

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 June 2020 at 7.00pm

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

Persons absent: Cllr Russell

In attendance: Mrs Amy Shepherd (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

22/20 Apologies

No apologies were received.

23/20 Declarations of interest relating to matters on the agenda

Chair declared a personal interest in respect of Item 8 in relation to planning application number 06/20/0005.

24/20 Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2020

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting on 13th May 2020 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

25/20 Matters arising

No matters arising.

26/20 Clerk's Report

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

27/20 Comments from members of the public on matters not listed on the agenda

No comments were made by members of the public.

28/20 To receive an update on local Coronavirus Initiatives

Cllr Rigby confirmed that the local initiatives are working well. The Council helpline designed to pick up the people who may have fallen through the gaps has not been that busy which demonstrates that the local initiatives are working well. The local community groups will continue to work to help those who continue to self-isolate.

29/20 Planning applications for comment

06/20/0005 Change of use of agricultural buildings to office (Use Class B1) and cafe (Use Class A3) at Greenway Farm, Greenway Road, Bishops Lydeard (resubmission of 06/19/0024) (New Plans submitted)

Chair reported that an officer decision to grant permission in respect of this application was made on 3rd June, before the expiry of the 21-day period within which comments could be made.

Chair to contact the Planning Officer to lodge a formal complaint and copy in Cllr Rigby.

06/20/0025 Variation of Condition No. 02 (approved plans) of application 06/19/0021 for amendments to the location and design of field gates and to set back the fencing further from driveway on land either side of the driveway at Sandhill Park, South Drive, Bishops Lydeard

The Parish Council objects to the granting of permission and has the following comments to make:

- The drawings show a different type of fencing to the specification that was approved in April 2020.
- There is no need to equalise the spacing of the fence because it is already equal.
- There is no explanation for the application.

06/20/0026 Erection of a two-storey extension to the side and rear of 109 Darby Way, Bishops Lydeard (amended scheme to 06/19/0052)

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission subject to no neighbour objections being made prior to the expiration of the consultation period.

30/20 Update regarding Sandhill Park Mansion

Chair confirmed that the application to register the parkland as an asset of community value has been accepted by SWT Council. The Council is now consulting with the freeholders of the land. Confirmation of the outcome of the application should be received by the end of July.

Cllr Rigby reported that a further planning application in respect of the Sandhill Park post and wire fencing has been registered with SWT Council and is on their website but there has been no consultation with the Parish Council. Cllr Rigby is following the issue up with the Planning Officer.

Cllr Armstrong reported that one field has been fenced off with a wooden fence and wire and electrical cable. Cllr Armstrong asked if the fencing work required planning permission. Jo O'Hara the Heritage at Risk Officer and the Legal Department at SWT Council are considering if there have been any breaches of Planning Permission. Chair to follow up with SWT Council.

31/20 Somerset County Council and Somerset West and Taunton Council matters

Cllr Rigby reported on the following:

Consultation on One Somerset Proposal by SCC – SWT Council are concerned about the timing of the consultation with the Coronavirus Pandemic. District Councils are concerned about merging everything together whilst SCCs financial position is as it is. SCC Scrutiny Committee has discussed the proposal, during the discussion it was confirmed that the proposal will only move forward if there is strong support for it.

Coronavirus Pandemic – Work continues. SWT Council has processed £32m in government grants for businesses in business rates, a discretionary grant scheme is also opening for those businesses that cannot benefit from business rate scheme. SWT working with SCC regarding cycling / walking. There has been a massive increase in people travelling by foot and bicycle. There is an opportunity to provide more space / paths. SCC are now working with SWT, meeting three times a week, and are considering how to support the restart of retail and making sure it is safe from 15th June when non-essential retail shops can re-open. There will be a temporary pedestrianisation of East Street to enable social distancing. The suspension of car parking fees will continue and are not likely to be reintroduced until September.

Delta Rise wall – Contractor is in place, but lockdown has caused a delay.

Hedge by Station Green - Ready to be replaced but delayed due to lockdown, the hedge will probably be replaced in November now to ensure planting takes place in the right season.

Pen Elm Hill Footway – work and therefore roadworks now complete – no further roadworks planned in the near future.

Cycle Path – One of the capital projects to be brought forward to help with Covid 19 Economic Recovery Plan. Project Manager has been appointed. Quite likely that the path will be delivered in the short term – 18 to 24 months. Funding sources will need to be identified.

32/20 To consider the imposition of regulations at the surgery car park in line with those at the Village Hall car park

Chair explained that this item had been added to the agenda as a result of at least 6 abandoned cars being left in the car park, without tax or MOT for the past few weeks. The cars have been reported to SWT Council. Chair has had a conversation with the owner of Mount Street Garage who has confirmed that he is responsible for most of the vehicles in the car park and has since moved them from the car park.

Cllr Allen provided details of the parking system and regulations that are in place in the Village Hall car park. The regulations were put in place at no cost to the Village Hall Management Committee. The Village Hall Management Committee spent a lot of time warning people that the regulations were going to be put into place before they were.

A discussion followed and it was agreed that Mount Street Garage would be given a final warning about the use of the car park and informed that if misuse of the car park continues the Parish Council will bring in the parking regulations.

33/20 Quantock View Parking Proposal

Two parking schemes for the Quantock View Parking Proposal were circulated in advance of the meeting. It was agreed that no amendments were required to either of the schemes.

It was agreed that the next steps were to carry out a public consultation exercise to identify the preferred scheme of the two and to gather quotes for the works. Clerk to progress both.

34/20 To receive an update regarding the proposed additional Hither Mead new bus shelter installation

Chair confirmed that he had looked at the proposed location. A short discussion took place regarding the bus shelter designs. Cllr Morency agreed to look at the dimensions of the bus shelter designs with a view to identifying the best design for the proposed location. Cllr Morency to send information to the Clerk to discuss at the next meeting.

35/20 To consider approval of recommendations of CIL Committee

Chair advised that discussion of this item would be deferred until the next meeting as this would give the CIL Committee to consider the application received from the Village Hall Management Committee for CIL funding and reflect this in its recommendations to the Council.

36/20 To consider 20mph speed limit proposals

Cllr Rigby confirmed that a meeting had taken place with Kate Brown at SCC regarding the proposals. The 20mph speed limit proposals will include Taunton Road due to the inclusion of traffic management measures as part of the DWH Development. Kate Brown is also looking into whether it is possible to include Hither Mead in the proposals, costing work is also taking place.

The proposals and costings are expected to be available to share at the next meeting.

The hope is that a decision can be made at the meeting on whether to proceed with a view to completing the work this year.

The provision of a 20mph speed limit on the other side of the A358 will be considered in the future as phase 2.

37/20 Parish Lengthsman Report

The Parish Lengthsman Report for May was circulated in advance of the meeting and its contents noted.

Cllr Warmington asked that thanks to the Lengthsman for the work to paint and improve the signs in the Parish was recorded and passed on.

Chair agreed to write to Jack to pass on the Parish Councils thanks.

38/20 Avon & Somerset Police report

The Police Report for May was circulated in advance of the meeting and its contents noted.

39/20 Community Library Partnership update including Quarter 4 Performance Report

Vice Chair confirmed that there was nothing to report. SCC is beginning to put plans in place for the re-opening of Somerset Libraries but due to the size of Bishops Lydeard Library it is likely that its opening will be later rather than sooner.

40/20 Annual Review

The Clerk outlined the need to review the Risk Assessment, Financial Regulations, Asset Register and Standing Orders on an annual basis and declare the General Power of Competence.

Cllr Lewin-Harris asked whether the 'Poppies in the Breeze' sculpture in the war memorial area is a Parish Council asset and therefore included on the Asset Register. Chair agreed to check.

The documents / policies were approved for a further 12 months and the General Power of Competence was declared.

41/20 To note planning permissions granted

06/20/0019 Conversion of loft incorporating two rear dormers at 9 Church Street, Bishops Lydeard (Resubmission of scheme 06/19/0056 determined on 20 Feb 2020) - Decision of Conditional Approval was made on 20/05/2020.

42/20 To note planning applications refused/withdrawn

06/20/0003/TEN Proposal: Notification for prior approval for the installation of 15m telegraph pole equipped with 3 No. antenna, 3 No. MHAs and 2 No. 300mm dishes, erection of compounding of 3 No. cabinets, 1 No. generator, 1 No. meter cabinet and 1 No. sat dish with formation of access track at Lower Lambridge Farm, track off Bishpool Lane, Bridgwater - Decision of Prior Approval Refusal was made on 07/05/2020

43/20 Finance

To note income received

SCC (Library contribution Q1)	£500.00
HMRC (VAT claim 201920 Q3 and Q4)	£1480.33
Interest	£3.67

To approve payments

Payments to be made by Direct Debit:

BT (Telephone and broadband)	£74.88
Somerset Web Services (Email account)	£5.52

Payments to be made by BACS:

Jack Council (Parish Lengthsman Work – May)	£1513.30
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Clerks expenses (Zoom and Office 365 subscriptions June, Travel)	£50.08
Byron D Hobbs (Quantock View Parking Proposal Plans)	£895.00
SCC (Library Staff Q4 2019/20)	£2497.42
AJ Rauki and Son Limited (Toilet flush repair)	£57.60
Jack Council (Footpath clearance / maintenance)	£397.50

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

Clerk confirmed that John Holden had requested payment for the reimbursement of the cost of lanyards for the Community Group. It was agreed that payment should be made from the grant already paid to the Community Group.

Clerk confirmed that the Hampshire Trust Bank Account, the opening of which was approved at the last meeting, is now open and money is in the process of being transferred.

44/20 Urgent matters for report only

Cllr Armstrong reported that a lot of cars have been speeding over the railway bridge.

Cllr Armstrong also reported that temporary plastic fencing is still in place along the footpath over the railway bridge. Cllr Rigby agreed to follow it up.

Cllr Armstrong reported that concern had been expressed about the potential management charge for new homeowners in Station View and how there maybe unhappiness amongst those homeowners whereby they pay a management fee but the open space is used by those living in Station Green too. Chair to follow up SWT about the potential to have the open spaces handed over to the Parish Council.

45/20 Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th July 2020, 7pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm



Signed

Date 8th July 2020