

Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council
held at the Hall on Tuesday 1st July 2008 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: Mrs. J.R. Turner (Madam Chair), Mr. R.C. Vaux, Mr. D.C. Paull, Mr. M.J. Willoughby, Miss P. Jukes, Mr. C.J. Greenfield, Mr. J.A. Ellerbeck and Mr. A.D. Jones. County Councillor Mr. D. Yeomans, District Councillor Mr. G.R. Cox and 3 members of the public.

Apologies: -

1. Declarations of Interest - None.

Madam Chair reminded Councillors of the Code of Conduct/Standing Orders with regard to declarations of interest and suggested that all Councillors should familiarise themselves with the procedure when making a declaration.

2. Minutes of meeting held on 3 June 2008 - copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved and signed by Madam Chair as a true record.

3. Matters Arising - None raised.

4. County Councillor's Report

Mr. Yeomans reported that there will be no SSDC slush fund this year. The Somerset Waste Board has had its first budget and has come out with a small profit. There is to be a national strike 17-19 July which could affect waste collections.

5. District Councillor's Report

Mr. Cox reported that he had been to London for the National Scrutiny Awards and had come second in the award for Chairman of the Year, behind Birmingham City Council. He was congratulated on this.

He said that he had supported the PC's recommendations regarding the planning applications in respect of 1 Cross Lane and West Knole House but had gone with the Planning Officer's recommendation in respect of Pitts Farm.

He also informed the PC of the position regarding the applications by LS Golf Club and in answer to questions tabled by Councillors, explained the planning process.

Madam Chair thanked Mr. Cox for his support at the recent Area North Committee meeting.

6. Planning:

LS Post Office: Installation of a satellite dish to south facing wall. It was agreed that there was no objection.

Badgers Holt, Crouds Lane: Change of use of land to form extension to residential curtilage.

Madam Chair closed the meeting to enable the owner of the neighbouring property to address the Council.

On resumption of the meeting and following discussion, it was unanimously agreed to object to the application on the grounds that this would be encroaching into open countryside and was excessive in size for garden curtilage.

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Councillor Mr. Jones left the meeting at 8.12 pm.

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Tarset House, Shute Lane: Erection of an extension to dwellinghouse and a garage extension. It was proposed by Mr. Vaux, seconded Mr. Willoughby and unanimously agreed that there was no objection to the extension but that it should be requested that conditions should be attached to prohibit this being used as a holiday let or sold off separately in the future.

Long Sutton Farm, Sutton Hill: Erection of a building comprising Garage/Studio. Madam Chair reported that following advertisement and consultation with Councillors, no objections had been raised.

Permissions granted by SSDC:

LS Golf Club: Erection of a 31 bedroom lodge extension to the existing golf clubhouse and Erection of 2 single storey extensions to form a pro-shop and bar extension. Madam Chair reported that all parking issues had been dealt with.

Long Sutton Primary School: Alterations and the erection of an extension.

Highbrooks Farm, Langport Road, Catsgore: Conversion of attic space over garage to create additional living accommodation.

5 Bineham Court, Bineham Road, Knole: Change of roofing materials of conservatory from glass to slate.

Permission refused by SSDC: Orchard Farm, Knole: Alterations and conversion of games room ancillary to Orchard Farm to self contained holiday let.

Application withdrawn: Greenhill Barton, Pitney Hill: Continued use of property as a care centre for people with autism:

7. Finance

Current A/C	1066.05
Add Transfer from Reserve A/C	
	<u>600.00</u>
	1666.05
Less Sums paid last meeting	<u>1306.39</u>
	<u>£359.66</u>
Business Reserve A/C	11380.31
Consideration for Deed of Access	<u>6000.00</u>
	17380.31
Less Transfer to Current A/C	<u>600.00</u>
	<u>£16780.31</u>
A/Cs for payment:	
Petty Cash	30.00
Mr. S Sensier - Copying Expenses Re Parish Plan	62.72

It was proposed Madam Chair, seconded Mr. Greenfield and agreed that the accounts be paid.

The Clerk reported that the Annual Return for the year ending 31st March 2008 had been sent off to Moore Stephens, the Accountants in Bath. The audit date having been agreed as 30th June.

8. Parish Plan

Copies of the Draft Plan having been distributed to Councillors prior to the commencement of the meeting, Madam Chair requested that Councillors read this and report back with any comments or suggestions they might have.

9. Affordable Housing

Madam Chair said that there was nothing new to report.

10. Village Hall : Operating Instructions

Following discussion, the question was raised as to whether the PC was in a position to approve the version of the Operating Instructions previously circulated to Councillors. It was therefore proposed by Mr Vaux, seconded Madam Chair and unanimously agreed that these should be forwarded to Peter Lacey of SALC to ensure that he now considers these to be in order.

Madam Chair reported that the Village Hall has no fulltime Booking Clerk at the present time and an advert has been placed for a Booking Clerk and Treasurer.

She also requested permission on behalf of the Village Hall Committee to carry out maintenance to the Hall floor in the sum of £940. This was unanimously agreed.

The Register of Playground Inspections was tabled for Councillors' perusal.

11. Representative Reports and matters regarding:

(a) Footpaths

It was mentioned that a roller at the Recreation Ground was obstructing the footpath up towards the A372 and a suggestion was made that a sign should be placed to direct walkers through the Recreation Ground towards the A372. Madam Chair will seek to get these matters resolved.

Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 Sec 53 Applications to modify the Definitive Map and Statement by upgrading Restricted Byways (RB) to Byways Open to All Traffic (BOATs): SCC say that the High Court Case of November 2007 has recently been over ruled by the Court of Appeal. Applications submitted by the Trail Riders Fellowship, which included the upgrading of RUPP L21/54 to a BOAT (Knole Hill Lane), are now considered under that judgment to be non compliant and therefore will not be determined by SCC. The status of these applications will now remain as restricted byways.

(b) Highways

(i) Litter Bin A372: Mr. Ellerbeck reported that a Metal Guppy Litter Bin with fixings had been ordered in the sum of £330.46 plus VAT.

(ii) Speedwatch: Madam Chair said that this is a matter which has arisen as a result of the Parish Plan Survey. No-one was prepared to take this on 4-5 years ago. A note is to be put in the Newsletter to see if there is any interest now.

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Councillor Mr. Greenfield left the meeting at 9 pm

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Other matters reported:

- (i) Temporary road closure - Hanging Chapel, Langport. 4 days from 15 August.
- (ii) That grass cuttings are being deposited in the hedge at Crouds Lane.
- (iii) It is difficult to see left at the Junction of the A372/B3151 due to overhanging vegetation.
- (iv) Glebeland to the Old Vicarage: It is not possible to push a pushchair on the pavement.
- (v) That the parking of a Land Rover on the B3151 is causing concern. Madam Chair will talk to the local Police.

(c) Environment:

(i) Lower End of Village Green: It was agreed that this should be left as it is for the time being and looked at again when the autumn starts. The matter will continue to be ongoing.

(ii) Vandalism: Madam Chair said that she had spoken to the Police regarding the local vandalism which is taking place and she encouraged all residents to report any incident, whereupon the Police will build up a record to enable them to take the matter further.

Mr. Ellerbeck stated that there have been reports of men with dogs illegally coursing for hares on private farmland around Knole. Their activities have been reported to the Police who are keen to receive reports of further sightings of a Silver Van Reg. HG04 PYJ and any sightings of coursing taking place.

Other matters:

Madam Chair requested that the trees at Ilchester Lane be inspected.

12. Correspondence

Solar Boat Demonstration 10th July 10am to 2pm on the River Parrett at Cocklemoor, Langport.

Ringing in the Olympics in the South West Sun 24th August 3.45 pm. An invitation to bellringers and parishes throughout the region.

Somerset Local Initiatives Budget for County Councillors. Madam Chair said that she had looked at this and it is necessary to meet strict criteria in order to obtain any funding.

13. Date of next meeting – Madam Chair said that a meeting would be held in August to discuss any planning applications and the Parish Plan. The next full Council meeting will be on 2nd September 2008.

14. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting

Madam Chair said that £300 funding for the updating of the website had been obtained and she felt that Mr. Steve Sensier was the best man to ask to investigate this.

The following matters were reported:

That there was a car in the hedge on the A372 near the turning to Mundys Court following a road traffic accident.

The hedge is overhanging the footpath at Langport Road and outside Crows Nest at New Street.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm