

# Minutes of the Long Sutton Parish Council Meeting

# 1st March 2022

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

#### **Present:**

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

South Somerset District Council (SSDC) Councillor Gerard Tucker.

Apologies received from Cllr Coombes, Cllr Turpin and Somerset County Council (SCC)

Councillor Dean Ruddle.

There were 4 members of the public present..

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

# The Public Session opened at 7:30pm.

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 MOP spoke about the discussion at the last Parish Council (LSPC) meeting about the proposed white line marking out of the Village Hall car park. It is felt that the marking out will not make a difference to the level of traffic within the car park at school drop off and pick up times, and defining the parking spaces is not a good idea.

Cllr Cox reported that he had attended the SSDC Full Council meeting the previous evening to address the members about the planning situation. A report will be received and made public

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 received from Cllr Coombes (family commitments) and Cllr Turpin (prior engagement). It was resolved to receive and approve the apologies.

#### 2 Declarations of interest

None.

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

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> February 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.

A quote has been obtained for the marking out of the village hall car park. The proposed layout, and also the principle of marking out the car park were discussed at length. The request for the marking out came from the Village Hall Committee, and whereas this is not a desire of the Parish Council, the Village Hall Committee would like the support of the Parish Council. It was proposed, and resolved, to go ahead and instruct the contractor to mark the car park out subject to clarification of spaces to be marked down the centre of the car park (cars nose to tail in a line in the centre), and the quote being confirmed to include these additional spaces.

# 3.2 Update regarding the Queens Jubilee celebrations.

There was insufficient space for the proposed programme of events in the village to be displayed fully in the newsletter this month, and the clerk proposed that a page on the website be dedicated to promoting this. Cllr Cox will convene a meeting towards the end of March of the organisations involved in the programme of events.

# 3.3 Update regarding the tree risk assessment.

The horse chestnut tree on the village green was inspected, and not the lime tree. The correct tree is due to be risk assessed in the coming weeks.

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

# 4 <u>County Councillors report</u>

None, apologies received from Cllr Ruddle.

#### 5 District Councillors Report

Cllr Tucker gave a short verbal report. There have been three District Executive meetings in four weeks, and two continued areas of concerns are call centre response times and responding to planning. The decarbonisation of council buildings will cost £2.8 million, but it is not clear if these buildings will remain as council property under the new Unitary authority. Yeovil crematorium refurbishment has incurred extra expenditure of £800k as a result of delays due to the pandemic. The Octagon theatre refurbishment costs are huge with a further £6 million being required bringing the total spend so far to over £29 million. £3 million has been given to Yeovil for art enterprise. Scrutiny Committee: Shop Front Scheme is to be spread out to Chard and Wincanton.

The number of planning applications is improving. Next month a Phosphate Report is due to be delivered. Planning has been in turmoil due to the current issue with phosphates.

There has recently been a vote of no confidence in the leader of SSDC due to a chief executive being employed and then leaving the post, over a weekend. Full details were disclosed at that meeting regarding the appointment and the details of the person leaving were also known.



# 6 Planning Applications:

# 6.1 New Planning Applications received:

**Application: 22/00057/FUL:** Land at Lower Mundays, Mondays Court Lane, Long Sutton.

This application was discussed. It was proposed, and resolved, that there are no objections to this planning application.

**Application: 20/02179/LBC:** Linhay, Martock Road, Long Sutton, TA10 9HU. This application was discussed. It was proposed, and resolved, that there are no objections to this planning application.

**Application: 21/00400/COL:** 2 Rowley Cottages, Hermitage Road, Long Sutton, TA10 9NP.

This application was discussed. It was proposed, and resolved, that the Parish Council has no objections to this planning application.

The meeting was suspended at 8:00pm to allow members of the public to speak on the next planning application.

A member of the public commented that the three properties should be separate planning applications. A Heritage Plan has been submitted by the applicant, but not sure if planning agrees with the statement. The house next door, subject to the S73a application has had the number of car parking spaces reduced on the plans. Further comments regarding the builders.

The meeting resumed at 8:04pm.

**Application: 21/03185/HOU:** Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton, Langport. This application was discussed at length. There are amended plans, which detach the proposed orangery from the existing building. The consideration for not supporting the application are:

The retrospective element could be acceptable as it is in keeping, size and scale. Any further extensions should be refused.

The amended plans presented have no connection to the plans set out in the Planning and Heritage Statement.

There is no demonstrable need for such a large orangery, as there are a number of other structures within the curtilage that serve a similar purpose.

Size and scale of the proposed detached structure.

The proposed structure is to be built on agriculture land, which is open countryside.

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



**6.2** Appeal: APP/G3300/W/21/3289792 regarding application SCC/3719/2020. Batts lane Quarry, Long Sutton.

The appeal was discussed. It was resolved to object to this appeal notice and to resend the previous objections made by the Parish Council, both by the Planning Inspectorate portal, and also by post.

# 6.3 Update on ongoing planning applications:

Application 21/03266/HOU. Pares Cottage, Langport Road, Long Sutton. Approved with conditions 03/02/2022.

Application: 21/02880/HOU. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision. Approved with conditions 17/02/2022.

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: 22/00088/LBC: Vale House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton TA10 9LZ

# 7 Footpaths.

Further to the Chairman's explanatory email to councillors, a discussion took place. There is already an agreement to provide 50% of the cost of the gateway at Hammocks. Additional gates will cost £700 in total, not each as previously stated. Stiles are to be addressed by the Lengthsman, and to inform the landowner that the work either has been or will be done. Completion of these works in western end of the village in this financial year will allow the focus to move to other parts of the parish next winter. Small gates that are reasonably priced can be purchased and given to the landowner to be installed.

Thank you to councillors for the continued efforts to make progress.

# 8 <u>Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee (VH&RGC)</u>

# 8.1 Matters brought forward by the committee.

The VH&RCG chairman will be standing down at the end of April. It is proposed to put a short piece in the village newsletter to encourage involvement in the VH&RCG.

**8.2** There was a meeting last night of the committee. The kitchen floor is completed, and the entry lobby is the only area outstanding. The kick boards to the cupboards in the kitchen now require replacement.

The outside table tennis table is to be dealt with by the cricket pavilion steering group. it would be beneficial for the VH&RGC to be supported by another councillor during this transitional time.

It is preferred that the noticeboard is for Parish Council use only.

The contractor who completed tarmacking of the pathway at the village shop (free of charge) needs to be formally thanked for his generous contribution.

New stage lights are required, as the previous ones were removed during the refurbishment. The proposed replacements are portable units, much more user friendly. It was resolved to order the lights as proposed, and the funds to be used from the Parish Council budget allocation for the village hall.

# 9 The Parish Council Green Charter

The Green Charter has been featured in the Parish newletter. An engagement event is planned for 26<sup>th</sup> March at the Village Hall, to garner views and ideas from residents. Cllr Ward is compiling a list of actions and activities that other parishes are undertaking, to encourage ideas. The website is a fantastic medium to promote the Green Charter.

# 10 The Parish Council Website

Cllr Stoddart-Stones has collated responses received about the current parish website. Largely, the opinion is for the current format to remain, but brought up to date. It was



suggested that a volunteer to be the overall manager of the website, and individual pages be editable by those groups.

The content is to be moved to an updated website provision, with a .gov.uk domain, with email, which will have a cost implication of about £200 per year.

For the necessary works to move the existing content onto a new website platform, the cost will be £750 to set up, with ClIr Stoddart Stones undertaking the new website works and facilitating the website hosting transfer. Two previous quotes have been received to make improvements to the website, and to switch hosting away from the current provision, as costs with that provider were unsustainable.

It was resolved that Cllr Stoddart Stones proceed with transferring the current website, take the necessary steps to initiate that process, and to transfer and update the content onto a new website platform.

# 11 Finance

# **11.1** To approve balances and accounts for payment.

Payments March 2022	Credit £	Debit £	Balance £
Balance b/fwd from February 2022 meeting			26713.97
Payments March 2022			
Clerk salary (Feb 2022)		333.27	
Howe Tree Surgery (CWS)		892.50	
HMRC re clerk's salary (Feb)		83.20	
Timeback accounts payroll (Feb)		5.00	
Community Heartbeat – line rental Knole		72.00	
Community Heartbeat – annual support both defibrillators		302.40	
Somerset Tree Surgeons – risk assessment		75.00	
Clerks expenses mobile phone top up		10.00	
		1773.37	-1773.37
Balance after March 2022 payments			22086.62

It was resolved to approve the payments as listed above.

# 11.2 Approval of the spend to budget to end January 2022

The spend to budget had been previously circulated. It was resolved to receive the spend to budget as presented to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.



# 12 To review the Parish Council Risk Policy

The risk management policy had been previously circulated. The current format is fit for the purpose of this review, but it is felt that a risk assessment scoring system is to be introduced during the next year to give a more robust view each element of risk. The trees on the village green have been added. Complaints against the Council and mitigation needs to be added as an item, to ensure adequate insurance cover. Councillors Cox and Ward will review and amend the layout of the Risk Management Plan before it is reviewed again in 12 months' time.

# 13 Representative reports and any other matters regarding:

# **13.1** Community Safety

# 13.1.1 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. A Teams meeting took place with the local police team, in February. As a result of this, the incident of a council contractor being bitten by a dog, and also HGV traffic through Upton have been addressed.

# 13.2 Community Warden Scheme (CWS).

The tree at Peace Lane has been dealt with. The border of the Old School House with the village green has a large area of brambles, to be addressed by the lengthsman.

# 13.3 Highways and footpaths.

The Speed Indicator Device has been located on Martock Road for the past month.

# 14 Sports pavilion

A preliminary meeting of the Sports Pavilion Steering Group is taking place on  $2^{nd}$  March via Zoom.

# 15 Other correspondence not previously distributed:

Correspondence was received that the Post Office will open in Long Sutton on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022. Further details of services available can be found via a link on the parish website.

#### 16 Date of next meeting:

The date of the next meeting is **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April** 2022 at 7:30pm in the committee room at the village hall.

The May 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.

#### 17 Items for the next meeting agenda.

None

Meeting closed at 8:50pm.

**END OF MINUTES**