

27.07.21

Summonses to a business meeting of Sampford Peverell Parish Council to be held in the main hall at the Memorial Hall, Lower Town on Tuesday 27 July 2021, starting at 7.00 pm, were distributed with the agenda to all Members by e-mail on 21 July 2021 by the Clerk.

Agenda

As distributed.

2021/22/029

The Chairman, Cllr David Cutts, declared the meeting open at 7.01 pm. He welcomed Cllr Jo Norton (MDDC) and Members present for the first face-to-face meeting of the Parish Council for over a year. The Clerk, with assistance from Cllr O'Connell representing the Village Hall Committee, had produced a risk assessment paper which had been circulated to Members.

2021/22/030

Parishioners' Open Forum: there were no parishioners present.

2021/22/031

Apologies: Cllr A Mackenzie (on holiday), Cllr H Jackson (motor vehicle accident). Also Cllr R Radford (DCC).

Parish Councillors present: Cllr D Cutts (Chairman): Cllr H Culpin (Vice-Chair):

Cllrs T Burt, B O'Connell, L Taylor, S Taylor, and B Perks.

Cllr J Norton (MDDC) was also present.

Cllr C Collis (MDDC) was not present. The Clerk confirmed that an invitation and agenda had been sent to her.

2021/22/032

Minutes of the virtual 2021 Annual Parish Meeting and of the 2021/22 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 4 May 2021: unanimously approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

- Matters arising: none.

- Declarations of Interests: none made.

2021/22/033

Planning matters: the Clerk had circulated a summary list of planning applications updated to 10 July 2021. Details noted. The Merriemeade is now occupied. although the application for change of use (21/00952/FULL) has not yet been determined by MDDC.

Cllr Norton reported that the application 20/00748/FULL (change of use of land from commercial to residential use, including demolition of a building and erection of a single storey dwelling: 22 Lower Town) will be considered by MDDC's Planning Committee on 11 August 2021.

Several Members had indicated a wish to be advised of planning applications as soon as notified by MDDC. The procedure to be modified by majority vote.

Survey of buildings at risk by MDDC's Conservation Officer: noted.

2021/22/034

Finance

a) Payments made since last business meeting (4.5.21):

(i) 26.5.21: Bernard O'Connell: toilets work (cleaning/locking) 1.4.21 to 31.5.21 (61 days) [cleaning £427.00: locking £122.00]:

£549.00

(ii) 1.6.21: Source for Business: water charges (toilets) 31.3.21 to 19.5.21:

£40.69

continued.....

2021/22/034 a) continued

- (iii) 16.6.21: SPVH&RG Charity: toilets insurance 4.6.21 to 7.10.21:
£6.59
- (iv) 6.7.21: Npower: toilets electricity charges 1.4.21 to 30.4.21:
£38.27

b) Statement of Accounts: as at 14 July 2021 balances were as follows...

Business Reserve account: £3,967.54 (sheet 123)

Current account: £27,517.94 (sheet 358): Members noted that this balance now includes £888.24 (unchanged) held in the name of the former Parish Plan Group and £39.00 held in the name of the Sampford Peverell Play Park Appeal.

Members voted unanimously to accept the statement given. [Copies of the relevant bank statements (nos.123 and 358) were sent to the Chairman following the meeting in order to demonstrate reconciliation. The Chairman has confirmed reconciliation.]

c) Authority to pay accounts rendered:

- i) M J Aspray: Clerk's salary 6 & 7/21: £650.00
- ii) M J Aspray: Clerk's expenses 1.4.21 to 6.7.21: £54.99
- iii) Bernard O'Connell: toilets locking [61 days @ £2.00 per day =
£122.00 **] and toilets cleaning [61 days @ £7.00 per day =
£427.00 **] total £549.00
- iv) Bernard O'Connell: refund of expenses re toilets ##: £77.98
- v) M J Aspray: refund re wine for Internal Auditor: £42.50

** for the period 1.6.21 to 31.7.21 (61 days)

hand cleanser, disinfectants and toilet seat.

Five cheques to be issued with the unanimous approval of Members.

d) other finance matters:

- i) the Chairman reminded Members of the request from Mark Baker (Canal Manager) for support for payment for new bridge name plates. Members had already, by e-mail, indicated their wish to pay the full amount (£566.00) and to seek publicity.
- ii) Village Picnic (15 August): noting that this is a one-off event for the village community, being a post-Covid celebration, Members agreed a £250.00 contribution towards the cost of hiring toilets.

2021/22/035

Public Convenience Development Group:

- Cllr S Taylor is still seeking quotations for the proposed initial works.
- Insurance cover has been arranged through the Village Hall insurers, on the estimated value of £35,000.00. Attempts will be made to seek the professional advice of Mr Rob Castle for a more realistic valuation for insurance purposes.
- Mr O'Connell reported minor incidents of vandalism which he has been able to deal with.
- the existing Sanitary bin remains in place. It is not used.

2021/22/036

Climate Change and environmental issues: Cllr Burt will re-advertise the availability of fruit trees in the September issue of 'Parish News'. He may also repeat his talk (originally given to a restricted audience from the Sampford Peverell Society) in September. Cllr Burt is also hoping to involve the Primary School.

Cllr Burt was asked if other trees could be made available as part of the proposed scheme, for example rowan. He will consult Peter Bowers on this.

continued.....

2021/22/037

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

- a) Communications and Engagement (publicity) WG: Cllr Cutts had nothing to report.
- b) Roads, Pavements and Paths (Environmental) WG: Cllr Burt had nothing to report, noting that grass cutting (roadside verges) and traffic speed concerns will be discussed under the next agenda item.
- c) Affordable Housing WG: Cllr Culpin had circulated her report. The absence of a suitable plot within the village suggests that the CLT will have to try to work with a developer of an approved site. The CLT is to hold its AGM on 22 August 2021.
- d) Snow Warden: Cllr S Taylor had nothing to report.
- e) Tidiness: Cllr Burt hopes that it will be possible to organise a village litter pick in October. This will depend on MDDC making available the necessary equipment. As an alternative, it may be possible to encourage parishioners who have their own equipment to take part in a village-wide litter pick.
- f) Defibrillator maintenance: Cllr S Taylor reported that all defibrillators in the village are OK. They will now be placed on a national database that is being set up. A recent incident at the 'Globe Inn' involved the Village Hall equipment, but the pads were not used.

2021/22/038

Other highways and village matters:

- a) grass cutting in 2021/22: the Clerk confirmed that SPPC has requested three cuts of roadside verges this year. The first cut was on 24 June. The verges adjacent to the footway in Station Road were not included because this area was subject to specific request from the Parish Council. There is a clear need for this area to have been cut on safety grounds and MDDC had been requested to return to the village to cut these verges. This has now been done. Cllr Burt is to meet with a member of the Grounds Maintenance team at MDDC to discuss what is required for this area. In the meantime, it has been agreed with MDDC that Station Road will be included routinely when other verges in the village are cut. A fourth cut may be necessary this year, depending on vegetative growth over the summer months. The Parish Council will need to request this additional cut. Otherwise, the next cut is expected to be in September, with a final cut in March in 2022.
- b) damaged dog bins: two bins on the Canal towpath have defective lids. This was reported to Mark Baker (Canal Manager) who has ordered replacement lids. The Clerk to establish why the repairs have not yet been done.
- c) additional litter/dog bin on Station Road (as recommended by Cllr L Taylor): MDDC will charge £202.30 for the supply and installation of a bin, with weekly emptying at £306.80 per year and fortnightly emptying at £153.40 per year. Not all Members had responded by e-mail: the Clerk asked if a vote could be taken. The meeting voted unanimously to purchase and instal a bin (in a position to be decided by Cllrs L Taylor and Burt) with fortnightly emptying initially depending on use.
- d) speeding traffic concerns: after a brief discussion, Members were in agreement with the need for a 20 mph limit in Higher Town (to protect children travelling to the school) and the use of chicanes to slow vehicles in Turnpike and Lower Town. Cllr Radford (DCC) is aware of these concerns and has suggested contact with Amanda Pitchford at DCC.

continued.....

2021/22/038 continued.....

e) book swap: Cllr Culpin reported that repairs to shelving had been completed. Painting of the exterior is still to be done.

2021/22/039

Discussions with DCC and MDDC Members:

Cllr Radford's report on County issues had been circulated to Members by the Clerk on 22 July.

Cllr Collis (MDDC) was not present.

Cllr Norton (MDDC) had nothing further to report.

2021/22/040

Reports by Parish Council representatives:

a) VH & RG Charity Committee: Cllr Cutts reported that Hall bookings are increasing.

b) Grand Western Canal Joint Advisory Committee: the JAC has not met recently. Monthly newsletters of the Friends of the Grand Western Canal for May, June and July 2021 have been circulated by the Clerk. Each includes a detailed report by Mark Baker outlining work done by the Ranger and volunteer teams.

Several Members reported damage (again) to the fence alongside the Canal at Chains Road. The Clerk to report to Mark Baker. [The Canal Manager has stated that this is a Highways matter. The damage has subsequently been reported to DCC via the website and Cllr Radford advised and asked to seek urgent attention.]

c) Sampford Peverell Society: Cllr Culpin has circulated her report on Society activities. Noted.

d) SP & District Twinning Association: Cllr L Taylor had nothing to report.

e) Tree Wardens: Peter Bowers has stated that he has nothing to report.

2021/22/041

Correspondence has been circulated by e-mail: noted.

Matthew Packham, Chairman of the Sampford Peverell Tennis Club, had written requesting the Parish Council's support for the Club's application for some S106 funding towards the cost of replacement floodlights. This had been circulated to Members on 25 July. Noting that the Club wishes to replace the existing halogen lamps, which are highly inefficient, with modern LED units, Members were unanimously in support of the application for £946.29.

Members decided to take no further action regarding correspondence from Airband.

2021/22/042

Other matters by leave of the Chairman: Members noted that the post box in Boobery has not yet been repaired: Cllr Mackenzie to be asked to investigate.

2021/22/043

Meetings in 2021/22: Members agreed with the list given on the agenda (item 14) and asked the Clerk to book dates and confirm them to all Members.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 8.55 pm.