



Minutes of the Long Sutton Parish Council Meeting

1st February 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), Mrs R Coombes, Mr R Fell, Mrs G Marffy, Mr N Rousell, Mr M Turpin, Mr N Ward.

South Somerset District Council (SSDC) Councillor Gerard Tucker.

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

There were 10 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.

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 Dowse (unwell). It was resolved to receive and approve the apologies.

2 Declarations of interest

None.

3 Minutes of the meeting 4th January 2022 and any matters arising.

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting on 4th January 2022 as a true and accurate record. The minutes were signed by Cllr Cox.

3.1 Update regarding survey of the lime tree on the village green.

Two contractors have been contacted for advice regarding a survey for the lime tree on the village green. A full survey will include all aspects of the tree. A risk assessment will give details about hazards that exist. It was resolved to instruct a risk assessment to be conducted, to allow onward monitoring of the condition of the tree.



3.2 Update regarding marking out of the village hall car park.

The clerk updated councillors regarding the marking out of the village hall car park. A contractor has been contacted and visited the site with the clerk to discuss possible layout options and the respective quotes.

3.3 Any other matters arising from the minutes. The ongoing complaint is being dealt with as per the advice from Somerset Association of Local Councils and has been referred on to the Parish Council insurers.

4 County Councillors report

None, apologies received from Cllr Ruddle.

5 District Councillors Report

Cllr Tucker gave a short verbal report. There is currently a period of change. There are two district executive meetings this month, with a review of taxi (hackney) carriage, and council tax. There is solid work regarding the change to Unitary. There is a review of the spending on Chard leisure. The Scrutiny Committee is reviewing flooding in the upper catchments, Chard and Ilminster. The January Area North committee dealt with a grant application for the Ridgway Hall in Langport (renewal of heating system) and a planning application.

6 Planning Applications:

6.1 New Planning Applications received:

The meeting was suspended at 7:39pm to allow members of the public to speak on the next planning application.

Seven members of the public stated their objections to three planning applications 21/03594/HOU, 21/03595/S73A and 21/03450/FUL, which will be submitted to the Planning Portal of the SSDC website. Objections include: excess of car parking allocation, no meaningful provision of garden (against EQ2), ancillary building has two bathrooms which seems excessive, the layout suggests that a further residential unit could be introduced in the future (multiple bathrooms), concerns regarding multiple buildings on the one site, incorrect information on the planning application, loss of privacy.

Concern was also expressed that a planning application per dwelling is circumventing planning policies, and that it is likely that existing building will be converted in the future to residential. The planning portal on the SSDC website is difficult to access and navigate.

The meeting reopened at 8:00pm.



Application 21/03595/S73A: Erection of a detached dwelling and change of use and alterations of existing annexe building to form a separate dwelling (Part Retrospective) (Revised Application) S73A application to vary conditions 02 (approved plans), 04 (foul & surface water drainage) & 09 (parking & turning) of approval 15/00986/FUL due to the evolution of the project - Land South of Greystones, Off Crouds Lane, Long Sutton.

This application was discussed at length. There was no objection to the original planning application from the Parish Council in 2015, which was approved with 13 conditions. This current application is part retrospective, but the Council was of a view that it was fundamentally a new application. The proposed car parking allocation is excessive. The amenity space provision is inadequate for the occupants, contrary to EQ2. Number of bathrooms and cloakrooms in the outbuildings seems excessive and their internal layout implies that they are additional living accommodation

If the application was approved, then the Parish Council would request a condition restricting the use solely for ancillary residential purposes only.

It was proposed and resolved that the Parish Council objects to this planning application for the reasons stated.

Application 21/3594/HOU: Erection of x2 detached outbuildings ancillary to Greystones Cottage, planting and other associated works (Part Retrospective) - Land South of Greystones, Off Crouds Lane, Long Sutton.

This planning application was discussed at length. Several references in the application to previous planning applications. The application is not completely accurate, the internal layout implies that they are additional living accommodation. Again, excessive parking allocation, no allocation for garden space. The garden building has no garden attached to it.

If this application was to be approved, it should have a legal agreement attached to it tying the outbuildings to Greystones Cottage in perpetuity.

It was proposed, and resolved, that the Parish Council objects to this planning application for the reasons stated.

Application 21/03450/FUL: Conversion of detached residential dwelling to comprise 5 independent living units (over 55) and retention of existing ancilliary outbuildings. Land South of Greystones, Off Crouds Lane, Long Sutton.



This planning application was discussed at length. Over development of the site completely changing the rural character of the area. The parking allocation is excessive for the number of people likely to be living in the flats. The proposal for a gym – there will be a large increase of movements to and from the area for multi person usage, which will be more disruptive. Light pollution is a concern, and with no light management plan in place. The plans give the impression of a residential care home. Increased occupancy will place unacceptable increase on existing water and sewage systems. There is no garden, it is overdeveloped. Need for specific over 55 housing has not been demonstrated or evidence with a housing needs survey. The Parish Council would request that the residence would need to be tied into a housing association to ensure that the over 55 tenure was implemented. The potential traffic movement in and out of Crouds Lane could be increased by circa 40 movements a day

It was proposed, and resolved, that the Parish Council objects to this planning application for the reasons stated.

Councillors were frustrated by the lack of any site-wide plan, the lack of clarity and accuracy in some of the comments in the planning statements, the denial of planning responsibility to the community through the Community Infrastructure Levy (it is not a householder application), and impact of excess phosphate run-off as a result of the applications being granted.

It was resolved that these general observations are made against each application.

Application: 21/03266/HOU: Pares Cottage, Langport Road, Long Sutton.

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

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

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

6.2 Update on ongoing planning applications:

Application: 21/03174/COL. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Permitted with conditions (31/01/2022).

Application: 21/03382/PAMB. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Permitted (31/01/2022).

Application: 21/03385/FUL. Long Sutton Golf Club. Permitted with conditions (18/01/2022).

Application: 21/03416/HOU. Greystones, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Permitted with conditions (05/01/2022).



Application: 21/03723/HOU. Merryfield, Langport Road, Long Sutton. Permitted with conditions (13/01/2022).

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: 21/02880/HOU. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. 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: 21/03185/HOU & 21/03186/LBC. Long Sutton House, Shute 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: 21/03598/FUL. Land OS 5122 Bineham Farm, Bineham Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

7 Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee (VH&RGC)

7.1 Matters brought forward by the committee.

The kitchen floor is to be replaced in mid February.

7.2 Village Hall Car Park

Update already provided.



8 Play area update

The works have taken place at the play area to replace the climbing wall and two platforms. Whilst the works were underway, one of the safety rails broke, and they both now need replacing. A quote has been obtained to supply the rails, and also the pull up ramp which also needs replacing. A number of caps and stoppers are to be replaced, as they are missing.

It is proposed to order the items required, as per the quote, to be supplied only and then a local contractor to be engaged to fit them.

Other items are that the sign for the play area needs to be updated with the trustee contact details clearly stated, and the litter bin needs to be locked closed.

It was resolved to order the replacement parts, as per the quote, to be installed by a local contractor. The contractor will be arranged by the VH&RGC.

9 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

A report was previously circulated to councillors with an overview of the celebrations planned to date for the Queen's Jubilee in June 2022. Further details to be published in the village newsletter with a request for a small steering committee from interested residents. The Parish Council will take a leadership role in the organisation, and the village hall has been reserved for village events during this time.

The draft programme features the following: -

Saturday 27th May- FOLSC Platinum Party and Friendly Society – Club Day Walk

Wednesday 1st June - Church Service of Thanksgiving in the Church TBC

Thursday 2nd June - Platinum Jubilee Beacon

Friday 3rd June - Long Sutton Golf Club – Fun Texas Scramble golf competition

Saturday 4th June - Church Coffee Morning – venue TBC, Opening of a weekend Church Flower Festival - TBC , and possible a Platinum Open Afternoon Garden Trail around the village with Cream teas at selected destinations – TBC

Sunday 5th June – Long Sutton Parish Platinum Picnic – Bring Your Own food & drink (close with informal Songs of Praise) and Knole have their own event planned, venue TBC – already diarised.



10 The Parish Council Green Charter

An update was circulated to councillors. An engagement event, towards the end of March, is being considered – a pop in coffee morning or similar. It is favourable to tie in with the school to get families on board.

Themes being considered include how the parish can influence:-

1. Reducing energy and water usage
2. Reducing transport emissions
3. Maximise recycling and reusing; minimise waste and pollution
4. Conserving the flora and fauna in our local environment

11 The Parish Council Website

Cllr Stoddart-Stones placed some information in the last newsletter regarding the LS website, and has had some feedback which will be available for the council meeting next month.

12 Finance

12.1 To approve balances and accounts for payment.

Payments February 2022	Credit £	Debit £	Balance £
Balance b/fwd from December 2021 meeting			26713.97
Payments February 2022			
Clerk salary (Jan 2022)		333.27	
Howe Tree Surgery (CWS)		892.50	
HMRC re clerk's salary (Jan)		83.20	
Timeback accounts payroll (Jan)		5.00	
Playdale playground equipment		1465.69	
Clerks expenses – print cartridge and office 365 subscription		74.32	
		2853.98	-2853.98
Balance after February 2022 payments			23859.99

It was resolved to approve the payments as listed above.

12.2 Approval of the spend to budget to end December 2021.

The clerk did not have this available for consideration and will present the spend to budget at the March meeting.

13 To review the Parish Council Asset Register

The clerk listed this incorrectly on the published agenda. Councillors had viewed the asset register, which remained unchanged from March 2021. It was resolved that the asset register is correct as presented.



14 Representative reports and any other matters regarding:

14.1 Community Safety

14.1.1 Monthly Crime Statistics from the Police.uk website

The PCSO for Long Sutton had been in contact before Christmas to arrange at time to meet with Councillors. A Teams meeting is arranged for 10th February 2022. The issue of the contractor being bitten by a dog is still ongoing, with statements due to be taken towards the end of January 2022.

14.2 Community Warden Scheme (CWS).

Works still ongoing, and grass cutting will start in the next few weeks.

14.3 Highways and footpaths.

Correspondence had been received from an Upton resident regarding HGV traffic through Upton. Highways have responded that this is a police issue, which will be raised at the Teams meeting on 10th February.

14.3.1 Update from Councillors regarding footpaths.

Cllrs Fell and Marffy have been working with a local landowner to discuss gates. The discussion covered two Bristol gates to be replaced at £700 each to the Parish Council, (being 50% of the costs), and stiles on the footpaths that are the current target area for repair or replacement. Councillors felt this level of expenditure on two items was a disproportionate amount of the £1500 the Council had allocated for this work in this financial year and thought that more cost-effective solutions should be found.

Other landowners consulted showed no desire to contribute to any repairs or replacement gates. Stiles will be repaired if they can be by the Community warden and his team and funded by the Council.

The Chairman reminded Councillors that it was the landowner's legal responsibility to keep their footpaths open and easily accessible to walkers, and all the Parish Council was trying to do was enable easier and safer access to the footpath network.

15 Sports pavilion

The sports pavilion, built in the late 1970's, specifically to meet the cricket requirements of the time, may now no longer be fit for purpose. It was agreed that the Village Hall Committee should be asked to undertake an inspection, and to investigate available funding for the resulting recommendations, and working with the Parish Council to ensure that VAT refund considerations are taken into account.



16 Other correspondence not previously distributed:

Foresight Ltd requested information regarding the expenditure of the Community Benefits Payment as they are expected to do under the deed. This relates to the payments of circa £1800 per year the Parish Council receives for the solar panels off Tengore Lane. The clerk has provided the expenditure for 2021 and is keeping a record of the payments in and any expenditure made.

17 Date of next meeting:

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 1st March 2022 at 7:30pm in the committee room at the village hall.

18 Items for the next meeting agenda.

Meeting closed at 9:48pm.

END OF MINUTES