

06.10.15

Summonses to a bimonthly business meeting of Sampford Peverell Parish Council to be held on Tuesday 6 October 2015 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 29 September 2015.

Agenda: as distributed.

2015/16/049

Cllr C Passey opened the meeting at 7.00 pm, welcoming Janice Alexander and Sue Southwell from 'Devon Communities Together' and Members present.

2015/16/050

Housing Needs Survey: Janice Alexander briefly reviewed the recent survey and the results. Highlighted was the shortage of property available to let. There are only 36 properties that can be described as 'affordable', only four of which have become vacant in the last 2 years. The report describes the dwellings required, again highlighting the need for smaller 1- and 2-bedroom properties in the village.

Sue Southwell then spoke of the next stage, to identify a site and then decide what should be built there. She suggested a site appraisal exercise, looking for exception sites (that is, outside the development curtilage, allowing purchase of land at about £8,000 per plot as a guide price). Ideally MDDC planners should be involved: Sue will contact them to find some possible dates for a walk-round.

The Chairman thanked Janice and Sue for their involvement to date: they then left the meeting.

2015/16/051

Open Forum: there being no members of the public present, the Open Forum was not held.

2015/16/052

Apologies: Cllr M Stott (work commitment) and Cllr C Mason (unwell: message on Chairman's 'phone discovered later).

Parish Councillors present:

Chairman: Cllr C Passey

Vice-Chairman: Cllr D Cutts

Cllrs D Sweatman, H Culpin, L Taylor, C Holland and I Adlington.

Invitations had been sent to Cllr R Radford (DCC), Cllrs H Bainbridge and C Collis (MDDC) and to PCSO J Sims: none present.

2015/16/053

MUGA: Stuart Brooks joined the meeting at 7.40 pm and was invited to give an update to Members. £10,000 has been raised locally. The remaining net costs will be covered by a grant from Viridor Credits and a personal loan will be made to cover VAT. It is hoped that the Parish Council will be able to obtain a refund of the VAT element from HMRC (clarification on this by HMRC is awaited) and then repay the personal loan.

Planning permission for the MUGA has been obtained. Permission has been conditioned to restrict the use of floodlights (4.30 to 9.30 pm daily). It was noted that one tree has to be removed.

A lead time of 4 to 6 weeks is required by the supplier: the Parish Council will be invoiced for the cost of materials and erection. Viridor requires the draw-down of funds to be by the end of February 2016. The MUGA will cost about £97,000 net of VAT. New goal posts and dug-outs are also to be purchased.

2015/16/054

Sports field access and parking: two related matters were discussed with Stuart Brooks present.

a) new disabled access: Cllrs Passey, Holland and Adlington have had a site meeting with Steve Densham (MDDC) who has agreed that the proposal to construct a new access next to the now-blocked gateway is sound. He suggested a gate or chicane (maintaining wheel-chair access) to stop people rushing straight out onto the road, also, to improve visibility, the hedge should be trimmed back.

Ian Sorensen (DCC Highways) has been consulted and has kindly produced a plan to show the position of the new access and the creation of a visibility splay.

continued.....

2015/16/054 a) continued.....

Mr Pittman (Fairview Cottage) has suggested a sign to read "NO PARKING: DISABLED ACCESS". He also suggests that a metal railing be fitted adjacent to the telegraph post to prevent children running out into the road.

The Clerk has established that planning permission is not required because of the classification of Whitnage Road. Whoever undertakes the work will, however, need a 184 licence to work adjacent to the highway.

Members unanimously agreed that the work must go ahead as soon as possible. Quotations to be sought by Cllr Passey.

b) Parking issues on Whitnage Road: acknowledged that this occasional problem may become more frequent. Stuart Brooks said that the football club would try marshalling and ensure that passing places are left between parked vehicles.

2015/16/055

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 28 July 2015: it was noted that 22 Lower Town is not "The Old Cattle Shed". Minute 2015/16/038 amended (22 Lower Town is the building adjacent to the amenity car park).

The amended Minutes were approved on the proposal of Cllr Sweatman, seconded by Cllr Culpin, agreed *nem con* and signed by the Chairman.

A copy of the amended Minutes will be sent in pdf format to Cllr Culpin for posting on the website.

- Matters arising from these Minutes (other than items to follow): none.
- Declarations of Interests made by Members at the above Meeting: none.

2015/16/056

Planning matters

- (a) applications considered by sub-committee:
- (b) decisions notified by MDDC:
- (c) Appeals notified: (none):
- (d) new applications (to 30 September 2015):
- (e) matters notified after 30 September 2015:
- (f) enforcement matters: (none):

.....refer to summary spreadsheet.

The compromise agreed for Moorend Lodge was noted. Further revised proposals for development to the west of Pullet have been made. Planning sub-committee report on application to fell 2 silver birch trees at 23A Higher Town awaited.

(g) other planning matters and correspondence:

- (i) planning training: copies of slides from the training session attended by Cllr Culpin on 9 July have now been received and circulated to Members.
- (ii) Devon Minerals Plan circulated to Members: no comments.
- (iii) holiday lets update: Moorend Lodge resolved. Ayshmeade Lodge investigations still on-going.
- (iv) 12/01387/MFUL: MDDC has confirmed that development is deemed to have begun within the permitted time-frame. The original permission is therefore live.

2015/16/057

Reports from Parish Council Working Groups (WGs):

- (a) Community Safety WG: Cllr Sweatman: nothing to report.
- (b) Environment WG: Cllr Holland report dated 5 October:
 - Station Road triangle: work complete with satisfactory results.
 - Tree works in the Recreation Ground: see planning. The permitted works will be carried out in the coming dormant season and will require a new quotation from Four Seasons. The Clerk reported another tree causing concern: it is to the rear of the SOL building (22 Lower Town): this willow tree has a number of dead branches overhanging the building. An application to fell this tree will be necessary and the work will need to be included in the revised quotation being sought.
 - Autumn litter pick: Saturday 10 October 2015: arrangements in hand.
 - Re-surfacing of Higher Town and improved hedge maintenance noted.
- (c) Publicity WG: Cllr Passey: there have been encouraging responses from village groups to an initial enquiry about interest in a proposed social event next 16 April. A further meeting of the WG to be arranged to decide on next action. continued.....

2015/16/057 continued.....

(d) Parish Plan/Funding WG: Cllrs Cutts and Adlington: several expressions of interest for funding from the 2015/16 TAP Fund have already been made. Zoe Lentell (MDDC) has stated (21 July) that no claims have yet been received for Sampford Peverell's allocation of £1,181.40 for 2015/16 (it was believed that the Village Hall Charity would claim the whole allocation). Enquiries received so far:

- Tina Orchard: football kit for under 14s Culm/Sampford football team in partnership with Uffculme PC. Total cost about £450.

- Dion Howells (Tiverton Police): Police boat for Police cadets' use on the Canal: funding for various items of equipment sought.

- Lucy Cole: seeks funding for a Willand School PTFA project and wishes to attend a PC meeting to discuss.

2015/16/058

Other highways and village matters;

a) access to Sports Field.....see 2015/16/054a) above.

b) amenity car park: a meeting of the sub-committee (Cllrs Sweatman, Passey, Mason, Adlington and Holland) had met to consider options offered by Andrew Jarrett (MDDC, Head of Finance). It was decided that there needs to be a general discussion regarding *all* services provided to the Parish by MDDC and DCC and how to provide them more cost-effectively, rather than merely seeking to pass everything down to Parish level. Mr Jarrett to be invited to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

c) the drainage problem on the footpath linking the car park with Lower Town has been dealt with by MDDC.

d) grass cutting: MDDC is seeking to pass responsibility for cutting highways verges to the Parish, another case in point (reference car park, above). MDDC and DCC representatives to be invited to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

e) play area improvement: equipment funding under investigation by a group including Cllr Culpin. It is understood that the Village Hall Committee is to arrange for the repainting of the shelter.

f) broad-band for the village: update given by Cllr Culpin.

g) local council's "super-group": nothing further to report. Cllr Passey to raise with the person who convened the Cullompton meeting.

h) Richmond Close bus shelter: the Clerk to try to contact the person who carried out repairs several years ago (Ray Newland).

i) care home site: the Clerk has contacted the owner to request clearance of vegetation that has caused weed seed nuisance.

2015/16/059

Report from the Community Police Officer: PCSO Sims was not present and no report had been received.

2015/16/060

Reports from County and District Councillors:

Cllr Radford (DCC), Cllrs Bainbridge and Collis (MDDC) were not present and no reports had been received.

2015/16/061

Finance:

a) Statement of accounts

Business Reserve account: £3,949.32

Current account: £8,910.81 (which includes £1,191.39 held in the name of the Parish Plan Group and £nil belonging to the Sports Pavilion Fund). Unanimously agreed.

b) Authority to pay accounts rendered:

i) M J Aspray: Clerk's salary for August 2015: £283.00.

ii) M J Aspray: Clerk's salary for September 2015: £283.00.

Note: Clerk's expenses from 20/7/15 to be included in claim made at next meeting.

Two cheques issued as above by unanimous agreement.

c) Financial correspondence: notes of thanks for grants to PCC and Methodist Church noted.

d) MUGA finance: see minute 2015/16/053, above.

continued.....

2015/16/062

Reports by Parish Council representatives:

a) Village Hall and Recreation Ground Charity: Cllrs Passey and Adlington: minutes of 2 September meeting (both attended) tabled.

b) Canal Advisory Committee: Cllr Cutts: Mark Baker's report dated 5 October tabled. Together with the Friends' newsletter it also had been circulated ahead of the meeting.

The work on improved access at Battens Bridge is now complete. The damaged lid to the dog bin at Battens Bridge has been reported to Mark.

Members decided unanimously that Sampford Peverell Parish Council should apply for corporate membership of the 'Friends of the Grand Western Canal' (£25.00 pa). Cheque will be raised at the next meeting.

Canal Canine Etiquette Group: the PC will maintain contact with Adam Pilgrim (could be invited to a meeting in the New Year).

Theft of Rangers' equipment noted.

c) Sampford Peverell Society: Cllr Culpin: minutes of 7 September meeting tabled. Cllr Culpin's report included notice of the Society's AGM on 2 October.

d) Sampford Peverell & District Twinning Association: Cllr Taylor is now attending meetings as the Parish Council's representative. Minutes of August and September's meetings circulated and tabled.

e) Tree Wardens: Cllr Mason: the Chairman asked that his thanks be conveyed to the working groups that in two sessions had cleared the brambles on the triangle of grass opposite the School.

2015/16/063

Correspondence as listed on the agenda noted.

Additional items

i) MDDC re training for Parish Councillors: dates noted [Cllrs Passey and Taylor to attend on 16 November at Phoenix House].

ii) DCC re changes to the Neighbourhood Highway Group (including staff structure): noted.

iii) Zurich Insurance: notice of Insurance Premium Tax increase effective 1 November.

iv) Local Government Boundary Commission: further consultation - north Devon.

All of the above items already circulated by e-mail or by hand to Members.

2015/16/064

Any other matters by leave of the Chairman: none.

2015/16/065

Next meeting:

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 24 November 2015 at 7.00 pm in the Committee Room of the Memorial Hall. Agenda items deadline: 13 November 2015.

Apologies from Cllr Holland noted.

The meeting was closed at 9.00 pm.