

28.01.20

Summonses to the bi-monthly business Meeting of Sampford Peverell Parish Council to be held on Tuesday 28 January 2020 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 21 January 2020.

Agenda

As distributed, plus additional business item 9 (vii) 'grass cutting 2020/21' and 'Dogs on Sports Ground' (to be raised under item 13). Note that agenda item 9 (vi) should read 'Community Enhancement Fund'.

2019/20/086

The Chairman, Cllr David Cutts, declared the meeting open at 7.01 pm, welcoming Members present.

2019/20/087

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

2019/20/088

Apologies: Cllr H Culpin.

Parish Councillors present:

Chairman: Cllr D Cutts

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

Apologies from Cllr C Collis (MDDC) received by e-mail.

2019/20/089

- Minutes of the bimonthly business Meeting of the Parish Council held on 26 November 2019 were unanimously approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

- Matters arising: Cllr Adlington, referring to a question that he had raised at the November meeting, sought reassurance that the Parish Council, in declaring a climate emergency and setting a target for emissions, could not be held liable for failure to meet the stated target.

- Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee of the Parish Council held on 10 December 2019 were unanimously approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

- Matters arising: the Clerk confirmed that MDDC had been notified of the required precept for 2020/21. The Chairman has published a note in 'Parish News' regarding the taking over of the public toilets from MDDC and the inevitable increase in the precept as a result.

- Declarations of Interests: none made at either meeting.

2019/20/090

Planning matters: applications considered by sub-committee/planning decisions notified by MDDC/Appeals notified/new applications and matters notified after 21 January 2020 and enforcement matters:

- Members noted the Listed Building Consent granted for works at Turberfield House and the Certificate of Lawful Use for works at 3 Court Way, also the application by DCC for the construction of a MUGA at the primary school. A new application for works at 4 Boobery will be referred to a planning sub-committee for examination.

The meeting was reminded about the Public Meeting called by the 'Save our Sampford' Group on 29 January 2020 at which the Higher Town proposals for development will be discussed.

2019/20/091

Finance

a) Payments made since last business meeting (26.11.19): none.

continued.....

2019/20/091 continued.....

b) Statement of Accounts: as at 7 January 2020 balances were as follows...

Business Reserve account: £3,962.59 (sheet 117)

Current account: £16,182.11 (sheet 335A): Members noted that this balance now includes £938.24 (unchanged) held in the name of the former Parish Plan Group and £40.00 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) SP Village Hall Charity: VAT refund to Play Park Appeal fund: £791.84

(ii) SP Village Hall Charity: VAT refund to the Charity: £1,277.65

(iii) SP Tennis Club: VAT refund re tennis courts works: £6,352.00

(iv) Mid Devon Mobility: donation 2019/20: £50.00

(v) Citizens' Advice: donation 2019/20: £50.00

(vi) M J Aspray: Clerk's salary 12/19 & 1/20: £566.00

(vii) M J Aspray: Clerk's expenses: to be deferred until March meeting

(viii) Bernard O'Connell: payment for toilets cleaning (3 months) (funded by MDDC): £600.00

(ix) Bernard O'Connell: toilets daily locking (two 4-week periods): £224.00

(x) Globe Inn: payment for Public meeting (29 January) room hire: £50.00

Nine cheques issued with the unanimous agreement of Members.

d) Finance correspondence: none.

e) Viridor legal charge re clubhouse: awaiting response from Piers Makin.

2019/20/092

Public Convenience Development Group: Cllr Disney has received information from Steve Densham (MDDC) that MDDC is considering the surrender of the lease and transfer of the building. A number of issues remain outstanding: the asbestos report, funding towards ongoing maintenance costs and the hand-over date. Cllr Disney is seeking a further two builders from which to obtain quotations for the initial conversion works. These quotations are required to secure S106 monies held by MDDC. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Densham to obtain the asbestos report and MDDC's proposals for removal under their duty of care.

2019/20/093

Declaration of a Climate Change Emergency: Cllr Burt reported that he has booked the village hall for a Citizen's Assembly on 14 February 2020. The Declaration of Climate Emergency that he has drawn up was accepted by Members present (but with Cllr Adlington abstaining): it will be discussed at the Assembly on 14 February. Cllr Disney offered to organise refreshments.

Cllr Burt is to arrange to contact the head-teacher of the primary school. He hopes that the school will be supportive.

2019/20/094

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

a) Communications and Engagement WG: a 'Community Showcase' will be organised for a Saturday in the Spring (April to May).

b) Roads, Pavements and Paths WG: the meeting noted that the Chains Road fence still has not been repaired. The Clerk to chase Highways.

c) Affordable Housing WG: it was noted that Cllr Culpin has uploaded the completed housing needs survey onto the Parish Council page of the village website. A need for six affordable rental homes was identified.

continued.....

2019/20/094 continued.....

- d) Snow Warden: Cllr Adlington reported that the spreader is stored in the garage of David King in Whitnage Road.
- e) Tidiness: the next litter pick will be on 18 April 2020. Cllr Burt will insert a notice in the March and April editions of 'Parish News'.

2019/20/095

Other highways and village matters:

- a) Public toilets: Cllr O'Connell confirmed that arrangements for night-time locking remain in place and that no vandalism problems have arisen. Cleaning by Bernie O'Connell also continues, with payment by MDDC made through the Parish Council. Cllr O'Connell reported that the facility is well used, illustrating its value to the community.
- b) Public Rights of Way: Cllr Burt, having written to Stuart Howell (DCC Public Rights of Way Officer) about several issues and received no reply, will chase him for a response and action.
- c) Sampford Lands Charity: Cllr Cutts reported that an Extraordinary General Meeting has not yet taken place.
- d) Devon Air Ambulance: night landing facility. The Clerk to inform the Parish Magazine fund that their proposed donation to SPPC will cover the cost of equipment (£1,654.58) with the balance being put towards the cost of a new notice board for the Village Hall Charity at the village hall.

In a discussion that followed several possible items for expenditure were mentioned by Members: a post and rail fence on the south side of the sports field to define the boundary with adjacent dwellings, also dog bins on the Station Road triangle and the play park. MDDC will need to agree emptying arrangements. The Locality Fund of the County Councillor could help to finance these.

- e) Community Enhancement Fund: details have been passed to Peter Bowers.
- f) Grass cutting 2020/21: the Clerk is to clarify MDDC's prices.

2019/20/096

Discussions with DCC and MDDC Members: none present. Cllr Radford has written a report on County issues which has been circulated to Members on 26 January.

2019/20/097

Reports by Parish Council representatives:

- a) VH & RG Charity Committee: Cllr Adlington reported that the 'Trim Trail' is to go ahead on DCC-owned land. The Canal will provide one piece of equipment and maintain all equipment.
- b) Canal Advisory Committee: Cllr Cutts had nothing to report. The Clerk stated that Mark Baker's reports are published in the Friends' monthly newsletters: those for December 2019 and January 2020 had been circulated since the last SPPC meeting.
- c) Sampford Peverell Society: Cllr Culpin had nothing to report.
- d) SP & District Twinning Association: Cllr L Taylor had nothing to report except that the fund-raising jumble sale on Saturday 11th January had been very successful.
- e) Tree Wardens: Peter Bowers had written with an update on the Wardens' work, including the planting of 5 trees on the sports field. He reported favourable comments regarding the planter and the Christmas tree. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks and appreciation to the Wardens.
- f) Play Park Committee: it was agreed that Cllr Disney would in future report to the Village Hall Charity Committee.

2019/20/098

Correspondence has been circulated by e-mail: noted.

continued.....

2019/20/099

Other matters by leave of the Chairman:

Dogs on the sports field: suggested that a dog bin might assist the problem of dog mess.

2019/20/100

The next bimonthly business meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday
24 March 2020 starting at 7.00 pm in the Committee Room of the Memorial Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9.06 pm.