

15.01.19

Summonses to the bi-monthly business Meeting of Sampford Peverell Parish Council to be held on Tuesday 15 January 2019 in the Committee Room of the Memorial Hall, Lower Town, Sampford Peverell, starting at 7.00 pm, were distributed with the agenda to all Members by e-mail on 8 January 2019.

Agenda

As distributed.

2018/19/071

The Chairman, Cllr David Cutts, opened the meeting at 7.01 pm and welcomed Cllr R Radford (DCC) and the Members present.

2018/19/072

Parishioners' Open Forum: no members of the public were present.

2018/19/073

Apologies: Cllr C Holland, Vice-Chairman, had sent apologies for her absence. Also apologies received from Cllr H Bainbridge (MDDC).

Parish Councillors present:

Cllr D Cutts, Chairman:

Cllrs I Adlington, T Burt, H Culpin, J Disney, A Mackenzie, B O'Connell and L Taylor.

2018/19/074

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 27 November 2018 were unanimously approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

- Matters arising: the Clerk confirmed that the Declarations of Registerable Interests of Cllrs Burt and Mackenzie had been handed to Carole Oliphant, MDDC, on 8 January 2019.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee of the Parish Council held on 11 December 2018 were queried by Cllr Adlington, who sought clarification of the financial allocation made towards election expenses. It was agreed to amend minute number 2018/19/068 to state that £500 held as a reserve for GW Canal support would be re-allocated to add to the agreed provision of £1,200 of 'new' money for election expenses, thus totalling £1,700. As amended, the minutes were unanimously approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

- Matters arising: Cllr Adlington asked why the allocated grant to the Village Hall Charity for 2019/20 was only £1,000 instead of the £2,000 of previous years. He stated that the Charity needs support from the Parish Council and asked that his concern be recorded in the minutes.

[Cllr Collis (MDDC) joined the meeting at 7.30 pm]

- Declarations of Interests: none made.

2018/19/075

Discussion with Cllr R Radford (DCC) and with Cllr Collis (MDDC) on local issues:

Cllr Radford has stated that he has been told that there is no requirement to improve access to and from the NDLR at Sampford Peverell as a condition for development at SP2 (see minutes of November meeting of SPPC). The proposed size of development at SP2 could not justify the expense of these road-works. It was explained to Cllr Radford that local concerns were being expressed about extra traffic generated by the Eastern Urban Extension in Tiverton which, in the absence of the new slip roads, would have to pass through the village to access Tiverton Parkway Station. Cllr Radford believes that there is no money available for the work.

Cllr Radford stated that DCC has a £4.8 million overspend in its budget for 2019/20, mostly due to children's services, but he is optimistic that a balanced budget will eventually be achieved.

continued.....

2018/19/075 continued.....

Cllr Collis added that MDDC's Audit Committee will be meeting in the next week to address their budget issues.

Cllr Disney asked for support in her bid to have the toilets re-opened. It was emphasised that the GW Canal Country Park relies on this facility.

[Cllrs Radford and Collis left the meeting at 7.55 pm]

2018/19/076

Planning matters: applications considered by sub-committee/planning decisions notified by MDDC/Appeals notified/new applications and matters notified after 8 January 2019 and enforcement matters: see attached spreadsheet (Planning Applications - November 2018 to January 2019).

It was noted that the Placelands application for development at Higher Town/Turnpike will be heard by Planning Committee on 6 March [subsequently amended to 3 April].

Local Plan hearing to be held from 14 February, with J27 and SP2 on 20 February: noted.

Cllr Culpin will again represent SPPC.

2018/19/077

Finance

a) Payments made since last meeting (27.11.18) as listed under item 5(a) on the meeting agenda.....

001437	23.12.18	£200.00	SP Society: WW1 event support
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One payment already made as above.....noted.

b) Statement of Accounts: as at 31 December 2018 balances were as follows...

Business Reserve account: £3,954.68 (sheet 113) (unchanged)

Current account: £8,926.17 (sheet 317): Members noted that this balance now includes £938.24 held in the name of the former Parish Plan Group and £1,866.41 held in the name of the Sampford Peverell Play Park Appeal).

Reconciliation to bank statements was demonstrated and the Clerk's statement unanimously accepted.

c) Authority to pay accounts rendered:

(i) M J Aspray: Clerk's salary for December 2018 and January 2019: £566.00

(ii) M J Aspray: Clerk's expenses to 9.1.19 as presented to the meeting: £48.06 (includes gift to Mr B Brown re grass cutting, value £10.00)

(iii) Citizens' Advice: donation 2018/19: £75.00

(iv) Mid Devon Mobility: donation 2018/19: £75.00

Four cheques issued with the unanimous agreement of Members.

d) Finance correspondence:

- receipt for £860.00 being third-party payment to Viridor credits re Tennis Club refurbishment of courts and footpath.

- the Parish Magazine has again offered the Parish Council a donation of £1,680.00: the Parish Council is asked to nominate one or more projects for this money. Various suggestions in support of the Village Hall Charity discussed, the favourite being a fence on the eastern side of the Playing Field. Quotations have been requested: decision will be made when these are to hand.

Other suggestions included re-painting of seats and bus shelter cleaning.

e) Viridor legal charge: investigation is still ongoing.

2018/19/078

Reports from Working Group (WG) Chairmen and holders of individual portfolios:

- Communications and Engagement WG: the meeting agreed that SPPC meeting dates should be published in 'Parish News'.

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2018/19/078 continued.....

- Roads, Pavements and Paths WG: Cllr Holland's report on her communications with DCC Highways Officer, Darren Davey, confirmed that the works on Station Road and associated areas are now complete.

A meeting took place on 9 January at Cllr Holland's home involving two members of staff from MDDC, Cllrs Taylor and O'Connor, the Clerk and Cllr Holland, to look at grass cutting in 2019/20. Maps and prices still awaited.

- Affordable Housing WG: Cllr Culpin reported that the Community Land Trust is still searching for a suitable plot of land of about 1 acre.

- Snow Warden: Cllr Adlington had nothing to report.

- Tidiness: a spring litter pick in April will be arranged on a date to be determined.

- Definitive map review: Cllr Disney had nothing to report.

2018/19/079

Other highways and village matters:

- Whitnag Road name sign: this has now been replaced.

- Public toilets in Play Park: due to recent vandalism, these are now locked 24/7 on the instructions of MDDC. Cllr O'Connell has suggested that locking the facility during hours of darkness may help to prevent vandalism. Cllr Disney suggested the use of CCTV cameras as a further deterrent. Cllr Disney will arrange a site meeting with Steve Densham (MDDC) to discuss the way forward. [A meeting took place on 19 February when it was agreed that the toilets would be locked during hours of darkness by SPPC Members.]

- Public car park: no current issues.

- Community Policing: Cllr Disney confirmed that there had been no further meetings.

- Emergency plan development: deferred.

- Trees in Turnpike: the Tree Wardens are to clear bramble growth between the trees, trim branches as necessary and remove the dead cherry tree at the eastern end of the row of trees. No other works will be undertaken.

- Silver birch trees in the Play Park: a clump of three silver birch trees in the SW corner of the Play Park (which are subject to a TPO following an application by SPPC for Conservation Area Consent to prune them three years ago (which was refused) continue to give cause for concern on safety grounds. A report on these trees is required to back any application that SPPC may make for remedial works. 'Four Seasons Tree Services' was invited to make a report, but instead proposed that a survey be carried out by a third party, Bill Crumby Green Trees as an independent arborist. This is estimated to cost £360.00 + VAT and would include all trees in the Play Park. Members discussed this and felt that the price was rather high. They resolved to seek a further quotation: Cllr Mackenzie undertook to ask S Britton, but this tree surgeon declined to quote.

2018/19/080

General Data Protection Regulation: the meeting was advised that the Clerk is working in consultation with Cllr Culpin in the process of drawing up a statement of policy for SPPC.

2018/19/081

Reports by Parish Council representatives:

a) VH & RG Charity Committee: Cllr Adlington advised that there is an outstanding account for Play Park insurance of about £600 due to be paid by the Parish Council. Clerk to arrange.

b) Canal Advisory Committee: Cllr Cutts has circulated a report from Mark Baker which lists work done and to be done during the dormant season.

c) Sampford Peverell Society: Cllr Culpin had nothing to report, but reminded Members that the next meeting of the Society will be on 8 March.

d) SP & District Twinning Association: Cllr Taylor reported that a recent fund-raising jumble sale had been a success.

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2018/19/081 continued.....

e) Tree Wardens: Peter Bowers had outlined the Wardens' programme for the coming months. Noted.

f) Play Park Committee: Cllr Disney called for support for the fund-raising Quiz on 2 March at the 'Globe' Inn.

2018/19/082

Correspondence has been circulated by e-mail: noted.

2018/19/083

Other matters by leave of the Chairman:

Cllr Mackenzie expressed concern about several trees on the Sports Field near to his property.

Cllr O'Connell stated that he would investigate and report back.

2018/19/084

Local Government elections are due to take place on 2 May. The meeting of SPPC due to take place on 26 March 2019 will thus be the last of the present Parish Council.

2018/19/085

Next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 26 March 2019 starting at 7.00 pm in the Committee Room of the Memorial Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9.25 pm.