

11.10.16

Summonses to the bi-monthly business Meeting of Sampford Peverell Parish Council to be held on Tuesday 11 October 2016 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 by e-mail on 13 September 2016.

Agenda

As distributed.

2016/17/043

The Chairman, Cllr Colin Passey, opened the meeting at 7.00 pm and welcomed the 15 parishioners, Cllr R Radford and Members present.

2016/17/044

Parishioners' Open Forum: Parishioners present referred to the recently held MDDC meeting at which it had been decided to modify the Local Plan to include J27 and include additional housing, in particular, the 60 dwellings proposed for Sampford Peverell. There was concern that the local Ward Member, Cllr Heather Bainbridge, had voted in support of this, contrary to the views of many of her constituents, having declared a personal business interest. It was noted that both Ward Members had been invited to write explaining their voting decisions in "Parish News". Parishioners urged the Parish Council to write to MDDC to complain about the process adopted by MDDC and the close apparent linkage with Eden Westwood. They queried the need for 60 extra houses in the village, especially the actual site chosen. The Chairman urged every parishioner to write individually to MDDC re the Local Plan during the consultation period expected early in 2017.

The Open Forum was closed at 7.40 pm: the 15 parishioners left the meeting.

With the general agreement of Members present, the Chairman will write a formal letter of complaint to the Chief Executive and to the Leader of MDDC (copying to local Ward Members) about the way the decision to include J27 had been made, in particular, the involvement of Eden Westwood and the lack of consultation with local councils. If appropriate, the Local Government Ombudsman will be involved. The Chairman was urged to consult with other affected local councils.

2016/17/045

Apologies: Cllr L Taylor.

Parish Councillors present:

Cllr C Passey, Chairman:

Cllr D Cutts, Vice-Chairman:

Cllrs I Adlington, H Culpin, C Holland, B Husbands, C Mason and T Leaman.

Cllr R Radford (DCC) was also present.

It was noted that Cllrs H Bainbridge and C Collis (MDDC) and PCSO J Sims had been invited to attend.

2016/17/046

Minutes of the bi-monthly Meeting of the Parish Council held on 26 July 2016 were approved on the proposal of Cllr Adlington, seconded by Cllr Cutts, agreed *nem con* and signed by the Chairman.

- Matters arising: none.

- Declarations of Interest: D16/17/001 (Cllr Taylor re 16/01156/LBC) and  
D16/17/002 (Cllr Husbands re 16/01360/HOUSE)

agreed and signed by the Chairman.

2016/17/047

Planning matters: applications considered by sub-committee/planning decisions notified by MDDC/Appeals notified/new applications and matters notified after 13 September 2016/enforcement matters: see attached spreadsheet (Planning Applications – August - September 2016). Noted.

New application 16/01526/FULL (change 2 one storey to 2 two storey dwellings: land adj Paultet): resolved by general agreement to oppose on the grounds that larger dwellings equate to more people, more cars, and more waste.

Enforcement: noted that an organisation called 'K2' is operating at the Old Cattle Shed, Lower Town, also that there is a small scale car sales business (as well a 'cycle hire business) operating at the Globe Inn. Possible planning contraventions at both locations. Owner of the 'Globe' is Enterprise Inns.

2016/17/047 continued.....

Planning correspondence: MDDC Planning Department has stated that public open space contributions (S106) have to be allocated towards specific projects and cannot be allocated to a completed project retrospectively. (This relates to the unilateral planning obligation attached to 16/00995/FULL for a grant of £5,576.00 towards accessibility improvements at Whitnage Road Sports Ground.)

Local Plan/J27: see above.

2016/17/048

Finance:

a) Payments made since last meeting (as listed on meeting agenda):

- i) Wilkinson Fencing: £292.00
- ii) Grant Thornton: £240.00
- iii) Culm Valley Youth Football: £191.44
- iv) Christine Mason: £3.00

....all noted.

b) Statement of Accounts: as at 9 October 2016 balances were as follows...

Business Reserve account: £3,951.30

Current account: £9,870.99 (which includes the £20,000.00 private loan re the MUGA VAT payment, also £1,191.39 held in the name of the Parish Plan Group).

The Clerk's report noted that a claim for refund of VAT paid (including £18,111.80 payment for the MUGA VAT) is outstanding.

Accepted unanimously.

Further to the Clerk's report, as stated by e-mail to Members on 10 October, a VAT refund has been received (and confirmed by NatWest) totalling £22,156.86.

c) Authority to pay accounts rendered:

- i) M J Aspray: Clerk's salary for August & September 2016: £566.00
- [ii) M J Aspray: Clerk's expenses: claim further deferred to next meeting.]

Additional payments (not on circulated agenda, but included in e-mail of 10 October 2016 to all Members):

- i) SP PCC: grant to towards churchyard maintenance in 2016/17: £350.00
- ii) SP Methodist Church: grant towards churchyard maintenance in 2016/17: £70.00  
(both as agreed in 2016/17 budget)
- iii) Trevor Elswood: repayment of loan re MUGA VAT: £20,000.00
- iv) SP VH&RG Charity: refund of VAT paid re new Hall lighting: £455.90
- v) F Harding: refund of VAT on pavilion construction accounts paid from his own funds: £1,559.49.

Six cheques be issued on the proposal of Cllr Husbands, seconded by Cllr Mason and agreed *nem con*.

d) Finance correspondence:

- letter of thanks from Twinning Association re £125.00 towards costs incurred in recent French exchange visit. The Association Secretary, Jenny Worsfold, also expressed thanks to the three lady Parish Councillors for their involvement in the welcome reception, echoed by the Chairman, who was unable to be present.

- letter from NatWest re interest rate changes on Business Reserve accounts from 7 November (0.25% down to 0.01%)

.....both items noted.

e) External audit: the Clerk reported completion of the external audit on the 2015/16 accounts.

2016/17/049

Working Groups (a) membership: Cllr Husbands to talk to the Chairman to decide his membership.

(b) reports from Group Chairmen and holders of individual roles:

- Communications and Engagement: Cllr Culpin reported publication in "Parish News" of an article, "How to report potholes". The website <https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/> can be used for reporting broken manhole covers, obstruction by trees and other vegetation, failed street lamps as well as potholes.

The Clerk reported contact via the village website calling for a village Christmas Tree in the park or outside the village hall. Response – no objection from SPPC, but need to contact VH&RG Charity first. Pointed out danger of vandalism, theft of lights, etc, also that the Merriemeade already has a village tree each Christmas and holds an annual carol concert.

2016/17/049 continued.....

- Roads, pavements and paths: Cllr Holland's report dated 6 October noted the re-surfacing of the entrance to the Brendons, with patching of other parts, also the conclusion of the grass cutting programme of four cuts by MDDC. Bruce Brown has done interim cuts near to the planters. Clerk to write to thank him.

Meeting with Ian Sorenson (DCC) (also Chairman and Cllr Mason) held on 10 October re footpath to the station (see below: Station Road car park).

New fence by leat adjacent to tennis courts is now in place, improving the area.

- Affordable housing: Cllr Passey will write to Sue Southwell re site selection. Site 1 (former hotel site) is owned by Eastleigh Care Homes: site 2 (on opposite side of Lower Town) is owned by Graeme Cottrell. Visit to Uffculme re Community Land Trust to be arranged.

- MUGA: now completed and paid for. Final inspection by Viridor to be arranged.

- Recreation Ground improvement project: Cllr Culpin reported that their website is running. The Group has appealed for funding and donations. The Clerk has passed bank account details to the organisers to facilitate payment direct to the PC's account.

Cllr Radford stated that a £1,200 underspend from 2015/16 will be allocated to the project in response to its claim for TAP funding. A possible further £5,000 may be available in the second phase of claims in the current year. Cllr Radford offered to chase up the release of S106 monies by MDDC as a further contribution.

- Snow Warden: Cllr Adlington now has the Snow Warden jacket. The spreading equipment hand-over is still to take place. Salt stock is in David King's barn.

- Tidiness: Cllr Leaman has organised a litter pick for 15 October. She will collect names of helpers for MDDC's insurance purposes. She is also working towards the purchase of equipment for volunteer wardens.

- Community safety (Speed-watch/NHW): nothing to report.

- Business promotion: nothing to report

2016/17/050

Other highways and village matters (as listed on agenda, with additional items):

- Parish footpaths and P3 scheme: Cllr Mason is to organise two further walks.

Gates on the footpath leading from the Village Hall to Chains Road are believed still to be a problem. Exact locations will be noted during the relevant walk and further action taken, if necessary involving DCC. Participation in the P3 scheme will require further discussions with the PROW team.

- affordable housing: see above.

- condition of roads/potholes: see above (Communications and engagement).

- dangerous wall in Chains Road: thought to present no immediate danger provided the bank and vegetation is left undisturbed. Keep under review/observation.

- grass cutting: see above (roads, pavements and paths): the experience in 2016 of other local councils to be sought. Alternative commercial quotations for the work that MDDC has done in 2016 are required.

- Autumn litter pick: see above (tidiness). Cllr Leaman confirmed that for volunteer pickers, who will work between the 6-monthly village picks, the PC must purchase equipment for them to use. However, MDDC will provide insurance cover, provided names are given and passed to the District.

- Richmond Close and Lower Town bus shelters: both shelters need cleaning. Cllr Culpin to organise.

- seat on Turnpike: parishioners have requested a narrow bench by the bus stop. Land charges search gives no evidence of ownership by DCC (highways authority....and Willy Pike (DCC) states that maintenance lies with the adjacent land owner) nor by the adjacent dwelling (14 Turnpike).

Andy Brown has quoted £180.00 (20.9.16) for making and installing as per submitted drawing: unanimous agreement that this is accepted and that he be asked to proceed.

- maintenance of village seats: Tree Wardens will discuss and will propose and cost necessary work.

The group will also consider restoration of the Higher Town road sign and advise proposed action.

- flower boxes (planters) on Turnpike and Lower Town: planting and maintenance of the boxes has been undertaken this year by Ian and Joy Moore. Clerk to write to thank them.

- amenity car park: Clerk to reply to Andrew Jarrett's e-mail of 30 September seeking justification of stated maintenance costs and pointing out the financial provision already made. Andrew will also be reminded of the maintenance work already undertaken by local volunteers (regular litter picking and Tree Wardens' work generally).

- additional bus stop in Lower Town: Stagecoach is in agreement, subject to DCC approval. The highways authority is content to use bus stops as a traffic calming measure. The work will be done as

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part of the Station Road works (footpath provision, speed limit, etc) in conjunction with the creation of the new car park for the station.

- play-ground renovation: see above.

- BT payphone kiosks: the PC will purchase the red kiosk presently situated in Boobery and move it to the site of the modern-style kiosk in Lower Town (which will not be retained). Clerk to advise planning in response to BT's application to remove both kiosks (neither of which have been used in the previous 12 months).

- Station Road car park: Cllr Holland reported (e-mail 10 October) on the meeting with Ian Sorenson.

- wasps by school: no further action was taken.

- the Chairman reported that a Christmas lunch for lone persons is to be organised. It will be held in the Village Hall: he has been asked if the PC will support the event by paying the hall hire cost.

Unanimously agreed.

2016/17/051

Report from Community Police Officer: no report submitted (PCSO Sims not present).

2016/17/052

Discussions with County and District Councillors: Cllr Radford (DCC) advised that as from April 2017 there will be a change of roads maintenance contractor for the County Council.

No reports from District Councillors (Cllrs Bainbridge and Collis not present).

2016/17/053

Reports by Parish Council representatives (listed below) had been circulated ahead of the meeting and were not discussed.

a) VH & RG Charity Committee: Cllr Adlington.

b) Canal Advisory Committee: Cllr Cutts.

c) Sampford Peverell Society: Cllr Culpin.

d) SP & District Twinning Association: Cllr Taylor.

e) Tree Wardens: Cllr Mason.

2016/17/054

Correspondence as listed on the agenda (all circulated by e-mail): noted.

2016/17/055

Other matters by leave of the Chairman: none.

2016/17/056

Next bi-monthly business meeting of the Parish Council: to be on Tuesday 22 November 2016 at 7.00 pm in the Committee Room of the Memorial Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9.40 pm.