

Minutes of Horsington Parish Council Meeting

On Thursday 11th July 2019 at St Margaret's Hall, Horsington

DRAFT

Public Forum

The applicants for planning application 19/01217/FUL provided an overview on their application.

County / District Councillors Reports

W Wallace reported that, after difficult times at Somerset County Council, the finances are now in a better position with reserves up from £11 million to £16 million.

H Burt reported that the process to review the SSDC Local Plan has started and that drop in sessions are being held around the area. The nearest is in Wincanton on 27th August.

Mr Burt also reported that SSDC is sponsoring play days for children around the area during the summer.

36. Members Present and Apologies

a. Members present: Mrs J Pyne (Chair), Mrs B Mann, Mrs J Hodges, Mrs A Clayton, Mrs J Godson, M Tucker & I Snowden.

b. Public present: H Burt, W Wallace, D Chapman (Clerk) & 2 members of the public.

c. Apologies: none

37. Declarations of Interest / Dispensation - none

38. Approve the draft minutes of the meeting on 13th June 2019

Proposed by M Tucker and seconded by Mrs J Hodges.

39. Matters arising from minutes

Mrs A Clayton reported that Spencer Hitchman has cleared the fallen tree on the footpath by his property.

Clerk reported that Somerset County Council arborist will check the dead horse chestnut tree alongside the A357.

Mrs Godson reported that she had spoken to Gary Warren at the Highways Department and he was not in favour of showing both Horsington and South Cheriton on the proposed village signs on the A357. Clerk confirmed that he had written to Mr Warren confirming that Councillors were not happy with just showing one name as this would cause confusion at South Cheriton due to Cabbage Lane having a Horsington postal address. Mrs Pyne suggested that a signs showing the speed limit with the words 'please drive carefully' could be erected. It was agreed that the Clerk should ask Mr Warren if this is feasible.

Mrs Pyne confirmed that the Parish Council is a committee and that contact with third party agencies, such as the Highways Department, should be through the Clerk unless a task has been specifically delegated to an individual Councillor.

Mrs J Hodges raised concerns about the speed of traffic travelling through Horsington village and asked if the Police speed check cameras could be deployed in the village. Clerk will ask PCSO John Winfield.

40. Planning

Applications: none

19/01217/FUL – Feltham Farm, Marshbarn Farm Lane, Horsington BA8 0EN – demolition of modern farm house and proposed replacement dwelling within existing domestic curtilage. New site entrance to a minor road, replacing an existing site entrance. Wider earthworks including the creation of a pond, irrigation ditches and raised earth ramparts – **no objections**

W Wallace left the meeting.

Determinations:

19/00918/LBC – 7 Manor court, Tower Hill, Horsington BA8 0ET – replacement windows and doors to property – granted – **noted**.

Other: It was reported that a planning application has been submitted to SSDC regarding the demolition of agricultural buildings and the erection of a detached dwelling at Land adjacent Springfield, Marshbarn Farm Lane, Horsington. This application will be discussed at the Parish Council meeting in August.

41. Restoration of Finger Post Signs

Mrs A Clayton reported that the work to refurbish the sign at Mead Lane sign has been completed. Mrs Clayton also reported that an article has been produced for the Villager magazine providing an update and thanking the people who had helped.

42. Finance

a. Authorised Cheques

1161 - £168.00 – D Chapman – Clerk's salary July 2019

1162 - £45.02 – D Chapman – Clerk's expenses May – July 2019

1163 - £560.00 – R J Peters – grass cutting at play area & village June 2019

1164 – 260.00 – S Hawkins - grass cutting at cemetery & village hall June 2019

1165 - £23.22 – R Worsley – postcrete for finger post sign at Mead Lane

b. Monies Received

£50.00 – interment of ashes in grave A23/A24

£75.00 – headstone R Hodges – grave F19

£75.00 – headstone R Peters – grave D28

£150.00 – donation towards play area from local resident.

43. Play Area

Mrs Pyne reported that she has received a quote of £1,965 + VAT for supplying 2 cradle swings, a cradle swing seat, a tyre swing seat and basketball hoop backboard. It is the intention to get the man who fitted the play area equipment last year to fit the swings as he is cheaper and SSDC approved. Councillors agreed that Mrs Pyne should go ahead and place the order.

Clerk will ask W Wallace if can make a donation from his Health & Wellbeing budget.

Clerk reported that the Somerset Playing Fields Association would charge between £200 and £250 to perform the annual inspection and risk assessment reports but that another company would charge £55 and is one of the companies that are recommended by SSDC. It was agreed to use that company.

Mrs J Hodges reported the local resident who installed the self closing gates has changed the spring on one of them. She also reported that the fence has been damaged.

Mrs Pyne reported that she will ask Mr Peters to trim along the hedge in the small play area.

44. Cemetery / Churchyard

The cemetery charges were reviewed and compared to other local cemeteries. It was agreed to increase the cost of erecting a headstone to £100 and the burial cost to £100 for an adult and £50 for a child.

It was reported that the Clerk and I Snowden have registered on the Government website to start the process of challenging the rates charge for the cemetery and that it is being pursued.

Mrs A Clayton reported that she is following up with the company who claim to be able to get a refund of the rates already paid. It was also noted that another company has been in touch that offers the same service. Mrs Clayton will investigate.

45. Horse Pond

M Tucker and I Snowden will speak to the local farmer about the best way to extract the silt and the timing for putting it on a local farmer's land.

46. Footpaths

Nothing to report.

47. Newsletter

Nothing to report.

48. Road & Local Signage

Covered under Matters arising from minutes above.

49. Correspondence

National Association of Local Councils – changes to the regulations regarding access to Parish Council websites – **M Tucker offered to investigate and see how it would affect the Parish Council, particularly as we use the Village Hall website.**

South Somerset District Council - consultation regarding the review of the South Somerset Local Plan - **noted.**

Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service – consultation regarding changes to the service delivery – **it was noted that the changes do not affect fire stations in this area of Somerset.**

South Somerset District Council – consultation regarding SSDC environment strategy – **noted.**

50. Any other business of importance

Mrs Pyne reported that a local resident intends to arrange an event to celebrate the 75th VE anniversary in May next year. A marquee will be erected on the large play area. The local resident will arrange the necessary insurance. Any profits will be donated to the play area equipment project.

Clerk reported that a resident of South Cheriton had complained about the speed of cyclists travelling through the village during a recent event. Councillors did not know who organised of the event.

Two Councillors raised concerns regarding a recent planning application where the Clerk had checked with the Somerset Association of Local Councils whether a Councillor needed to declare an interest in the application. The legal advice was that the Councillor concerned should declare an interest at the meeting but they were not informed until they arrived at the meeting. The Clerk agreed that he should have passed on the advice received sooner. The Clerk said that this was an oversight and apologised to the Councillor concerned.

A discussion took place regarding the fact that the applicant had shown the Chairman the plans prior to the meeting. The Vice Chairman reported that he had also been shown the plans before the meeting. Councillors noted that the all the details, including the plans, were available on the SSDC website prior to the meeting for anyone to look at.

Meeting closed 21:15

Date of next meeting: Thursday 8th August 2019