

11.08.20

Summonses to a virtual business meeting of Sampford Peverell Parish Council to be held using 'Zoom' on Tuesday 11 August 2020, starting at 7.00 pm, were distributed with the agenda to all Members by e-mail on 5 August 2020.

Agenda

As distributed.

2020/21/001

The Chairman, Cllr David Cutts, declared the meeting open at 7.00 pm, welcoming all present.

2020/21/002

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

2020/21/003

Apologies: Cllr A Mackenzie.

Parish Councillors present:

Chairman and meeting host: Cllr D Cutts

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

Cllr J Norton (MDDC)

Cllr R Radford (DCC) (apologies for lateness)

Cllr C Collis (MDDC) had been invited but was not present.

Ms Holly Jackson and Mrs Bev Perks (candidates for vacancies) were also present.

Mr Robert Hodgson, Clerk to Uplowman Parish Council, gave technical assistance at the beginning of the meeting, for which he was thanked by the Chairman.

2020/21/004

A summary of activity of the Parish Council since 28 January 2020 written by the Clerk, a list of payments made since 28 January 2020, details of the financial position of SPPC at 22 July 2020 and a summary of planning applications up to 20 July 2020 had been circulated to Members by e-mail by the Clerk on 26 July 2020. These documents were accepted without amendment as a true record: they will be signed by the Chairman and stand as a record in lieu of minutes.

Finance update: two payments as listed on the agenda were authorised to be made.

Planning update: 20/00850/HOUSE and 20/00841/HOUSE both approved by MDDC:

20/01001/CAT - no objection by MDDC

20/01088/HOUSE - no objection by SPPC.

The meeting noted that the Local Plan has been formally adopted by MDDC, also that the public enquiry for the Higher Town Appeal has been postponed.

Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP): Cllr Norton spoke of the MDDC Cabinet meeting held on 6 August 2020 and its decision to recommend to full Council (meeting on 26 August 2020) to withdraw from GESP and urged SPPC to make representations. Cllr Burt agreed to draft a suitable letter, highlighting the huge scale of the proposals for SP, the building on a flood plain, the pedestrian crossing of the railway line, road congestion and pollution levels and the unsustainability of the scheme. Cllr O'Connell spoke of the need to spread the word, possibly with a leaflet to each household. Cllr Culpin felt that social media would be better, given the time available.

2020/21/005

Vacancies on the Parish Council.

The casual vacancies arising from the resignations of Ian Adlington and Janet Disney, having been advertised by MDDC, produced no call for elections. The Parish Council now wishes to continued.....

2020/21/005, continued.....

fill the two seats by co-option. Two candidates have submitted letters of expression of interest and been invited to attend this meeting. Members thanked both for their interest in the work of the Parish Council and were unanimous in wishing to invite both to accept co-option. Both Ms Jackson and Mrs Perks confirmed their wish to join the Parish Council. The Clerk advised the meeting that completion of Declarations of Acceptance of Office and of Registerable Interests would take place as soon as possible.

2020/21/006

Public Convenience Development Group:

The Clerk explained that the hand-over of the toilets by MDDC to SPPC, due initially in April but put back to July, and the surrender of the lease of the land, had not taken place. Legal advice was that the conditions applied by MDDC were unreasonable. The toilets have not been maintained in good order in breach of the conditions of the lease. It has now become clear that the £5,000 offered to SPPC upon surrender of the lease is to come from S106 monies (rather than from MDDC funds). A further complication is that MDDC considers that the proposed works constitute repairs and maintenance, which rules out the use of S106 monies. The Chairman will seek a meeting with MDDC officers to clarify the situation. Following the resignation of Mrs Disney, a new subcommittee will now be involved in the hand-over. It was agreed that this will include Cllrs O'Connell, Cutts, S Taylor and Jackson. Since the Play Park has re-opened, only the disabled toilet is in use. Cllr O'Connell is cleaning this on a daily basis, combining this work with daily locking and unlocking. The ladies' and gents' sections remain locked. Cllr O'Connell will make a claim for his expenses, which will be passed to MDDC for payment. It is noted that MDDC is still supplying toilet rolls.

[Cllr R Radford (DCC) joined the meeting at 7.50 pm]

2020/21/007

Climate Change Emergency policies:

Cllr Burt reported on the need to find locations for charging points within the village.

2020/21/008

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

- a) Communications and Engagement WG: nothing to report.
- b) Roads, Pavements and Paths WG: Cllr Burt reported that a finger post on footpath 9 has been knocked over. That, and obstructions at Great Landside, have been reported to the PRoW officer at DCC.
- c) Affordable Housing WG: Cllr Culpin reported that the CLT has been unable to secure land.
- d) Snow Warden: the Chairman explained the need to replace Ian Adlington. Cllr S Taylor was asked to consider taking on the task. He will advise the Chairman of his decision.
- e) Tidiness: the litter pick organised for April 2020 had to be cancelled due to the Covid-19 crisis. Cllr Burt will investigate with MDDC the possibility of holding one in October.

2020/21/009

Other highways and village matters:

- a) DCC Highways: road works 'wish list'. Correspondence from Philip Morgan, Highway Neighbourhood Officer: no response from SPPC.
- b) cutting of road-side verges: cuts due in August and October (with nettle growth adjacent to the Station Road footway included), with a final 2020/21 cut next March.
- c) Devon Air Ambulance: night landing facility. Cllr S Taylor believes a landing has taken place.

continued.....

2020/21/010

Discussions with DCC and MDDC Members: Cllr Radford has written a report on County issues which will be circulated to Members by the Clerk. Both Cllr Radford and Cllr Norton were thanked for their opposition to GESP at the recent MDDC Cabinet meeting.

2020/21/011

Reports by Parish Council representatives:

a) VH & RG Charity Committee: Cllr Cutts, who sits on the Committee, will act as the PC representative following Ian Adlington's resignation from SPPC. Cllr Cutts reported that both the Village Hall and the Cricket Club have received grants each of £10,000. The Cricket Club has purchased a new lawn mower and is to buy new safety netting.

b) Canal Advisory Committee: Cllr Cutts had nothing to report, noting that Mark Baker's reports are published in the Friends' monthly newsletters which are sent to all Members.

c) Sampford Peverell Society: Cllr Culpin reported that the Society has held no meetings, although the Committee has met via Zoom.

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

e) Tree Wardens: Peter Bowers had written a brief report. Because of Covid-19, the Wardens have not been able to work together, although individual Wardens have tended to trees planted last year. Peter would like to plant the bank on the south side of Turnpike, following successful bramble removal, with daffodils and narcissi and seeks the opinion of SPPC. Members support this. Peter has been advised that £65 is available in the Tree Wardens reserve fund.

2020/21/012

Correspondence has been circulated by e-mail: noted.

2020/21/013

Other matters by leave of the Chairman:

a) Cllr O'Connell recounted his meeting with several youngsters who had been riding their bicycles in the Play Park. One of the group has since contacted the Clerk through the village website, explaining their request for a BMX-type track. Agreed that this is a matter for the Play Park Committee, which Cllr O'Connell will progress.

b) Mention was made of the need for pruning a large oak tree at the sports field. The Clerk to establish if the tree is TPO protected.

2020/21/014

The next business meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 22 September 2020 starting at 7.00 pm. It will be a virtual meeting using Zoom (Cllr Jackson to organise). Cllr Cutts offered his apologies.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 8.50 pm.