



# Minutes of the Long Sutton Parish Council Meeting

## 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Held in the Committee Room, Long Sutton Village Hall at 7:30pm

**Present:**

Councillors: Mr G R Cox (Chairman), Mr N Rousell (Vice-chairman), Mrs R Coombes, Mrs A Ledger, Mrs G Rickards, Mr N Ward, and Mr B Weilgus.

Cllr Stoddart-Stones attended via Zoom.

South Somerset District Council (SSDC) Councillor Gerard Tucker sent apologies  
Somerset County Council (SCC) Councillor Dean Ruddle.

There was a member of the public present.

**The Public Session** opened at 7:30pm.

There were questions or comments.

Public session closed at 7:30pm.

The Parish Council meeting opened at 7:30pm

**1 To receive apologies for absence (LGA 1972 S85 (1))**

Apologies were also received from District Councillor Tucker, and County Councillor Ruddle.

**2 Declarations of interest (Localism Act 2011 s33 (b-e)).**

Cllr Coombes declared a non pecuniary interest in item 9, the grant application from the PTFA.

**3 Minutes of the meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 and any matters arising.**

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 as a true and accurate record. The minutes were signed by Cllr Cox.

**3.1 Matters arising.**

**3.2 Update on the website.**

A short verbal update was provided by Cllr Stoddart-Stones. Organisations in the parish are making contributions to the website, which is encouraging. Visitors to the website have increased – 450 unique visitors, and average duration is 3 to 4 minutes.



#### **4 Casual Vacancy.**

It is with great regret that the resignation from Cllr Rich Fell was accepted in January, creating a vacancy on the Parish Council. Thank you to Rich for his achievements with the footpath improvements, which he will continue with.

The vacancy will be advertised from 8<sup>th</sup> February, in both newsletters, on the website, and noticeboards. If there is no request for an election of a new councillor from the electorate, co-option can take place from the March 2023 Parish Council meeting.

#### **5 County Councillors report**

None, no County Councillors present.

#### **6 District Councillors Report**

None

#### **7 Planning Applications:**

##### **7.1 New Planning Applications received:**

**Application: 22/03482/HOU.** Pares cottage, Langport road, Long Sutton.  
Conversion of existing garage/store and erection of single storey extension to rear with internal alterations.

This application was discussed at length. Broadly there are no objections to this application in principle, but councillors questioned that the window design provided was not in keeping with the main house.

It was resolved that the Parish Council has no objections to the planning application but commented that the fenestration on the frontage could be improved/enhanced to promote synergy with the main house.

##### **7.2 Update on ongoing planning applications:**

Application 22/01845/S73: Land OS9687 Martock Road, Long Sutton, TA10 9JS.  
Application withdrawn (04/01/2023).

Application 22/02317/HOU & 22/02318/LBC: The Granary, Knole Causeway, Long Sutton, TA10 9HY. Application refused (09/01/2023).

Application: 22/03403/COU: Rowley House, Hermitage Road, Long Sutton. Change of Use of land to residential garden. Permitted with conditions (13/01/2023).

Application 21/00054/REM. Land South of Bineham City Cottage, Bineham Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application 21/00137/FUL. Land adjacent to Knightlands, Knole Causeway, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.



Application 21/03450/FUL: Land South of Greystones, Off Crouds Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application 22/00002/FUL. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application 22/00872/FUL: Long Sutton House Shute Lane Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application 22/00873/FUL Long Sutton House Shute Lane Long Sutton: Awaiting decision.

Application 22/00910/OUT: Land OS 1805 adj Ciderpress Barn, Knole, Long Sutton Langport. Awaiting decision.

Application 22/00911/FUL: Barns at Ciderpress Farm, Knole Causeway, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application 22/01197/LBC: Barns at Ciderpress Farm, Knole Causeway, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application 22/02059/FUL: 14 Martock Road, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application: 22/03261/FUL: 4 Hodgehay, Langport Road, Long Sutton. Erection of a detached self-build dwelling and 2 carports for the proposed and existing dwelling. Awaiting decision.

Application: 22/03353/HOU: New Orchard House, Glebe Yard, Martock Road, Long Sutton. An erection of a single storey garage extension located at the front façade (North) of the existing garage. Awaiting decision.

Application: 22/03410/COU: Land OS 9687, Martock Road, Long Sutton. Change of Use of land from agricultural (Sui Generis) to C3 residential to enlarge residential curtilage of permitted dwelling. Awaiting decision.

## **8 Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee (VH&RGC)**

### **8.1 Matters brought forward by the committee.**

The committee met on 6<sup>th</sup> February. Financially in a good position, with a small reserve on deposit. Volunteers are urgently needed to increase capacity. Community Payback team will be tree planting with Cllr Rickards on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February. New key safes in the porch area.

## **9 Grant application from Long Sutton PTFA**

A grant application has been received from Long Sutton Primary School PTFA, to support the school with urgent maintenance required. The school aim to have the ppl open through the summer, and it is available for the community to use.



Councillors fully supported this grant application. It was resolved to approve the grant application for £600.

## **10 Capital Infrastructure Projects**

**10.1** To discuss the fundraising approach to both the Pavilion refurbishment and the Play Area refurbishment.

The fundraising working group met in January to give updates of any progress.

### Play Area

A second quote has been obtained from a local firm (Bridgwater) to refurbish the play area. Groundworks can be carried out locally by volunteers, which would reduce the cost.

A third play equipment provider is meeting with the clerk this week to look at options available.

### Tennis courts

There has been no progress since the last Parish Council meeting. There is an issue with procurement via SSDC but it is possible that procurement could be conducted locally. Cllr Cox is expecting contact from the SSDC officer with an update.

### Pavilion

Draft plans should be available to be displayed at the Environment Open Day on 25<sup>th</sup> February, for the community to view. A local planning agent is working with SSDC Planning to consider a planning application with mitigation for bats to be included, prior to the survey, to enable progress to be made.

## **11 Environment Plan**

**11.1** To receive an update regarding the Environment Survey.

The survey had 80 responses, with some excellent information provided. A high proportion of those who responded are very/moderately concerned about the environment. The concerning issues were both large and small issues, and clustered around nature/wildlife, and the village hall. Cllr Rickards will provide a word map at the next Parish Council meeting, to see if there are common themes/topics, which could influence the next steps.

Cllr Cox thanked all those involved in the survey. The survey was an excellent exercise and well done to all.

**11.2** To receive an update regarding the open day on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

Currently there are 16/17 stands at the Open Day, including Somerset Waste Partnership and Somerset Wildlife Trust. A banner to publicise the event will be in



place shortly, and featured in the next Parish Council newsletter due out around the 18<sup>th</sup> February.

Cllr Rickards submitted a plan of the Recreation Ground that showed where tree planting can take place, and proposal for ‘wilding’ areas, to be displayed at the Open Day. A risk assessment to be completed for the event.

**11.3** Actions for consideration and approval. None.

**12 Communication/Community Engagement**

Councillors discussed the best ways to communicate with residents on a regular basis, social media, the e-newsletter and the parish newsletter.

**12.1** Items for inclusion in the next Parish Council newsletter.

Areas to highlight in the next newsletter: day 25<sup>th</sup> February, Gigaclear, precept for next year, casual vacancy, highlight a local business.

**13 Celebrations for the Coronation in May 2023**

Consider a street party on the village green as for the Jubilee Environment last year, to be held on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The group of volunteers who coordinated the Jubilee celebrations to be contacted, and the Village Hall to be booked in case of bad weather.

**14 Finance**

**14.1** To approve balances and accounts for payment.

<b>Payments February 2023</b>	<b>Credit £</b>	<b>Debit £</b>	<b>Balance £</b>
Balance b/fwd from January 2023 meeting			27879.92
Adjustment – web hosting not required	18.00		
Somerton Printery		50.00	
	18.00	50.00	-32.00
			27847.92
<b>Payments February 2023</b>			
Clerk salary (January 2023)		333.27	
HMRC (January 2023)		83.20	
Howe Tree Surgery (January)		892.50	
Timeback accounts payroll (January)		5.00	
Abbas Ecology (bat survey)		394.20	
Clerk expenses – Microsoft 365 subscription, print cartridges, paper		134.58	
A Ledger refund Smart Survey		54.00	
TG Cox hedge trimming, playing field		384.00	
		2280.75	-2280.75
<b>Balance after February 2023 payments</b>			<b>25567.17</b>



It was resolved to approve the payments as listed as presented. A further invoice for Community Heartbeat, £72, was received by the Clerk, and authorised for payment.

**14.2** To receive and note the bank reconciliation to 31 January 2023. A bank reconciliation had been previously circulated. It was resolved to receive and note the bank reconciliation to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023.

**14.3** Additional signatory(s) for the Parish Council bank account.

As a result of the resignation of Rich Fell, a further signatory is required for the Parish Council bank account. It was resolved to remove Rich Fell and add Neal Ward as a signatory. The clerk is to proceed with removing Rich Fell and adding Neal Ward.

**14.4** To consider opening a separate savings account.

It was resolved to open a savings account with Unity Trust Bank. The clerk is to proceed with opening the account.

**15 To review the Parish Council Asset Register.**

The Parish Council Asset Register was circulated for perusal. It was resolved to agree the register as presented, and to add the Village Green at the value of £1. It was also discussed that there needs to be valuation of the Pump House and the War Memorial for insurance purposes, and the clerk is to contact the parish council insurance to seek further advice.

**16 To receive an update regarding the New Somerset Council and the Local Community Network (LCN) consultation. To consider representation from Long Sutton Parish Council on the Levels and Moors LCN.**

A short overview of the current situation of the Local Community Network consultation was provided by the clerk. Long Sutton Parish Council is now part of the proposed Levels and Moors LCN. LCN meetings are likely to commence later in the summer, and a representative of the Parish Council will be required. The clerk advised to elect the representative at the Annual Parish Council meeting in May 2023.

**17 Representative reports and any other matters regarding:**

**17.1 Community Safety**

**17.1.1 Monthly Crime Statistics from the Police.uk website**

Last month two offences were reported. The clerk is to include the website link in the agenda from next month.

**17.2 Community Warden Scheme (CWS)/Lengthsman.**

The lengthsman will commence with the removal of the leylandii and tidy up the lime trees on the village green. There are activities that can support the Environment Plan including a mower that picks up grass cuttings rather than leave them.



**17.3 Highways and footpaths.**

The Speed Indicator Device is back in the parish, and has been in place on Martock Road since 1<sup>st</sup> February.

A revisit of the speeding in Knole is to be put onto the agenda in March 2023.

Grit bins have been discussed, and there are none in Long Sutton Parish. To be an agenda item next meeting.

Footpaths. There has been a thank you received from a resident regarding the installation of a gate on a footpath in Knole.

There is currently poor visibility at the junction with the A372 due to brambles. A contractor to be contacted to trim back.

**18 Other correspondence not previously distributed. None.**

**19 Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023, at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall meeting room.

**20 Items for the next meeting agenda.**

Parish Council risk register.

Knole speed limit.

grit boxes.

strategic planning consultation

Meeting closed at 9.08pm.

**END OF MINUTES**