

Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council
Held at the Hall on Tuesday 5th May 2015 at 7.10 pm

Present: Councillors, Mr R W Fry (Chairman), Mr N A Gould, Mr T P Shire, Mr N E Pomeroy, Mr D C Francis and Ms P Jukes. District Councillor Mr S Pledger, County Councillor Mr D Ruddle and 8 members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Mr S Hart who may arrive later.

Public Observations/Question Time: No matters were raised.

1. Declarations of Interest

Mr Gould declared a pecuniary interest in the Planning Application No. 15/01603/S73A to be discussed at item 6 on the agenda.

2. Minutes of meetings held on 30th March and 7th April 2015 (previously circulated) were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising

Boarded up Property at Martock Road: There still having been no reply from the Church Commissioners Agents, the Chairman said he would draft a letter to them.

Long Load Bridge: A reply has not yet been received from SCC.

4. County Councillor's Report

Mr Ruddle said that he did not have a lot to report as everyone was fighting the Elections.

He said that Somerton Police Station is closing in 2017 and negotiations are taking place as to whether they go to Somerton Town Council Office.

5. District Councillor's Report

Mr Pledger reported that the last Area North meeting was all about planning and in particular he mentioned those applications at Martock.

Councillors said that access to the DC's website and contact by telephone was not good.

6. Planning

Application No: 15/01603/S73A Section 73a application to vary planning condition 2 on planning approval 14/00105/FUL to omit the approved garage/carport and to replace it with a garage/annexe. Land and Buildings Adjoining Greystones, Shute Lane.

The Chairman invited the applicant to address the PC.

It was said that the annexe was for a family member to give them their own independence. It has three bedrooms and is 1½ storeys and will remain under the same ownership as the main dwelling,

A copy of a letter of objection from the public has been received. He was also present at the meeting and said that the scale, bulk and mass of the proposed annexe was

tantamount to a new dwelling and that there was no additional parking for the annexe which could lead to problems.

Mr Gould said that he had no problem with an annexe. The biggest issue was the size and scale and the height was not subordinate to the main dwelling.

A member of the public directed inappropriate comments regarding a Councillor.

Mr Gould then left the room.

The PC then went into meeting to discuss the application. This culminated in it being proposed, seconded and **resolved** by a majority (Voting: 4 against, 1 abstention) that the PC object to the application on the grounds that the proposed annexe, in relation to its footprint and height, is too great for the site. Concerns also to be expressed that there may be inadequate parking and with regard to the impact on the local sewer network.

The PC also ask that the application goes before the Area North Committee.

The majority of the public then left the meeting (3 remaining) and Mr Gould returned to the room.

Permissions granted by SSDC:-

Application 15/00849/FUL Erection of single storey front and rear extensions at 9 Cross Lane.

Application 15/00710/LBC Installation of chimney flue at Glovington House, Martock Road.

Application 15/00893/FUL Proposed demolition of existing flood damaged dwelling and the erection of a new dwelling together with change of use of some land from agricultural to residential use, construction of a detached garage/car port. Kingsmoor Cottage, Somerton Road, Long Load.

7. Finance:

(i) Estimated Balances (statements not yet received) and Accounts for Payment

Business Reserve A/c		8167.19
Add Interest 27 Feb	0.31	
Interest 31 March	<u>0.36</u>	<u>0.67</u>
Balance as at 31 March 2015		<u>£8167.86</u>
Current A/c	Balance at 31 March 2015	11668.16
Less Payments agreed April meeting		<u>7248.25</u>
		4419.91
Add Farm Business Tenancy Rents		360.00
Precept/Grant		18850.00
Tengore Solar Community Benefit		<u>1809.60</u>
		<u>£25439.51</u>
Lengthsman A/c	Balance at 31 March 2015	17716.57
Less Payments agreed April meeting		<u>1715.86</u>
		16000.71
Add Huish Episcopi Contribution 2015/16		2138.64
LS Contribution 2015/16		<u>6683.25</u>
		<u>£24822.60</u>
Alcs for Payment		
Clerk's Salary		300.00
Pinnacle Accountancy Services (Internal audit fees)		120.00

Lengthsman A/c:		
CW's salary for April	1922.23	
Uniform	106.43	
Materials – Aller	9.10	
Materials – Pitney	19.50	
Materials – Long Load	<u>19.50</u>	2076.76

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

(ii) Approval of Accounts for 2014/15

The Clerk reported that the Internal Audit of the accounts had been carried out by Mr Williams of Pinnacle Accountancy Services of Martock. No matters have been raised and the appropriate Section of the Annual Return has been completed by him. Following discussion it was proposed Mr Gould, seconded Mr Shire and unanimously **resolved** that the Accounts the Accounting statement and the Annual governance statement contained in the Annual Return be approved. These were all then signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Council.

The Clerk was thanked for all her work in connection with the accounts.

(iii) Tengore Lane Solar Development – Community Benefit

As previously reported the sum of £1809.60 has been received. Foresight Group LLP are the new owners of TGC Solar Tengore Ltd. The payment has to be used for specific purposes within the areas of the Community. It was agreed that this should be put on the agenda for June to discuss how it should be spent.

8. New Council from 11th May 2015/Casual Vacancies

7 Councillors have been elected uncontested. This leaves two vacancies on the Council to be filled by co-option. The Clerk confirmed that notice of the vacancies has been placed on the notice boards and on the website.

9. Village Hall:

(i) Review of Procedures – Nothing to report. Mr Pomeroy did however say that they have started to clear out the store to see what shelving is needed for emergency equipment.

(ii) Any other Village Hall Matters

A copy of Mr Pomeroy's latest reports had previously been circulated to Councillors.

The hearing loop system is on order and is being paid for by SSDC. £1,000 is also being given by SSDC towards the repair of the Pavilion Showers.

He also reported the problem of rabbits making holes in the Recreation Field.

As the Clerk had been unable to print a full copy of the accounts provided by the Treasurer of the VH, Mr Gould had kindly arranged for a member of his staff to put these into a format which could be printed off and was easily understandable. The Clerk provided Councillors with copies. She said that a copy of the audited accounts would if possible be required for the Trustee's AGM to be held on 2nd June.

10. Community Warden Scheme

Pam Jukes, who will not be on the new Parish Council was thanked for all her hard work with regard to the scheme.

The Clerk confirmed that she would in due course email the various Clerks of the Parishes to find out the details of their new co-ordinators as it is understood that several of them have stepped down. She will also send them a copy of the accounts for the year ending 31st March.

Ms Jukes said that if no-one on the new PC was willing to take on the position of Lead Co-ordinator she would continue to do this if the PC so wished.

11. Parish Website

This is now progressing well, information is being updated rapidly and it is a credit to the hard work of Mr Phil Godfrey.

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

The Chairman reported that he had received a reply to the PC's letter to Wessex Water. They say that the wet winters in 2013-14 led to increased groundwater level and flooding throughout the region. As a result new measures were introduced to handle the flooding and help reduce the impact. They are now seeking agreeing with the Local Lead Flood Authority and the Environmental Agency to introduce a ground water management strategy. They say that if a new development is brought forward in the location of Crouds Lane, they will need to review the policy with the LPA and stakeholders. They would be happy to discuss this in more detail.

Due to the postponement of the Flood Risk Management Event, Mr Gould reported that he had emailed the LPA to get clarity on the consultation of planning applications with regard to surface water management. He had eventually managed to make contact and there is no policy and it is suggested that this is flagged up on any application which gives rise to concern. This is an ongoing problem.

Problems with regard to the telephone and broadband are still being experienced due to BT having cut some of the lines. Some repairs have been made but further work is required.

13. V E Day Celebrations

Mr Gould reported that due to lack of time it had not been possible to arrange anything.

14. Representative Reports and any other matters regarding:

14.1 Highways:

14.1.1 Village Green: Mr Gould reported that he had emailed Mr Weeks of Highways saying that the PC support the works on the village green but do not wish to proceed with works to the triangle at Shute Lane/Crouds Lane. As he has not received a reply he has emailed County Councillor Mr Ruddle.

Mr Gould also said that he had raised with highways the damage to the highways reserve/grass verges at Crouds Lane.

14.1.2 Wall at Hill House: It was confirmed that this matter has been dealt with by the owner of the property.

14.1.3 Speeding at Langport Road

The Police are aware of the problem and are currently in the process of carrying out speed checks throughout the area.

14.2 Footpaths: Footpath Hammocks Field

Mr Gould said that he has informed the County Council that the PC support Mr Walford's presentation but cannot contribute any local funds

Mr Pomeroy reported that he has contacted Mr Sheppard the PPLO regarding the damage to the stiles past his property and he will look into this.

14.3 Environment

Mr Shire reported that he has spoken to several people at BT regarding the removal of the litter bin at Shute Lane but has not met with a lot of success. It was suggested that the DC be contacted to see if they have any bins available.

15. Correspondence – None other than that previously sent to Councillors by email.

16. Date of next meeting – Members of the new Council would prefer the Annual Parish Council Meeting to be held on the 12th May and this will be at 7.30 pm. The Trustee's Annual Meeting of the Village Hall will be held on 2nd June at 7 pm prior to the PC's normal meeting.

17. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting

Mr Francis is to give a talk on Nepal at the Village.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm