

Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council
held at the Hall on Tuesday 1st March 2011 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors: Mr R C Vaux (Chairman), Mrs Y Aitken, Mrs J R Turner, Mr J A Foy, Mr S A Pledger and Ms P Jukes. District Councillor Mr G R Cox, County Councillor Mr D Yeomans and 9 members of the public.

Apologies: Councillors: Mr D C Francis, Mr A D Jones and Mr C J Greenfield.

Public Observations/Question Time

It was raised by a member of the public that there is very rarely a full compliment of Councillors present at PC meetings.

Report by PCSO/Police (if present) - There was no Police representative present.

An email has however been received from Neighbourhood Sgt Alan Bell regarding re-organisation of the neighbourhood policing team.

Iain Selley is transferring back to the response teams.

With effect from 1st March Beat Managers PCs Toni Lines and Jon Watson will assume the responsibility as the Beat Managers for Iain's old areas. Toni will be responsible for the Turn Hill and Wessex Council Wards and Jon will manage St Michaels. The current PCSOs will remain as they are.

PC Terri Lines will also be assisting as a temporary Beat Manager for an initial period of 6 months and will be asked to focus on Iain's 3 Council Wards. Any issues can be directed to her personally or to the nominated Beat Manager.

1. Declarations of Interest

Councillors Vaux and Pledger declared personal/private interests in respect of the Planning application for the erection of 2 residential units on land at Martock Road to be discussed at item 6 on the agenda.

2. Minutes of meeting held on 1st February 2011 - (previously circulated) were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising

Allotments: Nothing to report.

Elections: The Clerk reported that she had received notices from SSDC for posting in the Parish on 14th March and that she also had a supply of Nomination Forms. The closing date for nominations is noon on 4th April.

4. County Councillor's Report

Mr Yeomans monthly Newsletter had previously been circulated to Councillors. This being the last Newsletter until after the elections.

He reported that the cuts that are being made will be more evident come April and we are not in for a pleasant time.

There is however money for road repairs and they are actively trying to find money to keep the Crewkerne Waste Recycling Centre open.

5. District Councillor's Report

Mr Cox reported that the District Council is taking a fair amount of flack regarding the large payouts to retiring Council Officers. This is however happening across the country and £2 ¾ million will be saved on the budget.

Goldenstones is no longer run by the DC but has been leased out.

At least half the District Councillors will be new following the Election. The DC goes into purdah from the 15th March.

Regarding the Lengthsman Scheme, he said that Richard Grove of SCC has been given a budget of £9,000 which he has decided to divide equally between the 5 Schemes in his area giving £1800 each.

6. Planning:

West Knole House, Knole 11/00215/FUL: Application for a new planning permission for the conversion of barn to form 1 unit of living accommodation for holiday let together with associated garage and access to replacing existing permission 07/04938/FUL to extend the time limit for implementation.

Following discussion and consideration of previous comments made by the PC, it was proposed by the Chairman, seconded Mrs Aitken and unanimously resolved that there was no objection to the application.

Land OS 9687 Martock Road 10/05132/FUL: Erection of 2 residential units.

Vice-Chair, Mrs Turner, took over the conduct of discussion regarding this application. She invited those members of the public present to address the Council.

One Parishioner said that although some of the previous objections had been addressed by this new application, it still remained that this was a busy stretch of road giving rise to serious safety issues. The Core Strategy also gave rise to a degree of confusion regarding the type of housing and it was also felt that there were other more suitable sites available.

The Applicant said that the Scheme had been amended to reflect the views of the community and the PC. The speed of traffic was a problem not only at Martock Road but also at Langport Road and Shute Lane. The scheme has been designed with quality in mind using natural stone, renewable energy, an option for allotments and an increased parking ratio.

The Applicant's Agent said that the new scheme was for two family houses with increased parking and better access. The access has been widened to 5 metres and County Highways now have no objections. The Landscape Officer has said that there are better sites in terms of landscaping.

Following the answering of various questions raised, the PC then went back into meeting.

Mrs Turner thanked the Applicant for the recent site visit.

She then invited Councillors to give their views on the new application.

It was noted that blue lias is now to be used and that the front access has been increased to 5 metres. It was however felt that in order to maintain the visibility splay some trees may need ongoing maintenance.

Mrs Turner then gave her views regarding the application culminating in a proposal to object to the application on the grounds of visibility from the site. She said even with the new position of the entrance, there is no indication on the plans of removal of trees or

hedgerows which will be required for a safe exit from the site in a southerly and northerly direction, not just for motorists but for pedestrians as well. The suitability of the site given there are more favourable sites within the parish, and that the application does not fully comply with the PPG13 (the reduction in private car use) and Policy 49 (provide safe access to roads...).

This proposal did not however receive support.

Mr Foy then made a proposal that the PC accept the plans as they are on condition the visibility splays, as approved by County Highways are fully maintained at all times.

This proposal was seconded by Mrs Aitken and carried by a majority vote of 3 to 1 with 2 abstentions (Mr Vaux and Mr Pledger).

Orchard House, Shute Lane: The Chairman said that he had asked the Planners to keep an eye on the site to ensure that roof heights and floor levels are as they should be. The dormer window in the garage is acceptable to SSDC Planners as it is non residual building.

Hillcrest, Shute Lane: Concern was raised regarding the newly planted beech hedge/trees which it was felt could impair visibility in the future. The Chairman agreed to speak to the owner.

Permissions granted by SSDC:-

Upton Bourn, Langport Road 10/05156/FUL: Removal of existing conservatory and front porch and construction of single storey extensions, one with dormer window and first floor accommodation. The materials specified in the application are to be used in carrying out the development unless otherwise agreed in writing with the LPA.

Orchard House, Shute Lane: Application for non-material amendment to Planning Permission 10/03128/73

7. Lengthsman Scheme

Mr Foy reported on the work carried out by the Lengthsman over the last month, namely the cleaning of the tennis court, guttering at the Sports Pavilion, cutting back of a hedge at Martock Road and the clearing of the Church footpath.

Another matter raised requiring attention was soil on the Knole Causeway and the road towards Knole before The Old Vicarage.

8. Finance

Business Reserve	11148.72
Add Interest 30 Dec	<u>1.52</u>
	<u>£11150.24</u>
Current A/C	<u>£442.89</u>
Lenthsman A/C	7950.11
Less Pd to Lengthsman last meeting	<u>1872.26</u>
	<u>£6077.85</u>

A/cs for payment:

Contribution to Lengthsman Scheme for month of March	291.67
Porter Dodson - Photocopying/Printing 1 st March 2010 to 28 February 2011	93.96
Clerk's Salary (8 hours per week)	1033.76
Clerk's Travelling	24.80
Petty Cash to reimburse postage and telephone calls and float	99.90
SALC Clerk's Workshop	20.00
Lengthsman's Invoice	1584.38

It was proposed Ms Jukes, seconded Mr Foy and unanimously agreed that in view of the number of accounts due for payment at the next meeting, the sum of £3,000 should be transferred from the Business Reserve to the Current A/c and that the above accounts be paid.

A notice has been received via SALC that as from 6th April 2011 PCs cannot pay Clerks' wages gross but must register with HMRC as an Employer and receive a PAYE reference.

9. Neighbourhood Watch/Community Safety

Mr Gould reported that the Clerk had received a telephone call from Mr Fletcher of County Highways saying that a Parishioner was requesting that the Speedwatch signs in the Parish be removed as Speedwatch was not active. He said that Joni Waters from his Office had spoken with Mr Fletcher and explained that CSW was currently active in the village. Mr Fletcher has therefore said that he will not be taking the signs down or asking for them to be removed and will inform the Parishioner accordingly.

He said that a flyer has been sent out with the Newsletter regarding the Parish Community Meeting to be held on 1st April 7.30pm to 9.00pm in the Village Hall and he gave details regarding the various stalls and how these would be manned.

It was agreed that Councillors would mingle with Parishioners on the evening and as previously suggested, that there should be a poll regarding the provision of a Parish Display.

10. Parish Plan

Mr Sensier said that he had prepared some suggestions of things which could perhaps be taken forward and that he would forward these to Councillors.

11. Parish Website

Mr Sensier provided the PC with information regarding the number of visits to the website over the last month.

12. Affordable Housing

A Somerset Devon & Dorset Community Land Trust Project Seminar is to be held at Compton Dundon on 9 March 10.30am to 12.30pm.

13. Village Hall

Ms Jukes said that there was nothing to report. A meeting is to be held next week.

The Clerk passed her an SSDC Notice regarding a Routine Visual Playground Inspection Training Course on Friday 24th June 2011.

14. Representative Reports and matters regarding:

- (a) **Footpaths** - Nothing to report.
- (b) **Highways** - Nothing to report.
- (c) **Environment** - Nothing report.

15. Correspondence

A letter of thanks has been received from the Church for the £470 donation towards the Newsletter, Churchyard grass cutting and Church Tower lighting.

Somerset Waste Partnership: Details of Bank Holiday Household Recycling and Refuse Collections.

SALC: Area Meeting 14th March 2011 at Corton Denham.

Future Youth Provision: Minutes of 13 January Meeting and Agenda for further meeting held on 17 February. The PC has no Youth Representative at the present time.

SCC Libraries Service: SCC has decided to implement a 25% reduction in the budget to the Libraries Service across 3 years starting in April 2011. Langport, Martock and Somerton are among those Libraries still to receive funding although the hours of the Libraries will be reduced by 20%.

Mr Gould has advised that a flyer will go out with the Village Newsletter regarding the Royal Wedding Village event which it has been suggested be held on Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May 2011.

16. Date of next meeting - 5th April 2011. Ms Jukes gave apologies.

17. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.20 pm