

27.09.21

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

Agenda

As distributed, but with one additional payment (to the External Auditor) to be made.

2021/22/044

The Chairman, Cllr David Cutts, declared the meeting open at 7.05 pm. He welcomed three parishioners, Hayley Keary, Emily Castle and Anne Williams, being the candidates for the current vacancies on the Parish Council. He also welcomed the Members present, reminding all of the risk assessment for meetings of the Parish Council which had been updated and circulated to Members. Cllr Cutts announced that the agenda item no. 3 (Vacancies) would follow item 6 and that he would then invite the candidates to introduce themselves.

2021/22/045

Parishioners' Open Forum: there were no other parishioners present and the Open Forum was therefore not held.

2021/22/046

Apologies: Cllr R Radford (DCC) (not attending face-to-face meetings unless required to do so by Law, under DCC guidance): Cllr J Norton was not present due to illness (late apology received).

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

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

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

2021/22/47

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 27 July 2021: unanimously approved by those present as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

- Matters arising: none.

- Declarations of Interests: none made.

2021/22/048

Planning matters: the Clerk had circulated a summary list of planning applications updated to 8 September 2021. Details noted. The Clerk is awaiting advice from the Planning Officer before making a response to 21/01761/FULL.

- other planning matters:

a) Model Design Code workshops: Cllr Culpin reported on these workshops held by MDDC, attended by her, Cllr Burt and the Clerk, the authority having been selected to take part in a national pilot for testing the concept of a model design code. One area of interest in Mid Devon is the Tiverton Parkway to Tiverton corridor, with obvious implications for SPPC. Cllr Culpin spoke to emphasise the importance of retaining green space and the Canal Country Park to keep the existing settlements of Tiverton, Halberton and Sampford Peverell as separate communities.

b) a recent planning application seeks to commence development, both industrial and housing, to the east of the Tiverton Eastern Urban Extension, encroaching on the green space between Tiverton and Halberton.

c) development at Higher Town: following a meeting with Edenstone Homes' representatives, we await the availability of a free-to-access website setting out the developers' proposals for the site. Members spoke of the need for this development to

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2021/22/048 c) continued.....

include top quality environmental protection measures. They greatly regretted the proposal to instal gas-fired heating systems (instead of ground-source heat pumps) and not to instal solar panels on each dwelling.

2021/22/049

Finance

(a) Payments made since last meeting (27.7.21):

(i) 23.8.21: Source for Business: water charges 20.5.21 to 11.8.21:
£142.89 *

(ii) 23.8.21: SP VH&RG Charity: agreed contribution towards village picnic: £250.00 **

(iii) 14.8.21: Npower: toilets electricity charges 30.4.21 to 31.7.21:
£115.83 *

(iv) 8.8.21: DCC: Canal bridge name plates: £566.00 **

* Utility bills re Play Park toilets

** as agreed at 27.7.21 meeting

- noted.

(b) Statement of Accounts: as at 22 September 2021 balances were as follows...

Business Reserve account: £3,967.64 (sheet 124)

Current account: £25,861.89 (sheet 360): Members noted that this balance now includes £888.24 (unchanged) held in the name of the former Parish Plan Group and £61.00 held in the name of the Sampford Peverell Play Park Appeal.

Members voted unanimously to accept the statement given. The relevant bank statements (nos.124 and 360) were agreed by the Chairman to demonstrate reconciliation.

(c) Parish Magazine donation (2020) residual funds held: on the proposal of Cllr Culpin, seconded by Cllr O'Connell, and agreed *nem con*, the residual funds (£305.42) to be sent to the Village Hall Charity as a contribution towards the cost of replacement notice boards at the Memorial Hall. Members noted that the 2020 donation of £1,960.00, which had financed the Parish Council's contribution towards the installation of the DAA night-landing lights, had now been used in full.

(d) authority to pay accounts rendered:

(i) M J Aspray: Clerk's salary 8 & 9/21: £650.00

(ii) 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
** for the period 1.8.21 to 30.9.21 (61 days)

(iii) Bernard O'Connell: refund of expenses re toilets: £28.27

(iv) SP VH&RG Charity: contribution towards new notice boards (being the residue of the Parish Magazine donation in 2020): £305.42

(v) SP Parochial Church Council: grant re churchyard maintenance in 2021/22:
£350.00

(vi) SP Methodist Church: grant re churchyard maintenance in 2021/22: £85.00

(vii) Additional account for payment: the Clerk explained the arrival by e-mail of the invoice for the External Auditor's fee. PKF Littlejohn LLP: 2020/21 fee for External Audit: £240.00

Seven cheques to be issued on the proposal of Cllr Culpin, seconded by Cllr Mackenzie and agreed *nem con*.

(e) payments for Canal bridge name plates (£566.00) and contribution towards village picnic (£250.00): Cllr Burt estimated that the total cost of trees to be bought from the 2021 Parish continued.....

2021/22/049 e) continued.....

Magazine donation would be about £600. On the proposal of Cllr Cutts, seconded by Cllr Mackenzie and agreed *nem con* payment for the Canal bridge name plates and the contribution towards the village picnic will be made from the 2021 donation, leaving funds available for the village Christmas tree.

f) other finance matters: the Clerk reported that he had been notified by e-mail that the 2020/21 audit was completed. The External Auditor has written with his Report and Certificate stating that no matters give cause for concern. The report will be uploaded onto the website.

2021/22 050

Vacancies on the Parish Council

The three candidates were invited by the Chairman to make statements explaining their reasons for wishing to join the Parish Council.

Ms Hayley Keary has worked in the School as a Teaching Assistant and has also served as a Governor. She has a particular interest in the young people in the village.

Mrs Emily Castle spoke of her concerns about traffic speeds in the village.

Mrs Anne Williams also has concerns about traffic on village roads.

The Chairman thanked all three for their interest and explained that Members would now vote by e-mail to decide on who to invite to fill the vacant two seats.

2021/22/051

Public Convenience Development Group:

A quotation has been received from local builder, Andy Brown, in the sum of £2,395. Two other quotations have been received, including Dan Bailey (£6,000). Cllr Taylor asked to send the Clerk all three. Cllr O'Connell reported there to have been no maintenance issues since the July SPPC meeting.

2021/22/052

Climate Change and environmental issues:

Cllr Burt reported that there have been 35 applications for trees. They will be ordered when Peter Bowers returns from holiday.

2021/22/053

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

a) Communications and Engagement (publicity) WG: Cllr Culpin commented on the success of advertising the free trees on social media.

b) Roads, Pavements and Paths (Environmental) WG: Cllr Burt reported that grass verges had been cut during the previous week. This had included Station Road, and all appeared satisfactory.

c) Affordable Housing WG: Cllr Culpin reported that contact has been made with the developers of the Placeland site.

d) Snow Warden: Cllr Taylor plans to check all salt bins in the village. The meeting agreed with his suggestion to dispose of the stock of salt in view of its deteriorating condition by donating bags to the school and surgery, as well as offering it around the village.

e) Tidiness: Cllr Burt confirmed that a village litter pick will take place on 30 October using equipment from MDDC. The litter pick has been advertised in Parish News. The 'Globe Inn' has kindly agreed to provide coffee afterwards.

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2021/22/053 continued.....

f) Defibrillator maintenance: Cllr S Taylor reported that all three defibrillators in the village are OK. There has been a request to run a training session to provide confidence in their use. The BHF will provide training: Cllr Taylor to get details of cost.

2021/22/054

Other highways and village matters:

a) Tree works in The Brendons: a request from a resident for the trees to be reduced could not be taken further because Members had not visited the site. The Clerk had spoken to another resident who agreed that some reduction is necessary, but the Tree Wardens were not convinced that the work is necessary. Members were asked to look at the trees so as to inform the next SPPC meeting. The Clerk will conduct a survey of local residents to gauge opinion.

b) additional litter/dog bin on Station Road (as originally recommended by Mrs 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. A previous meeting voted unanimously to purchase and instal a bin with fortnightly emptying initially depending on use. Cllr Burt indicated his willingness to meet an officer from MDDC to decide on the exact position for the bin.

c) speeding traffic concerns: noting that DCC appeared totally unwilling to assist, Cllr Taylor spoke of the availability of signage which he will further research and get prices.

d) book swap: Cllr Culpin reported that painting of the exterior is still to be done.

2021/22/055

Discussions with DCC and MDDC Members:

Cllr Radford's report on County issues will be circulated to Members by the Clerk [done on 10 October.]

Cllrs Collis and Norton (MDDC) were not present.

2021/22/056

Reports by Parish Council representatives:

a) VH & RG Charity Committee: Cllr Cutts reported that Hall bookings are buoyant. Possible roof works will eat into reserves held.

b) Grand Western Canal Joint Advisory Committee: the JAC has not met recently. Monthly newsletters of the Friends of the Grand Western Canal for August and September 2021 have been circulated by the Clerk. Each includes a detailed report by Mark Baker outlining work done by the Ranger and volunteer teams. The Chairman reported that the ash tree opposite the 'Globe Inn' has now been felled. An additional seat has been installed by Mark Baker. With assistance of the Tree Wardens, the Community Orchard has been strimmed and cleared to encourage re-growth next Spring.

c) Sampford Peverell Society: Cllr Culpin has circulated her report on Society activities. The AGM on 8 October in the Memorial Hall will be restricted to members only in consideration of Covid-safety.

d) SP & District Twinning Association: Cllr Cutts reported a recent conversation with Jenny Worsfold. Declining membership of the Association is a threat to the continuation of twinning.

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2021/22/056 continued.....

e) Tree Wardens: Peter Bowers' report has been circulated. The Wardens put in over 30-man-hours of work in the Community Orchard, with the Canal Rangers. It was noted that the crop of apples this year is rather poor, but residents are invited to pick what they want. Peter reported some vandalism in the orchard: one young tree has been damaged and will need to be replaced. Wooden posts have been removed and litter (including a broken beer bottle) has had to be cleared. The Police have been informed.

2021/22/057

All correspondence received has been circulated by e-mail: noted.

2021/22/058

Other matters by leave of the Chairman:

a) Cllr Perks reported that ASB behind the surgery has been reported to the Police.

b) Members noted that the post box in Boobery has not yet been repaired: Cllr Mackenzie has no further information from his contact. The Clerk asked to write to the Postmaster at Tiverton Post Office.

c) Cllr Taylor reminded Members that he is collecting spent ink-jet cartridges in support of the work of the Motor Neurone Disease Society.

d) Cllr O'Connell spoke to inform Members of a local interest in creating a BMX track on land in Station Road.

2021/22/059

Meetings in 2021/22: Members, having agreed the list given on the agenda (item 15) at a previous meeting, were advised that the Clerk has booked these dates.

The next business meeting of SPPC will be on Monday 22 November 2021 in the main hall at the Memorial Hall, Lower Town, starting at 7.00 pm.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9.15 pm.