

**Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council**  
**Held at the Hall on Tuesday 3rd November 2015 at 7.40 pm**

**Present:** Councillors, Mr R W Fry (Chairman) Mr T P Shire, Mr P A F Godfrey, Mr J Foy and Mr N E Pomeroy. District Councillor Mr S Pledger, County Councillor Mr D Ruddle and 3 members of the public. Councillor Mr G Farenden joined the meeting at 9pm.

**Apologies for Absence:** Councillor Mr D R C Agnew and Mr J A Ellerbeck.

**Public Observations/Question Time:**

The planning process and procedure was raised as it was felt that there are shortcomings in the present situation. It was emphasised that the PC is only a consultee and the decisions are down to the DC. District Councillor Pledger suggested that it might be useful to have David Norris the DC's Development Manager to give a talk at the next PC meeting. This suggestion was agreed.

It was reported that a CCTV camera has recently been installed on a tree in the hedgerow in Crouds Lane. This is to be investigated.

**1. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**2. Casual Vacancy**

Following confirmation from Mr Gould of his resignation from the PC, the vacancy has been advertised for the required period. The DC have confirmed there have been no requests for an election and the PC may therefore fill the vacancy by co-option. District Councillor Pledger expressed an interest in the vacancy but it was agreed that, as the notice inviting expressions of interest has only been up for a short period, the matter should be further discussed at the next meeting.

**3. Election of Vice-Chairman**

Although Mr Ellerbeck was unable to be present at the meeting, he had previously indicated his willingness to stand as Vice-Chairman if nominated. It was proposed by Mr Shire, seconded Mr Foy and unanimously resolved that Mr Ellerbeck should be elected as Vice-Chairman.

**4. Minutes of meeting held on 6 October 2015** - It was proposed Mr Godfrey, seconded Mr Shire and unanimously resolved that the minutes were an accurate record of the last meeting. These were then signed by the Chairman.

**5. Matters Arising**

**Boarded up Property at Martock Road.** It was reported that various proposals regarding this property have been taking place in which the Conservation Officer has been involved.

**6. County Councillor's Report**

Mr Ruddle reported that weed control, using a quad bike, had been carried out around the area; bulbs for planting were available from the DC in Yeovil and he also reiterated the massive cuts that would have to be made by the County Council.

**7. District Councillor's Report**

Mr Pledger reported that a meeting has taken place with Sedgemoor regarding sharing a Chief Executive.

He also reported on the progress regarding Hinkley Point and the number of people that would be working there. This will lead to a considerable sum to go towards roads, housing etc.

He said that Sedgemoor DC were similar to South Somerset but had a different structure.

## **8. Planning**

District Councillor Mr Pledger declared an interest in this application as he will be carrying out the proposed work.

**Application No: 15/04362/LBC Proposed 'like for like' replacement of The Dower House which burnt down earlier this year. Proposed modernised interior working within the fabric of the existing structure. The Dower House, Martock Road, Long Sutton.**

It was reported that this will be the same layout and materials as the original property. Following discussion it was proposed by Mr Godfrey, seconded by Mr Shire and unanimously resolved that the PC support the application.

Mr Pledger reported that there will be an application for a change of roof tiles for Plot 4 Martock Road.

Mr Godfrey commented that the report issued weekly by the District Council on planning applications was not accurate. It was said to be due to a delay in updating the list within the Planning Dept. Mr Godfrey then informed the Council that the planning application regarding land behind Greystones had been approved at the Area North Committee.

It was suggested that the PC should revert to its original policy of a planning group to view applications prior to these being presented to the full Council. This will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

## **9. Finance:**

### **9.1 Balances and Accounts for Payment**

<b>Business Reserve Alc</b>			18169.46
<b>Add</b>	Interest 28 Aug	0.70	
	Interest 30 Sep	0.82	
	Interest 30 Oct	0.75	2.27
			<u><b>18171.73</b></u>

NB this balance includes the balance from the rights of way over the Village Green of £4834.46 to be used for capital expenditure and the Tengore Lane Community Benefit of £1809.60.

<b>Current A/c</b>			9,737.03
<b>Less</b>	Alcs paid Oct meeting		<u>525.00</u>
			9,212.03
<b>Add</b>	HMRC VAT Refund - Village Hall	1,165.69	
	PC	<u>724.48</u>	
			<u>1,890.17</u>
			<u><b>11,102.20</b></u>
<b>Lengthsman Alc</b>			15,686.49
<b>Less</b>	Pd Oct meeting		<u>2,013.44</u>
			<u><b>13,673.05</b></u>

**A/cs for payment:**

Clerk's Salary		300.00
VH VAT Refund		1,165.69
Lengthsman A/c		
CW's fee for Oct	1,527.60	
Materials & Bulbs - LS	49.50	
Materials - High Ham	19.50	
Materials - Aller	<u>19.50</u>	1,616.10

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

**9.2 Wreath for Remembrance Sunday**

Mr Pomeroy raised the matter of the laying of a wreath for Remembrance Sunday. It was pointed out that apart from last year, the PC had never in the past laid a wreath. Mr Pomeroy however said that the wreath had already been ordered at a cost of £17. The PC therefore accepted this and Mr Pomeroy is to lay the wreath on behalf of the PC.

**9.3 PC IT Equipment and Recording Equipment**

Mr Godfrey reported that he and the Clerk had met to discuss the purchase of a suitable printer, following which this has now been obtained. On recently attending an SALC training event, he said it was mentioned that PC's should provide a suitable computer and that grants are available for the purchase of IT Equipment. He has also identified a suitable software package costing £60 for creating PDF documents. Following discussion Mr Godfrey proposed that he should investigate the obtaining of a grant for the purchase of IT equipment. This proposal was seconded by Mr Foy and unanimously agreed.

Regarding the purchase of suitable recording equipment, Mr Godfrey said that following discussion with the Clerk he is investigating suitable equipment which will not be too complicated to use.

**10. Voluntary Tasks undertaken by former Councillor Mr N Gould**

Mr Gould has indicated that he is very happy to continue to undertake the voluntary tasks which he had previously undertaken for many years pre his days as an elected member of the PC. These included Payroll and HMRC RTI, Severe Weather Arrangements, Civil Contingencies/Neighbourhood Watch/Community Safety and all matters relating thereto, Updating of Parish Website and various ad hoc functions.

It was proposed, seconded and resolved by a majority (Voting 3 for, 2 abstentions) that all these matters should in future be undertaken by members of the PC.

Mr Foy agreed to undertake the Payroll.

The Chairman will reply to Mr Gould accordingly thanking him for all his past work.

**11. Parish Notice Board and Seat on Village Green**

Mr Gould has said that the shop is being refurbished early next year and has enquired if the PC want the Parish Notice board maintained.

He has also indicated that the seat and railings on the Green need repainting.

It was agreed that the PC is happy for him to arrange maintenance of the notice board but the Community Warden is to be asked to carry out the painting of the seat and railings on the Green.

## **12. Long Sutton Welcome Pack**

Mr Pomeroy reported that this has been discussed with the Rev Jane Twitty and Churchwarden Tim Creegan. He said that he is awaiting a response from Rev Twitty and/or Tim Creegan about how they wish to proceed.

## **13. Standing Orders**

Mr Ellerbeck was unable to be present to report progress regarding amendments.

The Clerk said that the new SO's referred to the Council's Policy on dealing with the media but do not actually state this, whereas the present SO's say that contact with the media should be through the Chairman.

She also said that the 3xv of the present SO's and 15xiii of the proposed new ones refers to the recording of notification and decisions on all planning applications in a separate book and she enquired if the PC required this to be carried out as it had not in the past. As this is not compulsory legislation it was agreed that this was not necessary.

It was agreed that further discussion on the Standing Orders would take place on Mr Ellerbeck's return.

## **14. Community Warden Scheme**

The CW has been carrying out vegetation management; weed-killing around the war memorial and planting of bulbs around the village.

Mr Shire reported that the trees in Peace Lane require clearing. He has ascertained from the CW that his charge for chipping is £10 an hour.

## **15. Parish Website**

Mr Godfrey reported that the Parish Plan is now on the website.

He has however been unable to find Councillors' Declaration of Interest Forms on the DC's website. The Clerk will make enquiries.

Regarding the Freedom of Information Act, the Clerk reported that this had been put on the original website. It was suggested that Mr Godfrey take a look at the DC's website or consult SALC regarding this.

The Clerk reported that there have been advertising requests from Macmillan re fundraising and also SCC for Volunteer Drivers. It was however agreed that the website should be just for LS. These matters have in fact already been advertised locally.

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

### **16.1 First Aid Courses and Defibrillators**

There were no reports regarding any of the above.

The Clerk reported that the Community Warden was to collect the PC's allocation of de-icing material from SCC on 21<sup>st</sup> November and the Chairman said that this could be stored at his property.

Councillor Farenden had now joined the meeting.

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

**17.1 Highways:** Mr Foy reported that he had discussed with Mr Shire and among the matters which he was investigating/reporting were visibility at the junction of Shute Lane/Martock Road and left out of Crouds Lane, parked vehicles at the junction of

Shute Lane/Langport Road, drain cover in Shute Lane near Greystones and work regarding Shute Lane and the Village Green.

**17.2 Footpaths:** Nothing to report.

**17.3 Environment:** Mr Shire reported that he had spoken with Steve Fox of the DC and 1,000 bulbs were being provided. The School and Gardening Club will meet at 1.30pm on the 18<sup>th</sup> November regarding the planting of these. Mr Shire agreed to be the Parish Environmental Warden who will report any incidences of dog fouling, litter, graffiti, fly tipping, fly posting, abandoned vehicles and damaged bins direct to Streetscene.

## **18. Village Hall:**

### **18.1 Approval of Minutes Re Solar Panels for VH**

Mr Farenden produced the minutes of the extra-ordinary meeting held that evening for the approval of the Council. These were unanimously approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

Following discussion it was proposed by Mr Farenden that the application to SALC for approval to approach the Public Loan Works Board for a loan of £33,000 should be signed by the Council Chairman and Parish Clerk. This was seconded by Mr Godfrey and carried unanimously.

**18.3 Single Fire Door, rear of stage** - Following some discussion about the type of door required Mr Shire agreed to obtain prices for a suitable replacement.

**18.4 Any other Village Hall Matters:** Mr Pomeroy reported that the hooks that have been placed around the hall were removed during repainting and that heavier duty replacements would be used. He also reported that the Community Payback individuals will be working at the Hall on Sunday.

## **19. Correspondence**

The Chairman reported that he had received a letter from a Parishioner who lives near the shop regarding the volume of large vehicles/lorries using Martock Road. These are so large and wide that they often mount the pavements. She suggests that a conversation be held with Long Load PC to gauge their views and those of their Parishioners to perhaps consider a lower vehicle weight limit on Long Load bridge with the exception only for traffic travelling to and from local businesses, farms and properties in LS, LL and surrounding small villages.

The PC had previously made enquiry of SCC, when a large development was proposed in Martock, as to whether they considered LL Bridge capable of taking the large volume of construction and other traffic from such a development. Although this request was acknowledged, no reply was actually received.

Mr Foy is to investigate.

**20. Date of next meeting** - 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015. Mr Pomeroy gave apologies.

## **21. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting**

The Clerk reported that Mr Ellerbeck had mentioned that at the SALC training he attended it was said that AOB should not be an agenda item. She said that this had been suggested at a training course she attended some years ago but that if included, no decisions should actually be made, hence it was agreed by the PC at that time to add AOB/Items for next

meeting. She also said that Correspondence should also not be an agenda item but she used this in order to make Councillors aware of items received. The same could actually be said for Matters regarding Highways, Footpaths and Environment, in that if a particular matter is not listed on the agenda, this should not be discussed. Councillors felt that this would preclude them from being able to raise any matters of concern which had been brought to their attention and it was therefore agreed that these agenda items should remain.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm