

**Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council**  
**Held at the Hall on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 7.35 pm**

**Present:** Councillors: Mr. R.C. Vaux (Chairman), Mrs. J.R. Turner Mrs. Y. Aitken, Mr J.A. Foy, Ms P Jukes, Mr. S.A. Pledger and Mr. A.D. Jones. 6 members of the public.

**Apologies:** Councillors Mr. C.J. Greenfield and Mr. D.C. Paull

The Chairman said that District Councillor Cox hoped to attend later in the meeting.

During Public Question Time a corroded manhole cover near the Pump House at Martock Road was reported. Mr. Foy agreed to investigate this.

The position of the Tengore Lane sign was also raised. Mr. Foy said this had been reported twice.

**1. Declarations of Interest** - There were no declarations of interest.

**2. Report by PCSO/Police**

There was no representative from the Police present.

The Clerk reported that the latest Newsletter from Chief Superintend Nikki Watson had been received via Mr. Gould. This reports on crime for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 and will be put in this month's correspondence folder for Councillors perusal.

**3. Minutes of meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> May, 18<sup>th</sup> May and 25<sup>th</sup> May 2010** (previously circulated) were all approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**4. Matters Arising:**

**Standing Orders:** It was agreed that the Chairman, Ms Jukes, Mr. Pledger and the Clerk would consider the Standing Orders produced by SALC (based on the New Model Standing Orders) and report back with recommendations at the next meeting.

**Lengthsman's Scheme:** It was agreed to leave this until later in the meeting.

**5. County Councillor's Report**

The Chairman reported that Mr. Yeomans' monthly newsletter had been received and this in the main expressed concern at what will emerge from the Emergency Budget on 22 June and the serious cuts which will be made.

**6. District Councillor's Report** -

**7. Planning**

No new applications have been received.

**Permissions granted by SSDC:**

Land at Upton Bridge Farm: Erection of a general purpose agricultural building.

Hillcrest, Shute Lane: Alterations to vehicular access, erection of a sunroom and porch, extensions to dwelling; alterations to outbuilding.

Mrs. Turner reported that the Planning Officer was recommending a further site meeting regarding the application for Little Upton Bridge Farm and Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> June at 12.15 pm was agreed.

Mrs. Turner also said that she had tried contacting the Planning Officer dealing with the application at Orchard House, Shute Lane for an update but had not received a response.

## **8. Clerk's Contract**

The Clerk said that her contract was for 6 hours per week and expressed concern at the number of extra hours required over the last few years in order to fulfil her duties.

She mentioned in particular that she had felt it only right to bring to the attention of the PC the operating instructions with regard to the Village Hall.

She also asked what work would be required by her in respect of the Lengthsman's Scheme and Mr. Foy said that this should not involve very much extra as the majority of the work will be carried out by him.

She said that she would try in future to get the draft minutes out as soon as possible following the meeting but these have to go to the Chairman first for his comments and then to Councillors before they can be put on the website. She could not commit to a particular time limit as this would depend on workload and any other circumstances.

## **9. Finance**

<b>Business Reserve A/c</b>	£11845.33	(inclusive of 6,000 from
<b>Add Transfer from Current A/C</b>	<u>5000.00</u>	Deed of Easement)
	<b><u>£16845.33</u></b>	

<b>Current A/C</b>	7611.64
<b>Less</b> A/cs paid last meeting	1376.67
Transfer to Reserve A/c	<u>5000.00</u>
	<u>6376.67</u>
	<b><u>£1234.97</u></b>

### **A/cs for payment:**

Clerk's Salary	787.00
Clerk's Travelling	33.60
G R Cox - Lengthsman's Advert	715.00

The Chairman said he felt that the PC being the Lead PC in the Lengthsman's Scheme should pay for the advertisement which had been placed on production of the invoice; pending contribution from the other Councils in the Scheme.

It was therefore proposed by Mr. Jones, seconded Mr. Pledger and **resolved** that the above accounts be paid and £2500 be transferred from the Reserve to the Current A/C.

A letter has been received from Explorer Scout members of The Levels Scout Group asking if the PC could consider making a grant towards their fundraising target to attend the 22<sup>nd</sup> Word Scout Jamboree in Sweden in July 2011. It was agreed that the PC is not in a position to make such a grant due to other commitments.

There was discussion regard the PC's donation of £350 (agreed at the Village Hall AGM) towards a Rotary Topper for cutting the grass at the Recreation Field which the Chairman said he could obtain for the sum of £725 plus VAT. This resulted in a proposal by Mr. Pledger, seconded Ms Jukes and **resolved** that the PC should pay the full amount for the Topper less an anonymous donation of £100 which has been made, out of the monies received for the Deed of Easement and that this could be paid out of meeting.

#### **10. Neighbourhood Watch/Community Safety**

**Community Speedwatch:** Mr. Gould said that the Chairman was the 50<sup>th</sup> volunteer for Community Speedwatch training in the County and he presented him with a framed Certificate.

30 mph safety signs for Wheelie Bins are now displayed on many Bins within the village. He also has a stock of stickers available should anyone require some.

Mr. Foy advised that no stickers should be placed on permanent objects such as telegraph poles.

**Neighbourhood Watch:** There was no up to date report as he said that PCSO Mel Austin has been away.

**Civil Contingencies:** The project folder has now been completed. A Lap top is being provided by SSDC.

He said that the next step was a short presentation to the PC by the DC's Civil Contingencies Officer prior to a Community Meeting being arranged.

#### **Community Resilience:**

Overall update on progress:-

The Project Manual has been completed.

Stall to be held at the Village Fete with other agencies to promote the scheme and recruit further volunteers.

Ongoing meetings with Local Authority, Police and other Agencies.

**11. Parish Plan** - Nothing new to report.

**12. Parish Website** - Mr Sensier said that this is ticking over nicely.

#### **13. Affordable Housing**

The Chairman reported that he, Mrs Turner and Jody Foy met with Mark Dillon of Yarlinton and Dave Norris from the DC's Planning Dept when discussion took place regarding the erection of properties on land adjoining Parsons Close and whether they would be for rent or sale. It was suggested that the roofline of the properties should be the same as those existing in Parsons Close and that these would be chalet type bungalows. Probably two for rent and one for sale. It will mean the car park area for the bungalows will move closer to the road.

#### **14. Village Hall**

Nothing new to report; the AGM of the Trustee (the Parish Council) having taken place prior to commencement of this meeting. The Clerk however urged Councillors to take note of the Charity Commission Scheme and Operating Instructions for the running of the Charity.

## **15. Allotments**

The Clerk confirmed that all tenants had been given notice in December last year of the PC's wish to review the rents.

She also said that she had received an enquiry regarding allotments from someone who hoped to move to the village.

Following discussion in which it was felt that the quality of the land and location was not really suitable for the growing of vegetables, it was proposed by Mr. Foy and agreed by a majority that the PC should seek advice from a Land Agent and then perhaps negotiate with the tenants.

The Chairman will speak to Greenslade Taylor Hunt and report back.

## **16. Representative Reports and matters regarding:**

### **(a) Footpaths**

Mr. Jones reported that he and Mrs. Aitken had attended the meeting at the Golf Club last night. The PPLO Mr. Sheppard was also present. The meeting basically covered the information which had been given in the literature previously supplied. Mr. Montague the Warden for this area was present and Mr. Jones said he was able to have a word with him.

A letter has been received from the Senior Rights of Way Officer SCC regarding applications by South Somerset Bridleways Association for a modification of the County Council's Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way. These are:

Long Sutton: Upgrade Footpath > Bridleway L21/41, Pill Bridge Drove  
Add BR Penny Post Drove  
Add BR Nine Commons Drove  
Upgrade FP > BR L21/49 & Y1/10 Driveway Drove  
Upgrade FP > RB Y1/11 Witcome Drove  
Upgrade FP > RB Y1/17 Thornhill Drove (pt)

The PC has previously objected to the applications affecting LS. The applications are awaiting scoring in accordance with SCC's Rights of Way Improvement Plan. The next scoring round is in April 2011. Once the applications have been scored their position in the list will dictate how long before they are investigated. In some cases this may be a number of years.

### **(b) Highways**

**Pinch Point at Langport Road:** Mr Jones said that he had asked for this to be put on the agenda as he had nearly been run off the road.

The PC have approached SCC Highways on several occasions regarding the speed of traffic coming down Stephens Hill to no avail. During discussion Mr. Gould said that he had the kit in order to carry out some traffic monitoring. The data could then be presented to Highways should it show that the average speed of vehicles is in excess of the speed limit. He said that anyone working for him would be covered by his insurance and any other volunteer would have to be covered by the PC Policy.

Mr. Jones requested that the matter remain on the agenda.

Notification has been received from SCC of the Temporary Road Closure of Muchelney Road, Huish Episcopi for 4 nights from 14<sup>th</sup> June to enable resurfacing and associated work to be carried out.

SCC is carrying out a review of roadside signs with the aim of identifying those that are now unnecessary. They say that working with the Somerset Safety Camera Partnership it has been found that a number of the black and white signs showing a silhouette of a camera are repeated and not needed so can be removed. The camera sign at the beginning of a speed limit will remain in place.

No-one has been able to find out any information regarding the missing Langport Road sign.

Mrs. Turner said that the finger post sign at the bottom of Hardings Hill has never been renewed.

Mr. Foy requested permission to report on the **Lengthsman's Scheme**. He said that there had been 62 expressions of interest in the application which had been placed. 8 forms have been returned. 5 from the Parishes involved in the Scheme and a couple from outside. Interviews will take place 7<sup>th</sup> July with an appointment mid to late August.

**(c) Environment**

A letter has been received from a Parishioner regarding dog fouling on the pavement outside Walnut House which is said to be occurring on a regular basis. The Chairman said that in order to be able to take action the DC need a signed witness statement. He said that he would speak to the Parishioner who had made the complaint.

Mrs. Turner reported that the foliage overhanging the pavement and soil encroachment at Langport Road has now been cut back and/or removed.

The Chairman reported that fly tipping has occurred in the gateway at the top of Ilchester Lane. Amongst the general builders rubbish there was details of an address. These details have been passed to Streetscene SSDC.

He also reported that he and Mr. Paull have trimmed the trees on the Green.

**17. Correspondence**

Avon & Somerset Police Authority Strategic Policing Plan 2010-2013

Flourish Homes Ltd latest News

Rural Youth Newsletter

Clerks and Councillors Direct

All the above were placed in a correspondence folder for Councillors' perusal.

**18. Date of next meeting** - 6<sup>th</sup> July 2010

**19. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting**

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm