

**Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council**  
**Held at the Hall on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 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 and Ms P Jukes. County Councillor Mr D Ruddle and 9 members of the public.

**Apologies for Absence:** Councillor Mr N E Pomeroy and District Councillor Mr S Pledger

**Public Observations/Question Time**

It was reported that a Residents Action Group has been formed because of the sewage problems that are being experienced in the Parish. A meeting has taken place with the Principal Planning Engineer for Wessex Water who are responsible for all foul water, repairs and capital improvements. Capacity is the issue. The pumping station cannot cope. Surveys are to be carried out and the ingress of water measured. There are problems in other areas of the country. Wessex Water will not have money for a new pipe and are opposing all new development.

The speed of traffic on Langport Road was raised with a request for permanent speed warning signs.

**1. Declarations of Interest** – There were no declarations of interest.

**2. Minutes of meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015** - (previously circulated) were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**3. Matters Arising**

**Boarded up house at Martock Road:** A reply has still not yet been received from the Church Commissioners' Agents. This will be chased up.

**4. County Councillor's Report**

Mr Ruddle reported that road closure to take place in Somerton will direct traffic to the A372.

Lady Elizabeth Gass has retired as HM Lord Lieutenant of Somerset and Mrs Anne Maw has been appointed as her replacement.

There is to be a computer in Somerton and Langport Libraries.

Mr Shire reported that the PC were still waiting to hear from Chris Weeks of Highways regarding the repairs to the Village Green and what contribution they will make and also from Gary Warren about the bollards for the triangle Shute Lane and any assistance Mr Ruddle could give in this respect would be appreciated.

**5. District Councillor's Report** – Mr Pledger was not present at the meeting.

**6. Planning**

Applications for consideration:

**Application 15/00471 Proposed erection of an agriculturally tied dwelling. Land East of Knightlands Lane.**

The applicant was invited to address the meeting. He said that the dwelling was required in order that there was someone on site for security reasons. There having previously been a barn fire and sheep stolen.

Public representation has been made that security could be provided by technology and the applicant may have other suitable buildings. The question of surface water was also raised.

County Councillor Mr Ruddle then left at 7.59 pm to attend a meeting in Keinton Mandeville.

The PC then went into meeting to discuss the application. It was felt that the question of surface water was subject to appraisal but viable from farm septic tanks. The size of the dwelling was questioned by one Councillor but this was felt by the majority to be suitable especially if there was a family involved.

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously resolved that the PC support the application.

An email has been received regarding an application for 91 houses close to Stapleton Cross. The writer of the email says that she has been led to believe from a member of Martock PC that due to numerous complaints about the already increased traffic through Highway and Ash, the Highways Department suggested access to the A303 through Long Load/LS all going over Long Load Bridge. Councillors had previously been made aware of the public meeting held on 26 February.

It was agreed that enquiry should be made of SCC as to their opinion on whether the Bridge would be able to sustain this increase in traffic.

The following permissions have been granted by SSDC:-

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

Application 14/04506/FUL Conversion of unused Industrial Building to a 4 bedroom dwelling at Little Upton Bridge Farm.

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

Application 14/05426/LBC Repairs to chimney, stonework, windows and to the structure and fabric of building at Sutton Farm, Shute Lane.

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

Application 14/05666/FUL Erection of 4 one bedroom dwellinghouses and change of use of annexe to Greystones to 1 two bedroom dwelling. Erection of guest accommodation/store/office (part retrospective). Land South of Greystones, Off Crouds Lane. Application withdrawn.

**7. Finance:**

**Balances and Accounts for Payment**

Business Reserve		8166.17
<b>Add</b> Interest Nov	0.31	
Interest Dec	0.37	
Interest Jan	<u>0.34</u>	
		<u>1.02</u>
		<b><u>8167.19</u></b>

Current A/c		14045.10
<b>Add</b> Allotment Rents		<u>238.99</u>
		14284.09
<b>Less</b> Payments last meeting		<u>300.00</u>
		<b><u>13984.09</u></b>
Lengthsman A/c		10467.39
<b>Less</b> Payments last meeting	1643.44	
Pd out of meeting ½ cost of mower	<u>709.50</u>	<u>2352.94</u>
		<b><u>8114.45</u></b>
<b>Accounts for payment:</b>		
Clerk's Salary		300.00
Materials Re Lengthsman Scheme		34.81
Cosmic - Re Website		
Design & Construction	1704.00	
Training	276.00	
Transfer to PC's hosting facility	<u>36.00</u>	2016.00
Mr N E Pomeroy – Wreath for Armistice		22.00
Admin Expenses:		
Printer Cartridges	86.38	
Paper & other stationery items	36.74	
Petty Cash to reimburse for postage, Telephone etc	<u>90.00</u>	213.12
Lengthsman Alc:		
CW's fee (Feb)	1568.70	
Materials – LS	19.71	
Mower parts	<u>6.30</u>	1594.71

As a grant has not been obtained in respect of the website the costs of this will be taken from other allocations in the PC's budget.

It was proposed Mr Shire, seconded Ms Jukes and unanimously resolved that the accounts be paid.

Letters regarding financial support have been received from St John Ambulance and Somerton & District Beekeepers' Association. It was agreed that the PC is not however in a position to assist.

## **8. Village Hall:**

**(i) Review of Procedures:** A meeting has still not as yet taken place.

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

Mr Pomeroy's recent report had previously been emailed to Councillors. It was questioned as to whether the gate which has been erected to prevent vehicles driving onto the sports pitch is wide enough to allow ambulances through.

Mr Pomeroy had previously requested that some of the PC's remaining capital expenditure monies be used towards the windows for the VH. The Chairman said that he had confirmed to him that no decision could be made until the costs of work to the lower end of the Village Green are known.

## **9. Community Warden Scheme**

Ms Jukes confirmed that the invoices for the next financial year have been sent to the other Parishes and she will shortly be arranging signature of the Contracts.

## **10. Parish Website**

It was reported that there are still a couple more pages to finalise but the website should be up and running shortly once Cosmic are in receipt of the PC's cheque.  
A date will be arranged for training to take place.

## **11. Committee Procedures and Safeguards including public debate, recording etc.**

Due to new legislation regarding the recording of meetings etc, Number 1 sub-clause m of the Council's Standing Orders has to be suspended at meetings pending these being updated.

## **12. Training – Planning and Standing Orders**

The Clerk reported that SSDC are to hold training for Councillors in June/July regarding planning.

The Chairman asked if we should update the Parish Plan now that the Local Plan has been adopted.

It was agreed that revision of Standing Orders, Committee Procedures etc should be carried out by the new Council.

## **13. Insurance for the protection of Members of the Council including legal cover.**

In view of recent events, it is to be checked whether the PC's insurance allows a Councillor to take action when they have been wrongly accused.

## **14. Neighbourhood Watch/Community Safety/Civil Contingencies**

Mr Gould reported regarding the ongoing flood and surface water management plans.

The Police report for February for Area North is 57 investigated crimes and 14 arrests with 20 reports of ASB.

## **15. Localised flooding and surface water management to include foul drainage.**

It was agreed that the PC should establish contact with Wessex Water in order to arrange a meeting with them and other interested parties.

## **16. Representative Reports and any other matters regarding:**

### **(i) Highways**

Notification has been received from SCC of the temporary closure of Horse Mill Lane, North and Behind Berry, Somerton from 18<sup>th</sup> March and is expected to last 9 days (excluding weekends) to enable preparation works and resurfacing to be carried out.

Mr Shire is to chase up matters with Highways regarding the lower end of the Village Green and the triangle Shute Lane.

Further information has been received regarding the transfer of the operation and administration of Speed Indicator Devices (SID) to Parish/Town Councils. Following discussion it was decided not to proceed with this.

It was reported that the speed of traffic on Langport Road is an issue and the Police are to be contacted regarding this.

**(ii) Footpaths**

It was reported that Mr Walford is to contact Mr Shire regarding the making of Hammocks Field a public footpath.

**(iii) Environment**

It was reported that the Parish has been offered some owl boxes. Mr Francis is organising with the Gardening Club.

**17. Correspondence**

A request has been received to put up a small table/gazebo on the Green in order to sell cakes to raise money for Red Nose Day. This was agreed.

**18. Date of next meeting** - 7<sup>th</sup> April 2015

**19. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting**

The Clerk reminded Councillors of the elections on 7<sup>th</sup> May and gave those Councillors present the necessary Nomination Forms. These must be returned to the Returning Officer SSDC by 4pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April and must be delivered by hand.

The Chairman is to put a note in the Newsletter regarding the elections.

The meeting was closed at 9.22 pm