mr Walford said that this has been used as a public path for a long time but not formally designated as a footpath. He understands there is a Rights of Way Improvement Plan being considered by County so this would appear to be the right timing. He said that he could make the proposal supported by the PC but felt that the initiative would be best coming from the PC. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that the PC should write to the County Council.

6. Planning

Applications for consideration:

Application No. 15/01054/FUL Erection of a Conservatory at the rear of the property. 2 Charity Cottages, Hermitage Road, Upton.

There being no adverse representations and the property not being listed, the PC voted unanimously to support the application.

Application No: 15/00710/LBC Installation of chimney flue. Glovington House, Martock Road.

The PC voted unanimously to support the application.

Application No: 15/01252/S73 Section 73 application to amend conditions, 2, 4, 5 and 6 of previously approved application 14/00273/FUL. To simplify construction, amend materials and improve drainage run as shown on substituted plans. Woodland View, Langport Road.

The PC voted unanimously to support the application subject to adequate surface water management structure and that there will be no adverse impact on the public sewer and/or localised flooding.

Mr Gould confirmed that he had written to the LPA for guidance in respect of planning applications within LS in view of the issues of localised flooding and the capacity of the sewer network.

Application 15/00287/FUL Erection of a 2 storey dwelling house and partial demolition of south west boundary wall to create 45 degree angled recess/visibility splay onto highway. External walls to cottage to be blue lias stone, roof to be traditional slate. Solar photovoltaic slates of identical visual appearance of traditional slate to be used to south west facing main roof. Land to the West of Orchard Farm, Knole Causeway.

Application Withdrawn

7. Finance:

(i) Balances and Accounts for Payment

The Clerk confirmed that the estimated balances as at today's date were as follows, no statements having yet been received:

Business Reserve

£8167.19

Current A/c		13984.09
Less Payments last meeting		<u>2585.93</u>
		11398.16
Add Allotment Rents		<u>270.00</u>
		<u>£11668.16</u>

Lengthsman A/c		8114.45
Less Payment last meeting		<u>1594.71</u>
		6519.74
Add LS Reimbursement for materials used by CW		34.81
LSVHC Reimbursement for materials used by CW		325.98
Long Load Reimbursement for materials used by CW	30.75	
Long Load Contribution 2015/16	<u>2138.64</u>	2169.39
Aller Reimbursement for materials used by CW	30.75	
Aller Contribution 2015/16	<u>2049.53</u>	2080.28
Pitney Reimbursement for materials used by CW	29.47	
Pitney Contribution 2015/16	<u>1158.43</u>	1187.90
High Ham Reimbursement for materials used by CW	38.87	
High Ham Contribution 2015/16	<u>5346.60</u>	5385.47
Huish Episcopi Reimbursement for materials used by CW		<u>13.00</u>
		<u>£17716.57</u>

Accounts for payment:

Clerk's Salary		300.00
HMRC Tax on Clerk's Salary		225.00
Community Council for Somerset subscription		40.00
LS Contribution to CW Scheme 2015/16		6683.25
Lengthsman Alc: CW's fee (March)	1560.51	
LS - Materials	116.35	
Aller - Materials	19.50	
Huish - Materials	<u>19.50</u>	1715.86

It was proposed Mr Gould, seconded Ms Jukes and unanimously agreed that the accounts be paid. The contribution to the CW Scheme being paid following receipt of the Precept.

(ii) External Audit of Accounts 2014/15

The Clerk reported that the date for the external audit had been set as the 15 June 2015 and that she had contacted Pinnacle Accountancy Services of Martock to carry out the internal audit in order that the accounts could be approved by the PC at its meeting on 5th May.

(iii) TGC Renewables – Tengore Lane: Community Benefit

It has been requested that this be paid the second week in April each year.

8. Casual Vacancy/ Elections 7th May 2015

Following the PC's meeting in April, Councillor Mr David Good resigned from the Council.

The DC have confirmed that in view of the forthcoming elections it is not necessary to advertise this vacancy.

The Clerk reminded the PC that any nominations for the elections have to be made by 4 pm on the 9th April and have to be delivered by hand.

9. Village Hall:

(i) **Review of Procedures** - A meeting has not taken place between the sub-committee.

(ii) **Any other Village Hall Matters**

Mr Pomeroy's recent report had previously been passed to Councillors for perusal.

He said that SSDC have agreed funding of £1,000 towards the Pavilion Showers. They have also agreed to fund the hearing loop system. If a PA system is to be added however this would have to be self funded.

The Cleaner has recently resigned and they are to meet with a proposed applicant next week.

10. Community Warden Scheme

Ms Jukes reported that the Contracts have now been signed and Craig, the CW, is happy at the moment. He is supposed to work 215 days a year but in fact does 219.

Four Parishes have already paid their contributions for 2015/16 and Huish Episcopi's will be banked after the 18th April as will Long Sutton's.

11. Parish Website

This is now up and running. Mr Godfrey was thanked for his time and skills. There are now 4 trained operators. Mr Godfrey said that he felt the site was more professional than expected and we have more control. People need to be encouraged to use the site. He is at present working on creating more space for the VH calendar with Mrs Pringle and will add information regarding Freedom of Information and remove Speedwatch.

12. Neighbourhood Watch/Community Safety/Civil Contingencies:- Localised flooding and surface water management to include foul drainage and BT Outage at telephone exchange.

It was reported that the PC have written to Wessex Water but a reply has not yet been received.

The Flood Risk Management Event which was to have been held by the DC has been postponed until after the Elections and because of this Mr Gould confirmed that he has been in touch with David Norris of the DC regarding clarity on dealing with planning applications.

Regarding the BT Outage, approximately 50 lines were cut by the contractors working at the exchange which has had a major effect on Broadband. Although repairs have been effected a large amount of cables still remain to be replaced.

13. Representative Reports and any other matters regarding:

(i) **Highways:**

Hill House: A letter is to be written to the owner of Hill House, Langport Road regarding the wall bordering his property in view of the concerns raised by members of the public regarding its safety.

Village Green: A meeting took place with Chris Weeks of Highways. Edging kerbs have been suggested between the two Lime Trees and tarmac which would be carried out at no cost to the PC. Behind the kerbs would be posts with topsoil to tidy up to the kerbs and around the trees. The CW has said that he could fix the posts and level the top soil and has a quote for materials of approximately £400.

Triangle at Shute Lane: The work suggested in this respect would cost approximately £1300 which would have to be paid by the PC.

In respect of the above items, the PC voted unanimously not to proceed with any works at the Triangle on Shute Lane but does however support the works on the Village Green.

Crouds Lane: Representations have been made by the public about damage to the highways reserve/grass verges/kerbs in this area. Highways are to be informed.

(ii) Footpaths: Mr Pomeroy reported damage to two stiles past his property. It was confirmed that he should contact the PPLO regarding this rather than work the CW should carry out.

(iii) Environment: Nothing to report.

14. V E Day Celebrations

It was suggested that a Street Party should be held. Mr Pomeroy and Mr Gould will liaise regarding this and Mr Pomeroy will seek the help of the Village Hall Supporters to see if this is a viable option.

15. Correspondence

Michelle Mitchell on behalf of the PTFA has made enquiry about gaining permission to use the recreation field for a firework display. It has been confirmed that they would need to seek permission from the VHC, provide their own insurance and carry out the appropriate risk assessments etc.

A letter of thanks has been received from the Treasurer of Holy Trinity Church for the donations made by the PC. He says that the cost of running the church, excluding maintenance is approximately £30,000 p.a. and has been difficult to finance.

There is now **a new single number for all enquiries to Somerset County Council** which is **0300 123 2224**.

South Somerset Together are to hold an Assembly on Friday 22nd May, 9.00 to 13.00 at LS Golf Club regarding a sustainable health service.

16. Date of next meeting - The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at 7 o'clock on the 5th May 2015 followed by the normal monthly PC meeting.

17. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting

Mr Pomeroy reminded everyone of the Ompah Night to be held on April 18th by FOLSC.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm