

ADOPTED
BISHOPS LYDEARD & COTHELSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs A Shepherd, Rose Cottage, Oldway Lane, Wrantage, Taunton, TA3 6DE.
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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held virtually on Wednesday 10th February 2021 at 7.00pm

Persons present: Cllrs Davenport (Chair), Martin (Vice-Chair), Morency, Allen, Pattermore, Armstrong, Watson, Lewin-Harris, Russell, Warmington and Rigby.

Persons absent: None

In attendance: Mrs Amy Shepherd (Clerk), Anthony Trollope-Bellew (District Councillor), Andrea White and Catherine Dance (Young Somerset) and 7 members of the public.

207/20 Apologies

No apologies were received.

208/20 Declarations of interest relating to matters on the agenda

Cllr Pattermore declared a personal interest in respect of item 9 'Planning Applications for comment' in respect of planning application number 06/20/0053.

209/20 Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2021

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting on 13th January 2021 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

210/20 Matters arising

Cllr Lewin-Harris requested an update in relation to a CIL Committee meeting date being set. Clerk confirmed that a meeting will be arranged in advance of the March Parish Council meeting.

211/20 Introduction from Young Somerset

Chair welcomed Andrea White and Catherine Dance from Young Somerset to the meeting. Andrea White provided an overview of the Youth Work and Targeted Provision of Young Somerset. Catherine Dance outlined her role in Young Somerset covering the West Somerset area. Catherine has been tasked with contacting the villages in the West Somerset area to discuss what services are needed / could be offered by Young Somerset. Catherine requested feedback from the Parish Council on the issues in the village to enable proposals and ideas to be developed and outlined some of the services on offer including village arts, music, community gardening and other activities that aren't currently being offered by existing organisations. It was agreed that the Parish Council would keep in contact with Young Somerset and feedback any thoughts and opportunities for services for young people in the parish.

212/20 Clerk's Report

Clerk's report was read to the council (attachment 1).

213/20 Chairman's report

Chair reported on the following:

DWH Development – An update has been received from the site manager Nick Jones. The pump station in the North West corner is being connected; drilling is taking place under the stream to make the connection. Work is expected to be completed in March. DWH then plan to hand over 10 social housing plots. The hedge bordering the development along Hither Mead needs a cut. Clerk to report to SWT.

Station View Open Space– SWT are insisting on strict compliance with the Section 106 agreement which will mean that a formal agreement will need to be in place for the maintenance of land. Chair confirmed with SWT that the Lengthsman would maintain the land on behalf of the Parish Council and that the Lengthsman services would be funded from precept. Response awaited from SWT.

Co-op move – Landmark estates are not receiving any responses from DWH and progress has stalled. Chair has asked James Kidner from DWH to put him in touch with the Managing Director of DWH to find out what the holdup is.

214/20 Comments from members of the public on matters not listed on the agenda

No comments from members of the public.

215/20 Planning applications for comment

06/20/0053 Conversion and change of use of barn to form camping barn/bunk house with associated amenity and parking area at East Lydeard Barn, Pound Lane, Bishops Lydeard.

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission.

06/21/0002 Erection of extension to pavilion to form enlarged shower area with formation of disabled WC at Wombat Cricket Club, Watts lane, Bishops Lydeard.

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission.

06/21/0003 Erection of timber post and wire fencing on land at Greenway Woods, South Drive, Greenway, Bishops Lydeard.

The Parish Council objects to the granting of permission due to the visual impact of the proposal and lack of justification for it.

216/20 Road and Traffic Issues

Vice Chair confirmed that a meeting had taken place with the Traffic Consultant from TPA to discuss developing the proposals in the 2017 report in relation to road improvements in the village. The report recommends a number of measures.

A fee proposal has been received from TPA which includes the steps required to move forward with the recommendations. The first step is to negotiate with SCC to get them to sign up to introducing the proposed measures in the report. It was acknowledged that substantial public consultation would be needed on the proposed measures.

Quantock View is included in the fee proposal, but Vice Chair suggested that the Quantock View element of the fee proposal should be expanded to cover the other issues that have come up since the Parish Council started to explore the parking proposal rather than just the parking issues in the location. The 20mph speed limit was also discussed with the Traffic Consultant during the meeting and it was recommended that regular signs should be included rather than roundels on the roads as small signs would have less of a visual impact than roundels on the road.

Cllr Rigby provided an update on the 20mph speed limit, the TRO has taken a little longer than expected to draft, this is mainly down to there being no speed limit on Pound Lane at the moment. It has been agreed that the 20mph will start from Ladymead House. The TRO will be advertised in about

3 weeks' time and will run for 3 weeks. Provided the TRO goes through a work order will be placed in the first week of April and timescale for the works will then become clearer.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed with all in favour to accept the TPA fee proposal subject to an amendment to include a broader focus in relation to Quantock View.

217/20 Update regarding Sandhill Park Mansion

Chair reported that SWT have confirmed that many negotiations are taking place in respect of the Mansion, but they are all confidential. The matter is being discussed by SWT at a meeting on 23rd February. Once that meeting has taken place further information will be available. Cllr Rigby confirmed that when information is released, he will share it with Councillors.

Chair confirmed that the enforcement proceedings relating to the fencing on the land on the right-hand side are now being complied with and the correct form of fencing is now being erected.

218/20 To consider the poor state of repair of the footpath between the railway and Lethbridge Park

Chair outlined the poor condition of the footpath between the railway and Lethbridge Park. The footpath is in a poor state of repair because of agricultural vehicles accessing the field.

Chair confirmed that the Clerk has reported the issue to SCC and an acknowledgement has been received.

It was noted that the actual line of the footpath is along the wall but that it is obstructed with overgrowth / vegetation and because of the obstruction people have to walk on the track rather than the footpath.

If the footpath was cleared, then members of the public could walk on it and if a concrete pad or similar improvements were made to the field entrance the situation would be improved. It was also suggested that a drain needs to be added alongside the wall to drain water away from the path.

It was noted that SCC are responsible for maintaining the public right of way.

Cllr Pattemore confirmed that she held the contact details for the relevant officer at SCC and these would be passed to the Clerk to follow the issue up with.

The agenda was interrupted to take item 14 'Somerset County Council and Somerset West and Taunton Council Matters'

219/20 Somerset County Council and Somerset West and Taunton Council matters

Cllr Rigby reported on the following:

COVID-19 19 – the local picture is improving rapidly now; infection rates are dropping very quickly, and the lockdown measures appear to be working. The vaccine roll out is also going well. Anyone over 70 who hasn't had a vaccine can now phone and request one.

Unitary proposal – Consultation for unitary authority / authorities will start very soon. It is unlikely that the County Council elections will take place in May. Other elections will go ahead including the Police and Crime Commissioner elections.

Phosphates issue – SWT have made quick progress with this issue. The mechanism that has been developed has been approved by Natural England. It is hoped that within a couple of weeks planning applications will be able to be determined again.

Local Plan – the government proposals on changing the way to calculate the number of new homes in an area has been abandoned and work will therefore now restart on the new Local Plan.

Taunton Park and Rides – TDBC and then SWT took on the subsidy of the Park and Rides. SCC is now looking to subsidise the park and ride sites and as a result SWT will no longer need to.

Traffic calming in Taunton Road – conversations are ongoing about the specification of the proposed cushions.

Delta Rise Landslip – still chasing progress.

Quantock View Parking Proposal - trying to get SWT to not take any action on the parking on the green but instead wait to see what TPA say before proceeding. Clerk confirmed that a proposed letter has been received from SWT that will be sent to Quantock View residents which includes reference to adding fencing around the green. Clerk to circulate letter for comments.

The agenda was resumed

220/20 To discuss the replacement of trees on the Barton Hey Footpath

Vice Chair confirmed that he has contacted Triscombe Nurseries about replacing the trees along the Barton Hey footpath due to the lack of progress that SWT have made with replacing them.

It was agreed that if Triscombe Nurseries are happy to proceed with replacing the trees during the current lockdown then they would be instructed to do so.

221/20 To discuss 2021 Hanging Baskets

Clerk confirmed that an application has been made to get the permission of SCC to hang brackets for baskets on light columns along Taunton Road. A contribution of £1000 towards the 2021 Hanging Baskets has been received from DWH.

Clerk confirmed that a letter will be sent to all local businesses again this year requesting sponsorship. Cllr Morency reported that Steve Fletcher from SWT had confirmed that the price for the baskets this year is the same as last year £15.00 +VAT per basket. 50 baskets will be required. The price for watering is also about the same as quoted last year.

It was agreed to proceed with the hanging baskets this year. Cllr Morency to place information about the reintroduction of hanging baskets in Fiveways and request donations.

Any surplus donations and sponsorship received this year will be rolled forward to next year to enable the Hanging Baskets to also be placed in 2022.

222/20 To discuss the Mount Street and Darby Way Telephone Boxes

Cllr Russell confirmed that he had met with the Lengthsman to discuss the work required to refurbish the telephone boxes. Lengthsman will progress with work on the Mount Street telephone box when the weather improves, probably in May.

Cllr Russell outlined a proposal received from a member of the public to use the Mount Street telephone box for a seed swap. Shelves and waterproof boxes would be required for the proposal, the member of the public would like to start the seed swap in March.

It was agreed that some temporary shelving and waterproof boxes would be sourced for use for the seed swap in the interim until permanent shelves can be added to the telephone box after it has been refurbished.

Cllr Russell will also add some signs in the telephone box to discourage members of the public putting books to swap in the telephone box.

223/20 Avon and Somerset Police Report

The contents of the police report for January which was circulated in advance of the meeting was noted.

224/20 Parish Lengthsman Report

The Parish Lengthsman Report for January was summarised by the Clerk.

225/20 To discuss the Go-op Train Initiative

Vice Chair outlined the information circulated in advance of the meeting about the Go-Op Train Initiative.

Vice Chair confirmed that if Go-op is successful in acquiring funding the initiative includes the proposal to set up a community energy project which people could invest in and get a return from.

Go-op is requesting the support of the Parish Council for the Initiative and its application for funding.

The Parish Council confirmed its support.

Clerk to respond to Go-op to confirm the Parish Councils support.

It was noted that the local MP needs to be supportive of the initiative for Go-op to apply for funding from the Reopening the Railways fund. Chair to write a letter to Rebecca Pow confirming the Parish Councils support for the initiative.

226/20 Finance

2021 Internal Auditor

Clerk outlined the details of an Internal Auditor who is available to carry out the Internal Audit for the Parish Council in 2021.

It was agreed to appoint Tammy Weeks from Hillside Business as the Internal Auditor for 2021.

It was agreed that the Chair would write a letter of thanks to Roger Sleaf for his services as the Internal Auditor in previous years.

Bank accounts

Clerk outlined the details of two bank accounts that the Parish Council could open: one with Cambridge Building Society and one with Yorkshire Bank.

Clerk authorised to open the bank accounts with the same signatories as the existing Parish Council bank accounts.

To note income received

DWH Hanging Basket Contribution	£1000.00
Interest	£0.19

To approve payments

Payments to be made by Direct Debit:

BT (Telephone and broadband)	£74.54
Somerset Web Services (Email account)	£5.52
British Gas – Public Toilets - Electric	£66.36

Payments to be made by BACS:

Jack Council (Parish Lengthsman Work – January)	£335.00
Clerks expenses (Travel, office 365, training resources and Zoom subscriptions)	£62.87
Intelligent Workplace Solutions (Cleaning – toilets and library)	£276.72
Taunton CAB (Donation)	£450.00
Mind Somerset (Donation)	£450.00
Love Musgrove (Donation)	£450.00
SWT (Dog bin emptying and one grass cut Q3)	£646.34
SCC Library Staff Charges	£2443.73
Viking	£56.26

It was proposed, seconded, and voted unanimously that these payments be approved.

227/20 To note planning permissions granted

06/20/0051 - Replacement of detached garage/workshop with the erection of an attached garage/workshop with guest bedroom, family room and study over, with replacement of boundary hedge with timber fence at 31 Mount Street, Bishops Lydeard - Decision of Conditional Approval was made on 08/01/2021.

13/20/0004/LB - External repairs/restoration of The Gatehouse at Cothelstone Manor, Cothelstone Road, Bishops Lydeard - Decision of Conditional Approval was made on 12/01/2021.

06/20/0054 Variation of Condition No.02 (approved plans) of application 06/20/0019 at 9 Church Street, Bishops Lydeard - Decision of Conditional Approval was made on 13/01/2021.

13/20/0003/CQ - Prior approval for proposed change of use from agricultural building to 2 No. dwelling houses (Class C3) and associated building operations at Middlebrooks farm, Kingston St Mary Road, Bishops Lydeard - Decision of Prior Approval Approved (Conditional) was made on 29/01/2021.

228/20 To note planning applications refused/withdrawn

No notifications received.

229/20 Any Other Business - for report only

Cllr Pattermore reported that rubbish is accumulating along the side of the A358 and requested that the Lengthsman is asked to clear it.

230/20 Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th March 2021, 7pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.55pm

Signed



Date: 10th March 2021