

Minutes of Horsington Parish Council Meeting

On Thursday 8th August 2019 at St Margaret's Hall, Horsington

DRAFT

Public Forum

A local resident reported that he had encountered problems with the amount of water that had recently been released from the Horse Pond. I Snowden stated that he was trying to reduce the water level, while being careful not to harm the wildlife, but would try not to allow so much water to be released in one go next time.

The applicant for planning application 19/01264/FUL provided an overview on the application. The owners of the neighbouring property raised concerns about the effect on wildlife and raised concerns about the access to the proposed dwelling. The applicant and his agent confirmed that an ecological report has been commissioned and offered to investigate the possibility of moving the access if the Planning and Highways Departments agree.

The new owners of Cheriton House introduced themselves and reported that they have submitted planning applications to build a single storey extension and make alterations to form a stable and provide a groom's accommodation. The Chairman stated that the Parish Council was not able to discuss the applications at the meeting because no documents had been received from the SSDC Planning Department. Clerk reported that an extension until the September meeting has been requested but that a reply had not been received yet as the Planning Officer is away until 19th August.

County / District Councillors Reports

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.

51. Members Present and Apologies

- a. **Members present:** Mrs J Pyne (Chair), Mrs B Mann, Mrs J Hodges, Mrs J Godson, M Tucker & I Snowden.
- b. **Public present:** H Burt, D Chapman (Clerk) & 6 members of the public.
- c. **Apologies:** Mrs A Clayton

52. Declarations of Interest / Dispensation – M Tucker declared an interest in planning application 19/01624/FUL as the applicant is his landlord.

53. Approve the draft minutes of the meeting on 11th July 2019

Proposed by Mrs B Mann and seconded by M Tucker.

54. Matters arising from minutes

Clerk reported that a map showing the location of the dead horse chestnut tree on the A357 has been supplied to the Somerset County Council Highways Department so that they can investigate and follow up with the County Council arborist.

M Tucker reported that the new legislation regarding the information on websites should not cause problems and will mean some documents being uploaded in a different format.

55. Planning

Applications:

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

19/01624/FUL – Land Adjacent Springfield, Marshbarn Farm Lane, Horsington BA8 0EN – demolition of agricultural buildings and erection of detached dwelling – the agent for the applicant reported that an ecological report is being produced and that the Planning Department will defer a decision until this has been

received and considered. M Tucker declared an interest and left the meeting while the vote took place – **Councillors had no objections in principle, subject to the Environmental Report.**

It was felt that consideration should be given to moving the access so that it provided a separate access, removing the need for a shared access with the neighbouring property.

M Tucker returned to the meeting.

19/01854/HOU – 54 Barbary Close, South Cheriton BA8 0BG – erection of a replacement garage – **no objections.**

19/02018/AGN – Land adjoining Barley Lands, Cabbage Lane, Horsington – notification of intent to erect an agricultural storage building. For information only - **no comments.**

Determinations:

19/00760/FUL – The Hollies, Cabbage Lane, Horsington BA8 0DA – demolition of existing dwelling and agricultural building and erection of a replacement dwelling together with change of use of land for residential curtilage and formation of a new access and driveway (revised application 18/02075/FUL – granted – **noted.**

Other: It was reported that planning application 19/01069/OUT for Land Adjoining 17 Batchpool Lane will be considered at the SSDC Area East Regulation Committee on Wednesday 14th August at the SSDC Churchfields Office in Wincanton and that members of the public may make representations. Mrs Pyne reported that she had declined to make representations on behalf of the Parish Council as there were no further comments to make in addition to the response already submitted.

56. Finance

a. Authorised Cheques

1166 - £66.00 – The Play Area Inspection Company Ltd – annual play area inspection

1167 - £168.00 – D Chapman – Clerk's salary August 2019

1168 - £380.00 – R J Peters – grass cutting at play area & village July 2019

1169 – £338.00 – S Hawkins - grass cutting at cemetery & village hall July 2019

b. Monies Received – none

57. Play Area

The annual play area inspection / risk assessment report was reviewed and discussed. Mrs Pyne said that the report had mentioned the swings and walking trail but this had been expected.

The issue with the finger trap on the multi unit is being pursued with the company that installed it. It was noted that the report said that no action was required.

It was agreed that Mrs Pyne and the Clerk would get quotes for various options for the fencing and picnic table. The problem with the basket ball hoop will be sorted when the new swings are replaced.

It was thought that the problem with the finger trap on the gate could be solved when the fence is repaired.

Clerk reported that W Wallace may be able to donate a few hundred pounds from his Health & Wellbeing budget.

58. Cemetery / Churchyard

Clerk reported that a list of the new cemetery charges, agreed at the last meeting, has been posted on the Parish Council page of the website.

Clerk reported that a detailed valuation has been received regarding the rateable value of the cemetery. Mrs Pyne thought that it may be best to use the company that had offered to challenge the rates and get a refund as well as stopping the payment of rates in the future. It was agreed to discuss this again at the next meeting.

59. Horse Pond

Mr Tucker reported that he and Mr Snowden had been investigating the removal of silt from the silt trap in the pond. Mr Tucker reported that Crestmoor could do the work for either £2,300 for digging out the silt or £3,300 for pumping out the silt and there would be an additional charge for the use of temporary traffic lights. Crestmoor have the necessary permits and insurance. The cheaper alternative, preferred by Mr Snowden would be to use a local farmer to do the work but he would not have the necessary permits and there were concerns about the insurance cover. Mr Snowden expressed a preference for using the local farmer but the remaining Councillors felt that it was better to use Crestmoor as they have the necessary permits and insurance. It was agreed that Mr Tucker contact Crestmoor and arrange for the work to be done at the best price possible and keep the Chairman and Clerk informed.

60. Footpaths

Mrs Mann reported that she and Mrs Clayton had recently walked the paths around Cabbage Lane, Hull Lane and Hanglands and found that the paths are over grown with some stiles broken and the yellow directional arrows missing.

Mrs Mann will revisit the paths with some secateurs and will mark the broken stiles on a map so that they can be reported on the Somerset County Council website. Clerk will also ask Eve Wynn for some new yellow markers.

61. Newsletter

It was suggested that an article regarding the removal of the silt from the Horse Pond could be included.

62. Road & Local Signage

Clerk reported that Gary Warren, Traffic Engineer from Somerset County Council had suggested placing signs saying 'Please drive carefully through our villages' on the existing signs on the A357 at the approaches to Horsington and South Cheriton and had supplied a map confirming the locations of the signs. Councillors were in agreement with this.

Councillors discussed the proposed street name signs at Houndsmill and Church Lane. It was noted that these signs had been requested without the matter having been previously agreed at a Parish Council meeting. The matter was put to a vote and the majority of Councillors were opposed to the installation of these signs. Clerk to contact SSDC and check to see if the signs have already been manufactured. If they have not been manufactured the project should be put on hold.

63. Correspondence

Somerset County Council – scheme to run road safety presentations for older drivers in village halls. Clerk reported that it had been passed onto the Chairman of the village hall – **noted**.

South Somerset District Council – Audit of SSDC shows that finances are secure as Transformation continues - **noted**.

Hastoe Housing Association – regarding the mutual exchange of a resident of Houndsmill with a lady (with a child) from Milborne Port. **Councillors had no objections on this occasion as long as it did not set a precedent for the future.**

64. Any other business of importance

Mrs J Hodges raised the idea of a project for fund raising for the Play Area which would involve starting a 50:50 club. Councillors agreed that fund raising for the Play Area was a good idea. Clerk thought that the Parish Council may be prevented legally from fund raising but would take legal advice from SALC and SSDC.

Mr Snowden asked that, when considering planning applications for replacing agricultural barns with houses, should weight be given to the fact the barns had become dilapidated because this may encourage farmers to allow this to happen. Councillors agreed but said that the state of the current buildings is one of the factors taken into account when considering applications.

Meeting closed 21:30

Date of next meeting: Thursday 12th September 2019