

26.08.14

Summonses to a special meeting of Sampford Peverell Parish Council to be held on Tuesday 26 August 2014 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 on 19 August 2014

Agenda: as distributed.

2014/15/039

The Chairman, Cllr Colin Passey, opened the meeting at 7.00 pm and welcomed Sue Southwell and her colleague Janice Alexander from the Community Council of Devon (CCD), also the Members of the Parish Council.

2014/15/040

Open Forum: not held (no members of the public present)

2014/15/041

Apologies: none

Parish Councillors present:

Cllr C Passey, Chairman

Cllr C Port, Vice-Chairman

Cllrs H Culpin, D Cutts, D Sweatman, C Mason, C Holland, I Adlington and C Rowley.

2014/15/042

CCD Presentation: Sue Southwell explained that the CCD supports rural communities. It is a charity operating as a rural housing enabler. She explained the current national housing crisis, with house price inflation and new developments aimed at the top end of the market. There is a shortage of affordable housing. The problem is made worse by the low incomes paid in rural areas. "Social rents" are at about 60% of market rents: "affordable" rent is considered to be at 80% of market rent. It is proposed, subject to PC agreement and support, to carry out a housing survey, perhaps after Christmas, then 4 weeks for returns of the survey and a further 4 weeks for analysis of responses. They would provide reply-paid envelopes and hope for a return of 25 to 30%. A £300 donation towards the cost of printing etc would be required from SPPC.

The Chairman thanked Sue and her colleague for their presentation. They left the meeting at 7.35 pm. This matter to be discussed further at the next meeting. If the PC agrees to proceed the fee could come from the Parish Plan fund held by the PC. Members agreed that SPPC should get onto the waiting list for survey as soon as possible,

2014/15/043

Working Groups: the Chairman explained his aim to involve all members of the PC and to enable work to take place between the bimonthly meetings. The Finance and Planning Committees will remain in place. The Pavilion Committee will be stood down in the near future. Cllr Passey felt that the TAP Fund Committee's role could be extended to explore other funding sources for achieving the goals laid out in the Parish Plan.

Cllr Passey proposed three additional Groups:

Community Safety: to include NHW and Speed Watch. Also abandoned cars.

Environment: to include trees and hedges.

Publicity and information: to include the website for the Parish Council.

Members were invited to consider which Group they wish to join. Participation in Speed Watch requires approval by the Police Authority: David Sweatman, Christine Mason, Simon Bartlett, Graham Mason, Charles Heeley are currently approved. The Chairman and the Clerk are already publicity officers of the PC: it was proposed that Heather Culpin should join this Group, bringing her IT expertise to assist with the website work.

The Chairman said that he would circulate a document to give Members the opportunity to choose the Working Groups to which they would wish to belong. Each Group would appoint a leader.

2014/15/044

Highways meeting: the Chairman reported on a meeting he had with Willy Pike, Cllr R Radford, Cllr Mel Lucas and a Willand PC member. A review of village roads suggested there is no chance of the required work being carried out, emphasis being placed on roads that have not deteriorated so as to maintain them in that condition. continued.....

2014/15/044 continued.....

The footway works recently undertaken in The Brendons were to improve the access for a registered disabled resident. The work had to be done a second time, it is understood, because a fault in the finished levels first time around.

It was emphasised that it is necessary to maintain a meticulous record of pot-holes: this is Willand's advice. This will be one role for the appropriate Working Group.

2014/15/045

Business carried over from 22 July meeting:

- TAP Fund 2014/15: this will be taken over by the appropriate Working Group. Members asked if it could be used to support a project eg the Station Road footway.

- Reports by Parish Council representatives:

- Village Hall & Recreation Ground Charity Committee: Cllr Port could not attend the last Committee meeting. He noted that new chairs are now in place in the Hall and that the Play Group is now run by a group of parents.

- Canal Advisory Committee: Cllr Cutts' report, which included the Canal Manager's Update, had already been circulated. He has passed Christine Mason's enquiry regarding voluntary work on the Canal to Mark Baker.

- Sampford Peverell Society: Cllr Culpin's report for the July meeting (including the Navvies' Fair in May and the Society's programme of visits and ongoing works) had already be distributed by e-mail to all Members. An up-dating report for this August meeting also had been circulated.

- Sampford Peverell & District Twinning Association: Cllr Rowley volunteered to fill the role of PC representative (vacant following the retirement of Mavis Farley): this was agreed by the meeting unanimously. The Welcome Reception on 18 July had been a success: a letter of thanks read to the meeting.

- Tree Wardens: Cllr Port asked if the role of the Tree Wardens (he is to speak with Peter Bowers to seek clarification of this) should be amalgamated with the Environment Working Group.

- Parish Plan review: to be part of the new Working Group's role.

2014/15/046

Autumn litter pick to be provisionally on Saturday 18 October. Cllr Sweatman and the Chairman will work together on preparations.

2014/15/047

Parish Footpath walks 2014: two walks are planned for 21 September and 19 October. Cream teas will be served after each walk.

2014/15/048

Overgrown hedges and similar issues, damage at Sampford Bridge: update given by Clerk. To be taken up by appropriate Working Groups.

2014/15/049

Other matters:

- the Chairman will place a suitable note in "Parish News" regarding the retirement of Mavis Farley.

- the Clerk reported a delay in the publication of Local Plan proposals.

- Halberton Parish Council is to organise a meeting for local councils to discuss a joint approach to J27 development proposals. Members indicated on which dates in September they would be available. [In the event Halberton chose a date which coincided with that for SPPC's special meeting on this subject, thus no Member could attend]

- It was agreed that a list of Members giving name, address and telephone number could be circulated within the Membership, but that for publication an edited version giving name and telephone number only would be used.

- Apologies for September meetings, Cllr Adlington on 17th and Cllr Culpin on 23rd, noted.

continued.....

2014/15/050

Next meetings of the Parish Council:

- Special meeting re J27 development proposals on Wednesday 17 September 2014 at 7.00 pm in the main hall.
- Bimonthly business meeting on Tuesday 23 September 2014 at 7.00 pm in the Committee Room.

The meeting was closed at 9.35 pm.