

Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council
Held at the Hall on Tuesday 6th January 2015 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors: Mr R W Fry (Chairman), Mr N A Gould, Mr T P Shire, Mr D R Good, Mr D C Francis, Mr S Hart, Mr N E Pomeroy and Ms P Jukes. District Councillor Mr S Pledger and 10 members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: County Councillor Mr D Ruddle.

Public Observations/Question Time: No matters were raised.

1. Declarations of Interest

Mr Gould declared a personal interest in respect of the planning application regarding repairs at Sutton Farm, Shute Lane and both Mr Gould and the Chairman, Mr Fry, declared a personal interest in respect of the planning application regarding the erection of 2 dwellings on land south of South Barton Martock, Road.

2. Minutes of meeting held on 2nd December 2014 - (previously circulated) were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising

Boarded up Property at Martock Road: A letter is to be written to the Church Commissioners Agents enquiring the intentions with regard to this property.

4. County Councillor's Report – Mr Ruddle was unable to be present at the meeting.

5. District Councillor's Report

Mr Pledger report on various planning applications regarding local Parishes, some of which had proved to be awkward, in particular one at Curry Rivel. He also said that there had been various reported cases of fly tipping and that the Community Payback Scheme Group were available for tasks such as the picking up of litter etc.

6. Planning

Applications for consideration:

14/05238/FUL Erection of a single storey orangery to the rear of an existing extension to the original building. Old Gospel Hall, Langport Road.

It was reported that this application has been passed by SSDC. The application was referred to the Ward Member as the comments of the PC were contrary to those of the Planning Officer, The Ward Member resolved that it should be determined in accordance with the Officer's recommendations. The PC had no objection to the principal of development but objected on the grounds of design.

Mr Gould said that he was asking for clarification on the way the application was approved.

It was agreed that the application for the erection of the two dwellings at Martock Road should be dealt with last.

14/05314/FUL Proposed two storey dwelling. 2 Tavenders Cottages, Langport Road.

Although outside the limit it was felt that this was a suitable location for development and the PC voted unanimously to support this.

14/05438/FUL Erection of boundary security fencing with entrance gates. LS Primary School, Martock Road.

Although the PC voted to support the principle of this development, concerns were expressed due to the proximity of the security fencing to the current entrance and the public highway. It was felt that there could be highway safety issues and other considerations arising from this. It was therefore resolved the DC and the School should be informed accordingly.

14/05246/LBC Repairs to chimney, stonework, windows and to the structure and fabric of building. Sutton Farm, Shute Lane.

It was reported that this application consists of a series of necessary repairs required to the property and the PC voted by a majority to support this. Mr Gould, having previously declared a personal interest, abstaining.

14/05606/FUL Single storey extension to form dining room, lobby, wc and larder. Bridge Cottage. Bineham Road, Knole.

Although there was some discussion regarding the use of cedar cladding, the PC voted by a majority to support the application.

14/05217/FUL The erection of 2 dwellings (revised application) Land South of South Barton, Martock Road.

The Chairman requested Ms Juke to Chair discussion of this application while both he and Mr Gould, having previously declared a personal interest, left the room.

This is a revised scheme, there being new owners of the property. The applicants' agent said that the development had been added to at the back but the main body of the development was the same. The development has also been brought up closer to the highway so there is a continuous link between this and the adjoining properties.

There was discussion during which some Councillors expressed concern at the noticeable difference in height between Plots 1 and 2 which was a matter also raised by a consultee. On a vote being taken it was resolved by a majority to support the application subject to the provision of a suitable landscaping scheme in the interests of neighbour amenity.

Permission granted by SSDC: Application 14/04751/S73 to vary Condition 3 (time limit) and Condition 7 (Lighting) Solar development, Land north of Tengore Lane.

7. Finance:

(i) Balances and Accounts for Payment

Business Reserve	<u>8166.17</u>
Current A/c	15409.80
Less Payments last meeting	<u>300.00</u>
	<u>15109.80</u>

Lengthsman A/c	13541.79
Less Payment last meeting	<u>1571.85</u>
	<u>11969.94</u>

Accounts for payment:

Clerk's Salary	300.00
HMRC Tax on Clerk's Salary (payable quarterly)	225.00
Printer Cartridge Refills (Admin Expenses)	24.70
Long Sutton PCC:	
Churchyard Grass Cutting	170.00
Church Tower Lighting	60.00

Church Clock Maintenance	25.00	
Newsletter	<u>260.00</u>	515.00
Lengthsman Alc: CW's fee (Dec)		1,502.55

The Clerk said that the payments to the PCC were in the PC's budget for this financial year and had previously been paid in January each year.

There was discussion regarding the payment of these accounts which resulted in it being proposed by Mr Shire, seconded Mr Gould and resolved by a majority that all the accounts be paid.

(ii) Precept 2015/16

There was discussion of the figures before the PC in respect of the financial allocations for 2015/16. Once again the figure for Churchyard grass cutting etc did not receive the approval of some Councillors but on a vote being taken it was resolved by a majority that the PC should continue to contribute. With regard to the Newsletter it was felt that it should be suggested to the PCC that Long Load PC should be approached to make a contribution.

Following further discussion and some small adjustments it was unanimously resolved that the PC accept the budget of £18,850.00 for 2015/16. With an estimated grant of £720.00 from Central Government this results in a Precept of £18,130 being an increase of 1.98% to the tax payer and an equivalent Band D Charge for 15/16 of £49.16.

The actual payment of any figures allocated is subject to the approval of the PC at that time.

It is not yet known if Parish Councils are to be capped regarding the Precept and it was resolved that the Chairman should sign and submit the formal request to the DC when we know what the cap is to be.

A copy of the financial allocations for 2015/16 is annexed to these minutes but these may be subject to change if the Precept is capped.

8. Village Hall:

(i) Review of Procedures - The subcommittee comprising members of the PC and VHC has not yet met.

(ii) Trustee's Annual Report/Return to Charity Commissioners

This had been prepared by Ms Jukes and the Clerk. The Annual Return has already been submitted but it is necessary this year to submit a copy of the accounts and a Trustee's report to the CC as the income and expenditure exceeded £25,000. Ms Jukes gave details to the PC of the Trustee's report that had been prepared and this was approved and signed by the Chairman. A copy of the report prepared by Mr Harding regarding future maintenance and investment is also to be submitted.

(ii) Any other Village Hall Matters

A copy of the latest VHC Minutes and Mr Pomeroy's report has been circulated to Councillors.

Mr Pomeroy asked if the PC would consider allocating £1,000 from its capital expenditure funds towards the replacement of the VH windows.

The Chairman said that he felt the PC could not consider such a payment until the costs of protecting the Village Green are known e.g. if the PC wish to kerb this etc. Mr Pomeroy then suggested a payment of £500 and the VHC would try and match this by a grant. This suggestion was also declined until any other matters requiring capital expenditure are known, the PC having already agreed to finance the cost of a new fire door at the Hall.

9. Community Warden Scheme

Ms Jukes reported that Pitney are thinking of pulling out of the scheme as this takes a large portion of their Precept. High Ham are however considering extra hours. The CW is aware of this.

The ride on mower for which parts were paid for last year is no longer viable and the partnership is considering what percentage it should pay towards a new mower.

Discussion is still taking place regarding a yearly 1% rise for the CW.

10. Parish Website

Mr Godfrey was invited to address the PC.

He said that Cosmic created a skeleton website and the Parish has to provide all the content. It is hoped that this will be 95% complete within the next 10 days. It will then be necessary to take over the maintenance.

The PC proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Godfrey for all his work and assistance.

11. Neighbourhood Watch/Community Safety/Civil Contingencies

Mr Gould reported that the Parish now holds sufficient grit and sandbags for any contingency.

12. Representative Reports and any other matters regarding:

(i) Highways

Mr Shire reported that he is still waiting to hear from Chris Weeks of Highways regarding the Village Green and other matters.

(ii) Footpaths

It was reported that further complaints have been received regarding the hedge at Walnut House which is overhanging the pavement. The Chairman said that he had not yet spoken to the property owner.

(iii) Environment

Mr Shire reported that he is still waiting to hear from BT regarding the litter bin which has been removed from Shute Lane.

It was confirmed that nothing has been heard from BT about the telephone box at Knole.

Mr Francis is in contact with the School regarding the reporting of village firsts for the Nature Diary.

13. Correspondence

A letter of thanks has been received from LS PCC thanking the PC for redoing the Roll of Honour.

14. Date of next meeting – 3rd February

15. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20 pm