

**Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held at the Hall on Tuesday 4 June 2019 at 7.00 pm after the Village Hall AGM**

**Present:** Councillors: Mr T Brand (Chairman), Mr G R Cox (Vice Chairman) Mr R Fell, Mr M Turpin, and Mr N Rousell

4 members of the public.

County Councillor Mr D Ruddle

District Councillor Mr G Tucker (arrived 7:30 pm)

**Public Observations/Question Time:**

The footpath on Hammock Drove is on the definitive map. The Landowner would like to influence the siting of signposts and offered to contribute equally with the Parish Council (PC) to install a Bristol Gate at the south end of the drove subject to determining the total cost. Further discussion regarding installation of gate and signs and PC resolution deferred to agenda item 12.5i.

Meeting opened at 7:25 pm

**1. To receive apologies for absence:**

Cllr Dowse and Cllr Stoddart-Stones submitted apologies due to conflicting engagements. It was resolved to receive and approve apologies for absence. It was noted that the resignation of Councillor Elliot had been received, creating a second vacancy. Advertising the vacancies to take place as soon as possible.

**2. Declarations of interest:** None

**3. Minutes of meeting held on 7 May 2019:**

It was resolved that the minutes are a true record of the meeting held on 7 May 2019 and duly signed by the Chairman.

**4. Matters arising from the minutes:** None

**5. County Councillor's Report:**

Cllr Ruddle updated the PC regarding a £5.9 million budget underspend due to grant funding received and savings made. Funds will go into general reserves and extra to Highways department (gritting). Proposed budget for next financial year is £358 million but £58 million is uncertain.

Somerset County Council is in top 20% councils in England for recycling with most residents recycling half of household waste. Somerton Recycling centre has cut opening hours.

Cllr Cox requested an update on when planning application for the Quarry at Batts Lane (18/02799/CPO) is to be presented at committee - confirmed on 13 June at 2pm Taunton library, details released earlier 4 June. Representations are to be made beforehand. Cllr Ruddle confirmed he would be attending but would be unable to comment at the meeting if the discussion was based on a technical level regarding the water issues.

The impression is that if the application is approved then there will be a substantial amount of conditions applied. Should subsequent conditions be breached, then the Environment Agency enforce the water related issues, and Somerset County Council enforce regarding noise, dust etc. Concern was raised regarding notification to the Long Sutton community to allow for attendance at the meeting. Discussion regarding the content of the PC response, the clerk confirmed that the response would be forwarded for Cllr Ruddle to view beforehand.

## **6. District Councillor's Report**

Cllr Tucker spoke about a planning application (Long Sutton Farmhouse, Long Sutton) that required input, with the following recommendations: roof height at the ridge to be reduced from 4.8m to a 3m maximum, use of the shed to be limited to storage of garden equipment, and for the garden wall to be reinstated. Also recommended application to be considered at Area North Committee, next scheduled for 28 June 2019.

Cllr Tucker is (Vice Chair) on the Scrutiny Committee which met recently to review the Corporate Performance of the Council –it was stated that the Council is meeting targets regarding planning applications. This has been challenged as delays in the process are causing Parish Councils to call unnecessary extraordinary meetings to be called to meet deadlines.

An overview of commercial investments presented. A group (representatives from Aller PC, High Ham PC and Long Sutton PC with Cllr Tucker) met on 3 June to discuss the Speed Indicator Device, results of which in agenda item 12.3i.

Cllr Ruddle left at 7:47 pm

## **7. Planning Applications:**

Planning application **19/01096/HOU** single story timber garden room, Upton Farm, Hermitage Road, Long Sutton TA10 9NW, received by the clerk 3 June 2019. It was resolved to discuss this application at this meeting rather than request an extension to the comment deadline and defer to the next PC meeting. It was resolved that there were no objections to this planning application.

A matter arising from the last PC meeting was the submission of a letter to the Enforcement Officer at South Somerset District Council (SSDC) regarding Long Sutton House. Cllr Cox to work with the clerk to format a response. Cllr Tucker raised this development issue with Enforcement six weeks ago, in particular apparent occupation of one of the buildings. The current feedback from Enforcement is to look at a way forward rather than remove what is now in place.

Cllr Tucker requested that the item 12.3i be brought forward for discussion. It was resolved to discuss this agenda item next.

### **12.3 Highways**

**12.3i Speed Indicator Device (SID).** Details from the meeting last night, the SID proposed will cost £3300 plus VAT. Aller PC offered to buy the device and organise the Chapter 8 training required. Two persons to be nominated per parish to attend training. A supervisor for the chapter 8 is required, Cllr Tucker offered to do so. Additional costs are appropriate post installation and mounting brackets.

It was resolved to contribute one third of the capital cost of the SID, that Cllr Rounsell is nominated to take the chapter 8 training, and that Aller will be the lead Parish Council to administer the device purchase.

The clerk is to contact the Aller Parish Council chair, to confirm the above resolutions to allow the training to be arranged. It is acknowledged that there are further decisions regarding suitable sites and involving the lengthsman when the device is purchased. The clerk is also to clarify the necessary administration that needs to be in place.

**12.3ii Autospeed watch device.** A slightly different device has been brought to the attention of the PC which is less expensive will potentially provide data that can be submitted to the police to build a case for more targeted enforcement. A discussion resulted in more questions that need answering, regarding signage requirements and the robustness of the device. It was resolved to concentrate efforts on implementing the SID discussed previously as this is a long term project that requires completion.

Cllr Tucker left at 8:10 pm.

### **8. Review of Parish Council Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.:**

After clarification of some points, it was resolved to adopt the reviewed Financial Regulations as circulated.

The clerk suggested, as a result of some recent training, to clarify some paragraphs in the Standing Orders concerning the review of Parish Council policies throughout the year rather than within the Annual Parish Council meeting in May. This is to be amended and presented for adoption in the July Parish Council meeting.

### **9. Village Hall and Recreation Ground:**

Further to the AGM held earlier this evening, a big thank you from the Parish Council to the Village Hall committee for the progress made this year with the refurbishments to the hall, and the excellent running of such a valuable community facility.

### **10. Review of Parish Website:**

The clerk provided details of the technical support in place for the annual fee to the website provider. It is intended that the 2 hours of support will be used before August, with the allocation for the next year to be used soon after, to update the current website. Mrs Coombes is still working with Cllr Cox and the clerk. The clerk confirmed the actions to be taken to ensure the PC website content complies with the new legislation deadline of September 2020, which can be incorporated with the website update thus keeping unnecessary reworking of documents to a minimum.

## **11 Finance:**

### **11.i. Balances and Accounts for Payment**

It was resolved to authorise the payments listed:

Balance 01/06/2019			
<b>Unity Trust account 01/05/2019 received</b>			£49,983.84
SSE Feed in solar panels	£1,021.53		£1,021.53
			<b>£51,005.37</b>
<b>Less</b>			
Howe Tree Surgery SO paid 25 May		£590.63	
PWLB direct debit solar panels		£1,405.84	
ICO fees direct debit		£35.00	
accounts paid last meeting		£2,169.17	£4,200.64
<b>Balance agreed to bank statement 31/05/2019</b>			<b>£46,804.73</b>
Mrs L Newby -clerk salary for May paid by SO 1 June 2019			£300.00
			£46,504.73
<b>Accounts for payment May 2019</b>			
HMRC re clerk's salary (May)		£75.00	
Cllr G Cox re Microsoft office annual fee		£59.99	
Timeback accounts payroll May		£4.50	
SLCC re CAB local Council Administration 11 Edition		£108.79	
Expenses L Newby print cartridges and paper		£67.20	£315.48
<b>Balance after authorised payments</b>			<b>£46,189.25</b>

## **12. Representative reports and any other matters regarding:**

### **12.1 Community Safety**

No Monthly police report received for May to date.

### **12.2 Community Warden Scheme**

Cllr Fell has spoken to the lengthsman and will arrange to meet with him and Cllr Rounsell.

### **12.3 Highways:** See previous minute entries above item 8.

a resident on Langport Road has issues with neighbour's fence and overgrown greenery. Cllr Cox to view and report back to clerk, to allow for the instance to be reported to County Council.

### **12.4. Environment –None**

**12.5**

**Footpaths**

**i. Hammocks Drove progress**

Discussion continued from Public Session. The application details the positions of the signposts. Cllr Turpin to contact landowner regarding the signposts and the gate, and to follow that up by contacting SCC regarding a standard of both. It was resolved to pay half of the gate fee and donate lengthsman time to install the signs and the gate.

**ii. Footpath L21/32 Knole from Orchard Farm**

The Parish Clerk has requested with Rights of Way at Somerset County Council that this footpath issue is made more of a priority. No response to date. A regular update will be requested for the foreseeable future.

**13. Correspondence not previously distributed**

VE Day 75. Correspondence received regarding celebrations for VE day 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in May 2020. After some discussion the suggestion was that if the village wish to organise a celebration, the PC could consider financial support.

**15. Date of next meeting** – Tuesday 2 July 2019 at 7 pm.

**15. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting** –

Phone Box, Knole – Cllr Turpin provided photographs of the refurbished phone box/defibrillator in Knole.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm