



# Minutes of the Long Sutton Parish Council Meeting

## 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022

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

### **Present:**

Councillors Mr G R Cox (Chairman), Mr G Stoddart-Stones (Vice Chairman), Mrs R Coombes, Mr C Dowse, Mr R Fell, Mrs G Marffy, Mr N Rousell, Mr M Turpin, Mr N Ward.

Apologies received from South Somerset District Council (SSDC) Councillor Gerard Tucker and had submitted a short written report.

Apologies received from Somerset County Council (SCC) Councillor Dean Ruddle.

There were 8 members of the public present.

The Chairman, Cllr Cox, welcomed all to the meeting. The recent nominations for the election due in May resulted in an uncontested election in Long Sutton, with 7 members re-elected. He thanked Cllr Turpin for his contribution and time over the last 12 years serving on the Parish Council. Cllr Cox also thanked Cllr Dowse for his contribution and time.

**The Public Session** opened at 7:35pm.

Members of the public (MOP) in attendance who wished to comment on any of the planning applications to be discussed this evening were invited to comment during that agenda item. The meeting would be suspended in order for them to do so.

A local resident gave a summary of her experience to sponsor a Ukrainian family who have arrived in Somerset after successfully completing a difficult bureaucratic process. There has been a fantastic supportive response locally.

A member of the public mentioned a fly tipping incident of roof slates, which councillors were aware of.

David Hall, a Unitary Council candidate in the May 2022 elections, introduced himself.

Public session closed at 7:45pm.

The Parish Council meeting opened at 7:45pm.

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

All councillors were present.

**2 Declarations of interest**

Councillors Turpin and Rousell declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application 22/00670/HOU, agenda item 6.1.



### **3 Minutes of the meeting 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 and any matters arising.**

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 as a true and accurate record. The minutes were signed by Cllr Cox.

#### **3.1 Update regarding the marking out of the village hall car park.**

An updated quote is still to be received to reflect the additional line of cars down the centre of the car park, an addition to the layout provided at the last meeting. The Clerk is to remind the contractor that a revised layout is required.

#### **3.2 Update regarding the new website.**

The original website has been rewritten using a different software platform. Cllr Cox requested that a proposed site map of the new website be sent out to councillor and ensure that the content is divided, along with a dummy website to allow councillors to update content. Lots of offers of help received from the village organisations.

#### **3.3 Update regarding Queens Jubilee celebrations.**

A small amount of the budget for 2022/23, grant allocation, has been set aside for smaller grants for the Jubilee celebrations, for items such as printing.

A road closure around the village green on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June is to be facilitated, to allow for the jubilee picnic event. The Clerk is to write to householders who access their property from the village green, to notify them that there will be no vehicular access to their property for the day. Notification also to the public house to request that their patrons use the village hall car park as an alternative on this day.

#### **3.4 Any other matters arising from the minutes. None.**

### **4 County Councillors report**

None, due to the pre-election period.

### **5 District Councillors Report**

Cllr Tucker provided a short written report. There have been no Area North meetings and District Executive focussed on planning. Scrutiny received a report on the Customer Care Team, and the depleted service. Improvements are being made and call waiting time has reduced from an average 12.3 minutes down to 4.5 minutes, with a target of 4 minutes.

### **6 Planning Applications:**

#### **6.1 New Planning Applications received:**

The meeting was suspended at 7:56pm to allow members of the public to speak on the next planning application.

Members of the public spoke about planning application 22/00002/FUL. Concerns and objections were raised about the impact on the main sewers, both in usage and the passage over the pipes. A vast amount of scaffolding was already in situ at the property, which is the subject of the planning application, again causing concern that



works were taking place without planning consent. The number of proposed parking spaces is contradictory within the papers for the application, and no plans for the house were visible with the papers for the planning application, viewed on the SSDC planning portal. Correspondence from the applicant had been received by neighbours regarding construction works, and to address issues to the contractor directly. Further concerns were raised about the proposed additional access to the site and the reasoning for it. The 'Root Cellar' implies agricultural use but has never been used for agricultural purposes.

The meeting resumed at 8:04pm.

**Application: 22/00002/FUL:** Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton, Langport. This application was discussed at length. The plans on the SSDC planning portal which only show a proposed plan for the layout of the property, but none for the internal layout or elevations. The Parish Council reluctantly supported a previous planning application for access, and now question why an additional new access point is required.

The history of the site was discussed. The conversion of the existing building is considered contrary to interest of the community. The amount of proposed parking spaces is not clear – the application mentions 5 parking spaces, then 18 parking space, both of which are excessive for the site. Further concerns regarding the surface water run off. Again, it would be helpful to have an overview of the purpose of the whole site rather than the piecemeal approach with multiple planning applications.

The discussion was concluded to propose refusal of the planning application with the following grounds:

The application is contrary the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 Part 3 as it fails to control development and is not in the community's interest.

The internal plans presented are incomplete making it impossible to determine the application as it stands.

The architect value and design of the proposals are poor.

The proposed access onto Littlefield Lane should be refused. The access on the corner onto Crouds Lane should be sufficient to manage the traffic movements.

There are concerns regarding the water run off provision with the removal of green space.

The presented Estate Management is of no value, as the document does not articulate how the development fits into the wider site use.

It would be beneficial for a comprehensive overview of the entire wider site to be available which would facilitate a more efficient approach to the multiple planning applications in progress for the various developments in this location.



It was proposed, and resolved, to not support this planning application, for the reasons listed above.

The meeting was suspended at 8:27pm to permit members of the public to speak on the next planning application.

The application was welcomed as the additional access increased visibility to the main road and was safer.

The meeting resumed at 8:29pm.

**Application: 22/00670/HOU:** 2 Tavenders Cottage, Langport Road, Long Sutton  
This application was discussed. It was proposed, and resolved, that there are no objections to this planning application.

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

Application 20/02179/LBC. Linhay, Martock Road, Long Sutton TA10 9HU. Permitted with conditions (14/03/2022).

Application 21/03185/HOU. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Permitted with conditions (18/03/2022).

Application 22/00057/FUL. Land at Lower Mundays, Mondays Court Lane, Long Sutton. Application withdrawn (11/03/2022).

Application: 22/00088/LBC: Vale House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton TA10 9LZ. Permitted with conditions 01/03/2022.

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

Application 21/00069/HOU. The Old Forge, Cross Lane, Long Sutton TA10 9LR. Awaiting decision.

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

Application: 21/02868/DPO. The Coach House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton TA10 9LZ. Awaiting decision.

Application: 21/03173/COL. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application: 21/03175/COL. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application: 21/03186/LBC. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.



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

Application: 21/03452/COL. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application: 21/03453/COL. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application 21/3594/HOU: Greystones Cottage, Crouds Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application 21/03595/S73A: Land south of Greystones, off Crouds Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application: 21/03598/FUL. Land OS 5122 Bineham Farm, Bineham Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application: 22/00400/COL. 2 Rowley Cottages, Hermitage Road, Long Sutton TA10 9NP.

## **7 Footpaths.**

Cllr Fell has met recently with the Parish Pathways Liaison Officer (PPLO), who is a volunteer for SCC. The PPLO has been maintaining stiles in the parish, and has the necessary equipment to do so. Cllr Fell, with another four volunteers will meet with the PPLO on a fortnightly basis and continue addressing the areas that require maintenance. LSPC can fund the replacement of gates and maintenance of stiles in the parish. The PPLO has receipts totalling £59.50 for expenses and materials as a result of his work so far, that needs to be refunded. It was proposed to add this refund of expenses to the list of payments to

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

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

Consideration to be given to the frequency of committee meetings, perhaps to bi-monthly. Three Parish Councillors on the committee will be confirmed at the Annual Parish Council meeting in May 2022. Cllr Cox has agreed to handover from the outgoing VH&RGC chairman, and to take over the role as VH&RGC chairman.

The auditor certificate has been received for the last set of annual accounts.

Formal thank you to be considered for the outgoing VH&RGC chairman.



- 8.2 The next meeting regarding the cricket pavilion to be after the election and Jubilee. Some advice has been received recommending refurbishment rather than rebuild, to be considered.

## 9 The Parish Council Green Charter

The Green event at the village hall on 9<sup>th</sup> April was productive and did result in more involvement from the village about green issues. One of the villagers attending is an expert in hedgerow conservation. The meeting notes are to be circulated. The Green Charter paper was circulated, and it was resolved to adopt the charter as presented. It will be published on the website.

## 10 Finance

- 10.1 To approve balances and accounts for payment.

<b>Payments April 2022</b>	<b>Credit £</b>	<b>Debit £</b>	<b>Balance £</b>
Balance b/fwd from March 2022 meeting			22086.62
New website hosting somerset web services (transfer and March hosting)		198.00	
Somerset Web Services monthly web hosting (April 2022)		18.00	
Bank charges January to March 2022		18.00	
Somerset Tree Surgeons (lime tree RA)		75.00	
SALC training		30.00	
Howe Tree Surgery (chipper hire)		120.00	
Error listing clerk pmt Feb 2022		0.10	
Village shop rent	750.00		
Allotment rents (FBTA)	765.00		
	1515.00	459.10	1055.90
Balance agreed to statement 31 March 2022			23142.52
<b>Payments April 2022</b>			
Clerk salary (March 2022)		333.27	
Howe Tree Surgery (CWS)		892.50	
HMRC re clerk's salary (march)		83.20	
Timeback accounts payroll (March)		5.00	
Refund to clerk re village hall stage lights		407.99	
Somerset Web Services (hosting April 20220)		18.00	
B Bowen Internal Auditor		310.00	
W N Walford & Co Bristol Gate		729.42	
		2779.38	-2779.38
<b>Balance after April 2022 payments</b>			<b>20363.14</b>

It was resolved to approve the payments as listed above.



**10.2 To receive the Internal Audit report and note the actions within.**

The internal audit report has been previously circulated. Recommended actions are for councillors to have a council dedicated email address, which can be considered when the new website is in place. There was a delay in receiving the audit certificate for the Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trust (VH&RGT), which meant that the charity return was filed late. Consideration to using an alternative auditor if this continues to be an issue.

**10.3 To agree the Annual Governance Statement – Section 1 of the 2021/22 Annual Accountability and Governance Return (AGAR).**

Each statement on the AGAR was read out and all responses were yes apart from statement 9. The Parish Council has not met all of its responsibilities as sole managing trustee for the VH&RGT as the annual return was submitted late, as a result of a delay in receiving the audit certificate.

It was resolved to agree section 1 of the AGAR as stated, Cllr Cox signed section 1

**10.4 To agree the Accounting Statements 2021/22 – section 2 of the AGAR.**

It was resolved to agree section 2 of the AGAR. Cllr Cox signed section 2.

**10.5 To agree the confirmation of dates of the Period of Exercise of Public Rights to view the unaudited accounts.**

It was proposed and resolved that the dates for the public rights will be from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2022 inclusive.

**10.6 To agree to pay the new website hosting by direct debit. To agree to continue to pay both the Clerk and the lengthsman by monthly standing order.**

It was resolved to pay the new website hosting by monthly direct debit, and to continue with the existing monthly standing orders for the Clerk and the lengthsman.

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

**11.1 Community Safety**

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

A briefing has been received from the local constabulary, which is to be displayed on the main parish noticeboard.

**11.2 Community Warden Scheme (CWS).**

The lengthsman is due to start the grass cutting regime in the parish. Highlighting of the street party for the Jubilee, taking place at the beginning of June, and particular attention to the village green, including removing the brambles opposite the old shop.

**11.3 Highways and footpaths.**

No update.

**12 Other correspondence not previously distributed:**

Confirmation has been received that the Parish Council insurers are addressing the Letter of Claim received earlier this year.



**13 Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022**. This will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting, and the date has been moved to accommodate the local election which is taking place in the first week of May.

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

Cllr Turpin will continue to manage both defibrillators.

Review of bank account signatories.

Meeting closed at 9:02pm.

**END OF MINUTES**