

Minutes of Horsington Parish Council Meeting

On Thursday 12th September 2019 at St Margaret's Hall, Horsington

DRAFT

Public Forum

The applicants for planning applications 19/01984/LBC & 19/01983/FUL provided an overview on the applications and confirmed that the premises will be used for private use only.

The agents for planning appeals 3229456 & 3229397 gave an overview of the applications involved.

County / District Councillors Reports

W Wallace gave his belated apologies for not attending the last meeting.

Mr Wallace also reported that he has money available under the Health & Wellbeing budget. Mrs Pyne reported a new picnic table is needed for the Play Area. Mr Wallace asked for further information so that he can process a funding request.

65. Members Present and Apologies

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

b. Public present: W Wallace, D Chapman (Clerk) & 4 members of the public.

c. Apologies: Mrs A Clayton & M Tucker

66. Declarations of Interest / Dispensation – Mrs J Godson declared an interest in planning appeal references 3229456 & 3229397 as she owns the property.

67. Approve the draft minutes of the meeting on 12th September 2019

Proposed by Mrs B Mann and seconded by I Snowden.

68. Matters arising from minutes

Clerk reported that a Somerset County Council Highways Department have served a notice on the owner of the land, where the dead horse chestnut tree along the A357 is situated, for the removal of branches that cause potential hazard to highway users. This may well need the tree to be felled.

Clerk reported that advice from the Somerset Association of Local Councils is that the Parish Council cannot set up a 50:50 draw to raise funds for the Play Area. SALC suggested that a community group could be set up separately from the Parish Council by interested local residents. Clerk has asked SSDC if they can provide any information or advice.

69. Planning

Applications:

APP/R3325/W/19/3229456 & APP/W/19/3229397 Appeal in respect of planning applications decision references 18/02220/LBC & 18/02218/FUL - Land South of St John the Baptist Church, Church Lane, Horsington – demolition of outbuildings and the erection of a dwelling together with associated landscaping. Mrs J Godson declared an interest and left the meeting. **Clerk to respond stating that Councillors stand by their previous comments and that they still strongly oppose these applications.**

Mrs J Godson returned to the meeting.

19/01567/HOU - The Gardens, Behind Hayes, South Cheriton BA8 0BP – demolition of existing outbuildings and the erection of a 3 bay oak framed car port with dormer windows – **no objections.**

19/01984/LBC & 19/01983/FUL Cheriton House, High Road, Horsington BA8 0BS – single storey extension to existing garage to form a stable yard. Minor internal alterations of the ground floor to reinstate existing stables. Conversion of part first floor above stables to provide groom's accommodation. Additional windows on south elevation first floor – **no objections.**

19/01902/FUL - Cheriton House, High Road, Horsington BA8 0BS – erection of a new agricultural barn, horse arena with lighting columns, lunge horse walker and access track the applicants confirmed that the property would be used for personal use only and would not be used as a business. Concerns were raised about the lights. The applicants offered observe a curfew on the lights after 10pm. **Councillors had no objections subject to a condition being added regarding the lights not being used after 10pm.**

19/02326/TCA Barton Ridge, Horsington BA8 0EF – application to carry out tree works within a conservation area – for information only – **no objections.**

Determinations:

19/01854/HOU – 54 Barbary Close, South Cheriton BA8 0BG – erection of a replacement garage – granted – **noted.**

Other: Clerk reported that it is understood that planning application 19/01069/OUT for Land Adjoining 17 Batchpool Lane has been approved but that there is no confirmation of this on the SSDC website – **noted.**

70. Finance

a. Authorised Cheques

1170 - £168.00 – D Chapman – Clerk's salary September 2019

1171 - £240.00 – PKF Littlejohn LLP – external auditor's fees for 2018-2019 accounts

1172 - £355.00 – R J Peters – grass cutting at play area & village August 2019

1173 – £273.00 – S Hawkins - grass cutting at cemetery & village hall August 2019

b. Monies Received – none

c. Other – Clerk reported that the external auditors have signed off the 2018-2019 accounts and the necessary notices have been posted on the notice boards and the website.

71. Play Area

Mrs J Pyne reported that the problems with the fencing is not as bad as first thought and that only two concrete spurs and a new rail are needed. It was agreed that she could go ahead and get the work done.

Mrs Pyne also reported that advice received from SSDC Locality Officer is that the Parish Council do not legally have to provide a fence only a barrier.

A replacement picnic table made out of recycled plastic that is wheelchair friendly was considered to be a good idea. The cost of the table is £475. W Wallace will try and getting funding.

72. Cemetery / Churchyard

Clerk reported that, under new Government Regulations, Parish Councils can no longer charge for the families of children under 18 years of age for grave plots, burials and erection of monuments. These costs can now be reclaimed directly from the Government. Mrs Pyne will change the list Cemetery charges.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should go ahead with the offer from Goodman Nash to recover the rates paid on the Cemetery and prevent the payment of rates in the future. This is subject to it being on a 'no win no fee' basis. It was agreed that if this is unsuccessful the course of challenging the rates through the Valuation Office should be pursued.

Mrs Mann reported that raised some queries from Steve Hawkins, who maintains the Cemetery. It was agreed that he should cut back the overhanging trees on the right hand side. Regarding the planting of flowers on graves this is against the Cemetery rules and that it is up to grave owners to keep them tidy.

Mrs Pyne is trying to get a key to the land at the rear of the Village Hall to make grass cutting easier.

Mrs Hodges reported that she had been asked if the yew trees in the Churchyard could be cut. I Snowden stated that the SSDC Tree Officer has said, in the past, that we cannot cut back the large tree. Mrs Pyne will ask R Peters to look at the others.

73. Horse Pond

It was reported that the silt in the silt trap in the pond has now been removed. M Tucker got the best possible price from Crestmoor and the work was done as soon as possible to fall in with the timescales of the farmer where the silt was spread.

74. Footpaths

Clerk handed Mrs Mann some yellow markers supplied by Eve Wynn at Somerset County Council Footpaths Department.

75. Newsletter

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

76. Road & Local Signage

Clerk reported that Gary Warren, Traffic Engineer from Somerset County Council, says that the new village signs should be installed within three months. Mr Warren will also arrange for the existing road signs to be cleaned.

Clerk also reported that SSDC has put the proposed new street name signs at Houndsmill and Church Lane on hold but that they may decide to install at a later date.

77. Correspondence

South Somerset District Council – purchase of B&Q store at Glastonbury - **noted.**

Somerset Playing Fields Association – Playground Awareness & Inspection Training – **noted.**

78. Any other business of importance

I Snowden asked that the Clerk to provide an analysis of grass cutting costs for the current year and a comparison with the costs for last year. Clerk will provide the details of the costs for the next meeting.

Clerk reported that Mrs A Clayton attended recent SSDC Local Plan consultation and that it is proposed that Templecombe is included in a new planning category of 'Village' that will mean that it is more likely to have to take larger development projects.

Meeting closed 21:05

Date of next meeting: Thursday 10th October 2019