

## **ADOPTED**

### **BISHOPS LYDEARD & COTHELSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk to the Council: Mrs A Shepherd, Rose Cottage, Oldway Lane, Wrantage, Taunton, TA3 6DE.

Phone: 01823 412922 Email: [clerk@bishopslydeard.org](mailto:clerk@bishopslydeard.org) Website: <http://www.bishopslydeard.org.uk>

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held virtually on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7.00pm

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

**Persons absent:** Cllr Morency

**In attendance:** Mrs Amy Shepherd (Clerk), Anthony Trollope-Bellew (District Councillor) and 6 members of the public.

#### **144/20 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Morency.

#### **145/20 Declarations of interest relating to matters on the agenda**

Cllr Lewin-Harris declared a prejudicial interest in respect of item 8 'Planning Applications for comment' in respect of planning application number 06/20/0048/T.

#### **146/20 Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

#### **147/20 Matters arising**

No matters arising.

#### **148/20 Clerk's Report**

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

Cllr Russell requested a progress update in respect of the Ash Priors common car park. Cllr Rigby confirmed that SWT are working to resurrect the management agreement with the owners of the land and volunteers. Should be able to get it up and running again this winter. The car park should be sorted as part of the agreement.

#### **149/20 Chairman's report**

Chair reported on the following:

Remembrance Day – Attended the Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial and laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council. A Bugler attended the service who has just moved to the village.

Postmaster death – The unexpected death of the village Postmaster was reported last week. Chair to write to Post Office to express the Parish Councils condolences. Clerk in contact with the Post Office to find out about a replacement / reopening of the Post Office.

Taunton Road Development – Chair had a meeting with the Site Manager from DWH, Nick Jones. 42 plots are now under construction. First house due for occupation at the end of the month, 3 others expected to be by occupied by Christmas. Tyre washing raised during the meeting – a new operative has started to help reduce the amount of mud on the road. Footpath that is unfinished will remain

unfinished – SSE lighting needs to be completed first. Requested that hedge is cut, expected to take place in the next couple of weeks.

Co-Op Move - Planning app for new co-op delayed again. Landmark Estates have confirmed that progress is now being made and that they are hoping to complete the transaction before the next meeting, planning application will then follow soon after.

The Paddock – Some clearance work has been undertaken on site; Cllr Allen picked up that there is a requirement in the S106 agreement for a contribution to be made for children’s play equipment before commencement of work. CIL / Planning officers are keeping an eye on the work that is taking place on site. Strip of land onto Taunton Road – difficult to find a solicitor to act due to conflict of interests. Chair requested recommendations; two were made – Porter Dodson and Risdon Hosegood.

Station View – legal formalities in relation to acquisition of open space are happening slowly. S106 contribution recommended but didn’t make it into S106. Cllr Rigby is continuing to follow up.

### **150/20 Comments from members of the public on matters not listed on the agenda**

No comments were made by the members of the public present at the meeting.

### **151/20 Planning applications for comment**

06/20/0045 Erection of a conservatory to the rear of 8 South Drive Sandhill Park, Bishops Lydeard  
The Parish Council had no comments to make on the proposal.

06/20/0047/T Application to carry out management works to one Oak tree included in Taunton Deane Borough (Bishops Lydeard No.2) Tree Preservation Order 1997 at 38 Lethbridge Park, Bishops Lydeard (TD705)

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission subject to any observations from the Tree Officer.

*Cllr Lewin-Harris left the meeting at 7.26pm*

06/20/0048/T Application to fell one Alder tree included in Taunton Deane Borough (Bishops Lydeard No.2) Tree Preservation Order 1994 at Home Field Barns, Bishops Lydeard (T617).

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission subject to any observations from the Tree Officer.

*Cllr Lewin-Harris re-joined the meeting at 7.27pm*

06/20/0050/T - Application to carry out management works to one Oak tree included in Taunton Deane Borough (Bishops Lydeard No.1) Tree Preservation Order 1997 at West Lodge, Williton Road, Bishops Lydeard (TD704)

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission subject to any observations from the Tree Officer.

06/20/0018 - Change of use of land to residential curtilage with the erection of fencing and garden shed to the rear and fencing to the front at 21 Wheatstones, Bishops Lydeard (retention of works already undertaken)

The Parish Council does not support the granting of permission and requests that due note is made of the comments made by the owners of the neighbouring property.

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.

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission, subject to there being no objections from neighbouring properties.

06/20/0054 - Variation of Condition No.02 (approved plans) of application 06/20/0019 at 9 Church Street, Bishops Lydeard

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission, subject to there being no objections from neighbouring properties.

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.

The Parish Council has no comments to make on this proposal.

### **152/20 Quantock View Parking Proposal**

Chair confirmed that an email from SWT was circulated in advance of the meeting. A discussion of the contents and proposals in the email took place.

One proposal in the email was the erection of a two-foot-high fence along the boundary on the east side of the green to prevent vehicles parking on it. The view of councillors was that the fence would be damaged or driven around and that it wouldn't deter parking on the green. Councillors did not therefore think the proposed fencing was a practical solution and would ultimately be a waste of money.

It was suggested that if the east side parking proposal was to progress the issues of flooding and parking on the green would both be addressed – the two key urgent issues that need to be addressed in Quantock View. If permission isn't obtainable for parking on both the south and east side of the green, the east side parking is less controversial and should proceed, particularly in view of the responses received during the consultation with local residents.

Cllr Rigby agreed to follow the matter up with SWT to ask them to come back with a decision as soon as possible about how to proceed. No further action by the Parish Council will take place until the decision of SWT is clear.

### **153/20 To discuss the car park next to the public conveniences**

#### **Consider the introduction of parking restrictions**

Vice Chair summarised the discussion that he had with the garage proprietor during a recent meeting about the possible introduction of parking restrictions in the car park. The initial reaction to the proposal was negative but the possibility of letting the garage have a small number of permits to enable overnight parking in the car park, similar to the arrangement that the garage has with the Village Hall, was discussed and agreed as a possible way forward.

Chair noted that 2 or 3 vehicles appear to have been abandoned in the car park.

It was agreed that the Chair would discuss the abandoned vehicles with the garage proprietor and the number of permits that could be issued to the garage if parking restrictions were introduced.

Item to be added to the agenda for the next meeting to discuss further.

#### **Consider giving approval for a mobile catering unit to trade (Saturday 4.30-8.30pm)**

Chair confirmed that a Mobile Catering Unit has applied for permission to trade from the car park. It was noted that the fish and chip van which traded from this location previously had ceased trading. The application was supported and permission to trade given.

#### **154/20 To consider making an application for SCC Emergency Climate Change Funding**

Vice Chair reported that work has continued to try to obtain land neighbouring the development to provide allotments but has so far been unsuccessful. The search for available land will now expand. Cllr Rigby and Vice Chair to take forward with a view to applying for funding from the next tranche in 2021.

#### **155/20 Update regarding Sandhill Park Mansion**

Chair reported that the Mansion is still causing concern. There has been no progress between SWT and the administrators. A meeting took place last Friday during which the SWT Chief Executive was present. Administrators have been given a further 7 days to come back with proposals. Cllr Rigby confirmed that he has a meeting scheduled on Friday with Conservation and Planning Officers to receive an update.

Cllr Rigby also confirmed that he has instigated an inquiry at SWT about what happened about the bond that was in place and other history in relation to the Mansion.

Chair confirmed that fencing has been completed on one side of the drive-in accordance with the recently completed planning permission, but the fencing has not been erected on the other side. Enforcement action is now taking place – there is a deadline of January to comply with the enforcement action.

#### **156/20 Somerset County Council and Somerset West and Taunton Council matters**

Cllr Rigby reported on:

Unitary debate – work continues. Letter received from the Secretary of State inviting business cases to be submitted. At least two One Somerset and Stronger Somerset. Main difference between the proposals is either one or two councils being formed. Letter from Secretary of State included BANES and North Somerset – both have confirmed that they have no interest in making a submission. Bids have to be in within 4 weeks.

Phosphates – holding up development, work to resolve this is ongoing – hope to be sorted by the end of the year. Likely to take until at least Easter before permissions can be granted. It won't affect all development but most, especially larger developments. The issue will also hold up the determination of commercial property applications including the new Co-op.

Roundabout Safety Audit – conversation with head of Highways – the audit is now being carried out and the outcome should be available by the next meeting. The Audit will include the lighting issue on Greenway. A member of the public raised the Dark Skies Policy and whether this was relevant. Cllr Rigby to check with SCC.

S106 agreements – when permissions are granted, S106 agreements are used to get developers to contribute towards infrastructure. Audit has taken place and there have been 5 instances in the last 3 years when the agreement has timed out and the money has been passed back to the Developer. One of these affected Bishops Lydeard and £6k was lost. Correspondence is now taking place between the Developers and solicitors in respect of the £6k lost particularly in view of the fact that it timed out during the pandemic. The problem with S106 agreements timing out was because there was no system in place to monitor and control. System is now being developed using an IT package, all details will be added to the system to ensure that it is all contributions are logged and not lost. CIL system is good but S106 agreements have had an issue. The problem should now be fixed with the new system.

Hedge on Station Road – chased again this week – no answer received as yet.

Cllr Trollope-Bellew reported on:

Unitary – The Stronger Somerset Outline Business Case for unitary went in over the weekend – not expecting Local Government structure to change until April 2023, shadow council from April 2022.

Sort It Plus – Increased recycling, should be here in September / October next year and reduce black bin every three week instead of two. Recycling will be every week.

### **157/20 To consider 20mph speed limit proposals**

Cllr Rigby reported that the SCC Traffic Management Team had provided plans shortly before the meeting which includes expanding the zone northwards beyond the football ground where the current 30mph starts following speed readings being taken which are just within the required limits. The proposed zone will pretty much cover all of the built-up area of Bishops Lydeard from the A358. Cllr Rigby confirmed that he had identified some inaccuracies in the plan which will be rectified. The Parish Council confirmed that it was happy to take forward the 20mph speed limit proposals. Cllr Rigby confirmed that the approximate cost of the proposal will be £15000.00 of which the Parish Council has already paid £3000. Clerk to email the Traffic Management Team confirming the acceptance of the proposals by the Parish Council.

### **158/20 Parish Lengthsman Report**

The Parish Lengthsman Report for October was circulated in advance of the meeting and its contents noted. Cllr Russell confirmed that 5 sheets of glass for the telephone boxes had been ordered so that the smashed glass highlighted in the Lengthsman Report can be replaced. Item to be added to the agenda for the next meeting to discuss further.

### **159/20 Avon & Somerset Police report**

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

### **160/20 Finance**

#### **To note income received**

VAT Repayment (Q1 and Q2 2020/21)	£1375.33
Interest	£0.18

#### **To approve payments**

##### **Payments to be made by Direct Debit:**

BT (Telephone and broadband)	£73.20
Somerset Web Services (Email account)	£5.52
British Gas (Public Conveniences – Electric)	£63.34

##### **Payments to be made by BACS:**

Jack Council (Parish Lengthsman Work – October)	£710.35
Clerks expenses (Travel, office 365 and Zoom subscriptions)	£50.08
British Gas (Library Electric)	£47.65
	£78.09
SLCC (Annual Membership)	£161.00
PKF Littlejohn LLP (External Audit)	£360.00
Somerset Web Services (Annual web hosting cost)	£358.80
Intelligent Workplace Solutions (Cleaning – toilets and library)	£434.80
Viking Payments (Stationary)	£103.39
Coomber Security (Library)	£187.20

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

**161/20 To note planning permissions granted**

06/20/0034 - Erection of an agricultural building for housing of livestock at East Lydeard Farm, Pound Lane, Bishops Lydeard - Decision of Conditional Approval was made on 23/10/2020.

06/20/0042 Replacement of conservatory with the erection of a two-storey extension to the rear of 12 Spinneyfield, Bishops Lydeard - Decision of Conditional Approval was made on 02/11/2020.

**162/20 To note planning applications refused/withdrawn**

None received

**163/20 Any Other Business - for report only**

Cllr Armstrong reported issues with the Underpass. Things have got worse since the last meeting. The lengthsman is painting over graffiti and as soon as it is painted over it re-appears. In addition, a quad bike and trailer with two people in it went through the underpass at speed. Cllr Rigby confirmed that the bollard that was erected has been knocked over. Cllr Rigby to follow up as a matter of urgency to get bollards replaced.

Cllr Armstrong reported complaints that he had received about speeding on South Drive

Cllr Armstrong reported horse poo on pavements as well as on road.

Cllr Russell requested an update regarding the streetlight on alley way next to Daisy Cottage. Clerk confirmed that the light had been reported. Cllr Rigby to follow up.

Cllr Lewin-Harris reported that a recycling lorry has driven into the wall at Monks Post turning into Quantock View, there have been previous similar incidents. Cllr Rigby to follow up recycling lorries and discuss with Highways Office.

Cllr Lewin-Harris reported that she had received complaints about caravans being parked on driveways when it isn't permitted in deeds and also about dangerous parking on Wheatstones. Cllr Lewin-Harris has requested photos and further information.

Cllr Pattermore reported that she had delivered 100 copies of the Welcome Packs to DWH Sale Office.

Cllr Allen reported that the Village Hall is closed during the second lockdown apart from opening for blood donor sessions. The Annex remains open for learning disabled adults. The VHMC AGM took place lockdown and a short report will appear in Fiveways next month. Car park extension works expected to commence in the new year.

**164/20 Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020, 7pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm



Signed

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020