

Minutes of Annual Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council
Held at the Hall on Tuesday 4th May 2010 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors: Mr. R.C. Vaux (Chairman), Mrs. J.R. Turner, Ms P. Jukes, Mr. D.C. Paull, Mr J.A. Foy, Mr. S.A. Pledger, Mrs. Y. Aitken and Mr. A.D. Jones. District Councillor Mr. G.R. Cox, and 5 members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: Councillor: Mr. C.J. Greenfield and County Councillor Mr. D. Yeomans.

1. Election of Chairman

It was proposed Mrs Turner, seconded Mrs Aitken and unanimously agreed that Mr Vaux be re-elected as Chairman.

A Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed by Mr. Vaux.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman

It was proposed Mr. Jones, seconded Mrs. Aitken and unanimously agreed that Mrs. Turner be re-elected as Vice-Chair.

3. Appointment/Confirmation of Representatives:

These were agreed/confirmed as follows:

Village Hall: Ms Jukes, Mr. Vaux, Mr. Foy and Mr. Pledger.

Somerset Association of Local Councils: Mr. Vaux.

LS School Board of Governors: Mrs Godelieve Cousins.

4. Appointment/Confirmation of Working Groups/Officers:

These were agreed/confirmed as follows:

Planning: Mrs. Turner, Mr. Vaux and Mr. Pledger.

Environment/Tree Warden: Mr. Paull and Mr. Jones.

Highways: Mr. Foy.

Crime & Safety: Mrs. Turner

Footpath Officers: Mr. Jones and Mrs. Aitken. PPLO Mr. Shepherd.

Accounts: Councillor/Committee to carry out internal review: Mr. Vaux.

Youth: It was agreed that no appointment should be made at this time. The PC to deal with any matters as and when they arise.

5. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

6. Minutes of meetings held on 6th and 27th April 2010 (previously circulated)

At the request of a Parishioner during Public Question Time, it was agreed that the minutes of the PC's meeting held on 6th April 2010 recording the discussion with Mr. Page

of First Step Homes, be amended at para 5 to read: "On being asked if they rely on the support of the Parish Councils and the Community, he said "Yes". When asked what would they do if the Parish Council and the local Community did not support their proposals, he said they would not go ahead with the project. However, on one occasion despite local objections, they were given permission to proceed by the District Council."

An additional para 9 was also inserted to read: "Mr. Page said that he would report back to his Board and he thought it was likely that they would not proceed with the project."

Following these amendments/additions, the minutes were then signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

The minutes of the meeting held on 27th April 2010 were then approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

7. Matters Arising

Adoption of Red Phone Box at Knole - Nothing to report.

8. Planning

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

Following discussion it was proposed by Mrs. Turner, seconded Mr. Jones and unanimously **resolved** that the PC strongly object to the application with regard to the proposed boundary fence which it was felt would be harsh and overpowering situated on the boundary of the conservation area and would have a severe visual impact on the streetscene.

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

The applicant, was invited to address the PC. He said that the building would be in a paddock behind the old buildings and situate opposite existing sheds. This would not be seen from the road.

Following discussion it was proposed by Mrs. Turner, seconded Mr. Foy and unanimously **resolved** that there was no objection to the application.

Little Upton Bridge Farm, Langport Road: Conversion of 2 barns into 1 dwelling and 1 holiday let together with associated access, parking and turning.

In view of the nature of the application Mrs Turner reported that a site meeting has been arranged with the Planning Officer for next Tuesday at 11am.

Poplins, 2 Glebe Yard, Martock Road: Removal of a window and the installation of an enlarged replacement window. Permission granted by SSDC.

9. Finance

Business Reserve A/c	<u>£11845.33</u> (inclusive of 6,000 from Deed of Easement)
Current A/C	903.28
Less A/cs/donations paid last meeting	<u>240.14</u>
	663.14
Add Farm Business Tenancy Rent	148.50
Precept	<u>6800.00</u>
	<u>£7611.64</u>

A/cs for payment:

Aon Ltd – Insurance Renewal	1232.67
Pinnacle Accountancy Services - Fee for Internal Audit	94.00
Petty Cash	<u>50.00</u>
	1376.67

It was proposed the Chairman seconded Mrs. Turner and agreed that the above accounts be paid and that £5,000 should be transferred from the Current A/c to the Business Reserve A/c.

10. Neighbourhood Watch/Community Safety

Mr. Gould’s monthly report was circulated to Councillors.

Mr. Gould said that Community Speedwatch was launched on 30th April. Volunteers, in conjunction with the Police, monitored speed at Martock Road. Two offenders were stopped and spoken to by the Police. Another session is to take place tomorrow afternoon at Martock Road.

He said that a lot of residents do not like the context of judging their fellow man and he is contacting Long Load to explore the idea of their volunteers attending Long Sutton and vice versa.

It is hoped the speedwatch can be extended to Langport Road and the Police are going to come and carry out a further risk assessment.

A meeting with Pam Harvey the SSDC Civil Contingencies Manager to review the work undertaken by LS is scheduled for May.

Mr. Gould is also assisting SSDC by attending an evening for the Parishes of Area South to explain the scheme that LS is adopting.

A stall is to be held at the Village Fete along with other agencies to promote the Community Resilience Project a recruit further volunteers.

Meetings with the Local Authority, Police and other Agencies are ongoing.

11. Lengthman’s Scheme

Mr. Foy reported that the job description has to be finalised and a Contract between the 5 Parishes (Aller, Long Load, High Ham, Pitney and Long Sutton) and the Lengthsman drawn up. The aim being to go to publication at the end of May for two weeks following which a short list will be made and interviews conducted. If all goes well, it is hoped that the Scheme will be up and running by September.

The Contract with the Lengthsman is to be for 35 hours per week at £12 per hour for 43 weeks per year.

Chris Cooper the Streetscene Manager is being consulted on the prioritisation of jobs.

Notification has been received from SSDC of the Grant Award of £5,000 per year for 3 years. The Acceptance of Grant Offer was signed by the Chairman.

12. Parish Plan and Parish Website

Nothing new to report.

13. Affordable Housing

The Chairman reported that contact has been made with Mark Dillon of Yarlington with a view to re-visiting the site at Parsons Close. A site meeting is to be held on 19th May at 9.30 am.

14. New Model Standing Orders

Standing Orders, based on the New Model Standing Orders, have been received from SALC for completion and adoption. Copies were circulated to Councillors and the Chairman requested that they read these before the next meeting when a sub-committee will be appointed to make recommendations prior to adoption.

15. Village Hall :

It was confirmed that the AGM of the Trustee (the Parish Council) will take place at 7 pm on 8th June 2010 prior to the Council's June meeting.

16. Representative Reports and matters regarding:

(a) Footpaths

The management of the rights of way in Somerset will be undertaken by SCC and a re-structuring of the Rights of Way Team has taken place. There are now 7 Area Wardens and Long Sutton is covered by Area 7 Warden, George Montague. Informal meetings have been arranged and there is to be one at LS Golf Club on 7th June 6-7.30pm. Mr. Jones, Mrs. Aitken and Mr. Vaux are to attend. Mr. Jones will speak to Mr. Sheppard the PPLO to enquire if he will also be attending.

(b) Highways

Notification has been received from SCC of the temporary closure of Wagg Drove, Huish Episcopi, for 4 weeks from 17th May 2010 to enable bridge repairs to be carried out.

Ms Jukes reported that the Langport Road sign had been taken off the wall.

It was suggested that there should be a 40 mph limit on the A372 past the junction with Hardings Hill. This was however felt unlikely to be granted.

It was also reported that the sign has been knocked over at the bottom of Hardings Hill and that the sign on the A372/Tengore Lane is still at an odd angle.

(c) Environment

Mr. Paull reported that he had trimmed around the trees from Long Load to LS and scrubbed the village signs. The Chairman thanked him for this.

Mrs. Turner raised the question of whether a Dog Bin should be put at the top of Ilchester Lane. It was however agreed to take no action on this at the present time as money will be tight.

17. Correspondence

SSDC: Survey on how Town & PCs would to received Area North and Standards Committee Agendas in future. It was agreed in both cases that this should be a condensed version sent electronically.

Avon & Somerset Police Authority Newsletter.

SSDC: Feedback from Area North Forum 10 March 2010.

Somerset Waste: Review of Somerset's Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy. Final Stakeholder Workshops to be held on 14th & 19th May at The Exchange, Express Park, Bridgwater.

Somerset Heritage Month – 1st to 6th June 2010.

Somerset Community Safety Newsletter.

18. Date of next meeting - 8th June 2010 at 7.30 pm

19. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting

The Chairman reported that the Friendly Society have requested permission to stop on the Village Green with the Band on Club Day (5th June) and also to erect a small tent for their refreshments. This was approved by the PC.
The Chairman and Mr. Paull will trim around the trees.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm

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