

21.3.22

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 21 March 2022, starting at 7.00 pm, were distributed with the agenda to all Members by e-mail on 15 March 2022 by the Clerk.

Agenda

As distributed, but with one additional payment to be made (re purchase of a cherry tree to be planted to mark the 70th year of the reign of Queen Elisabeth II), as notified to Members by e-mail on 16 March 2022. In addition, there was a utility bill to be paid.

2021/22/099

The Chairman, Cllr David Cutts, declared the meeting open at 7.05 pm. He welcomed Mrs Sue McGeever, who will take over as Clerk on 1 April 2022, as well as SPPC Members present.

Members were aware of the risk assessment for meetings of the Parish Council which had been updated and circulated.

2021/22/100

Parishioners' Open Forum: not held because there were no parishioners present.

2021/22/101

Apologies: Cllr B Perks (Covid positive): also from Cllr Jo Norton (MDDC Ward Member) (Covid contact - in isolation)

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

Cllrs T Burt, B O'Connell, S Taylor, A Williams and E Castle.

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

2021/22/102

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 24 January 2022 unanimously approved by those present as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

- Matters arising: none

- Declarations of Interests: none made.

2021/22/103

Planning matters: the Clerk had circulated a summary list of planning applications updated to 15 March 2022. Details noted.

The Clerk gave details of two recent notifications:

22/00157/HOUSE: 57 Boobery: MDDC approval

22/00040/MARM: SP2 site: further revised drawings received: response formulated by Cllr Culpin has been submitted to MDDC.

2021/22/104

Finance

(a) Payments made since last meeting (24.1.22):

i) 31.1.22: B O'Connell: toilets miscellaneous purchases £31.38; toilets labour £36.00; travel (re fruit trees) £8.10: £75.48 in total.

ii) 31.1.22: Mid Devon Mobility: donation 2021/22: £50.00

iii) 31.1.22: CHAT: donation 2021/22: £100.00

iv) 13.2.22: Npower Commercial Gas Ltd: electricity account 5.2.22: £44.25

v) 1.3.22: SP VH Charity: room hire to 31.3 22 for SPPC meetings: £117.00

vi) 1.3.22: Source for Business: water account: £22.35

vii) 1.3.22: SP VH Charity: room hire (interviews): £15.00

.....seven payments noted.

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2021/22/104 Finance continued.....

(b) Statement of Accounts: report dated 14 March 2022: balances were as follows...

Business Reserve account: £3,967.84 (sheet 126)

Current account (at 14 March 2022): £27,432.00 (sheet 366A): Members noted that this balance now includes £888.24 (unchanged) held in the name of the former Parish Plan Group and £127.00 held in the name of the Sampford Peverell Play Park Appeal.

Members voted unanimously to accept the statement given. The relevant bank statements (nos.126 and 366A) were agreed by the Chairman to demonstrate reconciliation.

(c) authority to pay accounts rendered:

i) M J Aspray: Clerk's salary 2 & 3/22: £650.00

ii) M J Aspray: Clerk's expenses to 31.3.22: £74.79

iii) S McGeever: agreed payment for March 2022: £162.50

iv) Bernard O'Connell: toilets daily locking and cleaning (42 days @ £12.00 per day): £504.00 (for the period 1.2.22 to 14.3.22 (42 days)).

v) D Cutts: refund re cherry tree, stakes and ties: £48.94

vi) Npower: electricity for Feb '22: £32.13

(d) finance correspondence: acknowledgement with thanks from SP Methodist Church, Mid Devon Mobility and CHAT noted.

2021/22/105

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

a) Communications and Engagement (publicity): Social media WG: Cllr Culpin reported that a new e-mail address for the Clerk is being created.

b) Climate change and environmental issues WG:

- Cllr Burt reported that three sites had been examined by DCC under its Emergency Tree Fund, but they do not meet requirements for the scheme.

c) Roads, Pavements and Paths (Environmental) WG: Cllrs Burt, Williams and Castle:

Cllr Castle reported that the work of the "20 is Plenty" group of parishioners has been interrupted by Covid outbreaks. A group of five volunteers is undergoing training with the Police to monitor vehicle speeds in the village. Signs have been ordered from Seddons.

d) Public Convenience Development Group: Cllrs Cutts, O'Connell and Taylor: there are no outstanding maintenance issues. The facility is now closed and fenced off, with remodelling works started on 15 March.

e) Affordable Housing WG: Cllr Culpin reported to Members that no decision has yet been reached on possible working with Edenstone.

f) Snow Warden: Cllr Taylor reported on the remaining bags of salt in store.

g) Tidiness: Cllr Burt confirmed the date for the next litter pick as 23 April 2022; it will be advertised in the parish magazine. Cllr Williams asked if an additional pick could take place ahead of the Jubilee celebrations.

h) Defibrillator maintenance: Cllr S Taylor reported that all three defibrillators in the village are OK. Batteries and pads will need to be replaced next year.

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2021/22/106

Other highways and village matters:

a) Vandalism/ASB/criminal damage in the village: following a suspicious incident at the SPAR shop, safety protocols have been reviewed.

b) Police liaison: Cllr Williams reported on her recent observations when she joined a patrol from 2 to 7 pm.

[Cllr R Radford, DCC, joined the meeting at 7,55 pm]

c) book swap kiosk: Cllr Culpin hopes that it will be possible to repaint the exterior before the Jubilee celebrations.

d) Jubilee celebrations planning: Cllr Williams reported agreement with MDDC for the car park to be closed on Saturday 4 June between 9 am and 9 pm to accommodate a pizza van and an ice-cream van. There will be a bouncy castle in the play park. It is estimated that about £700.00 in funding will be required. Cllr Williams was asked to present a budget for the event.

2021/22/107

Discussions with DCC and MDDC Members:

Cllr Radford (DCC) was asked by the Chairman for information on the date of opening of the new slip roads on the NDLR at Tiverton. Cllr Cutts believes that much of the HGV traffic through the village could use the new junction when fully open.

Cllr Radford will send his report to the Clerk for circulation.

2021/22/108

Reports by Parish Council representatives:

a) VH & RG Charity Committee: Cllr Cutts reported that the entrance lobby had been redecorated and that new notice boards have been ordered.

b) Grand Western Canal Joint Advisory Committee: the monthly newsletters of the Friends of the Grand Western Canal continue to be circulated by the Clerk. Each includes a detailed report by Mark Baker outlining work done by the Ranger and volunteer teams.

c) Sampford Peverell Society: Cllr Culpin has circulated her report on Society activities.

d) SP & District Twinning Association: Cllr Castle reported that the Cheese and Wine party will now be held on 11 June. There are no plans for an exchange visit this year, there being too few people involved.

e) Tree Wardens: Peter Bowers' report has been circulated. Since September 2021 a total of 173 hours of voluntary labour have been recorded.

2021/22/109

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

2021/22/110

Other matters by leave of the Chairman:

- the Clerk has received a small number of parish maps from DCC. Copies were given to those Members who have joined SPPC since a previous batch was distributed, namely to Cllrs Steve Taylor, Emily Castle and Anne Williams.

Sue McGeever was also given a copy for her personal use: Sue also holds copies for Cllr Bev Perks and for the new Member appointed to fill the current vacant seat.

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2021/22/110 continued.....

- the Clerk will begin the process of hand-over of papers to the new Clerk, who takes over on 1 April 2022. Last year's correspondence with the External Auditor was handed to Sue. Mike confirmed that he will write the minutes of this meeting and produce a set of accounts for 2021/22. He will also make a claim for refund of VAT paid to date.

2021/22/111

Next meeting of SPPC will be on 9 May 2022, at 7.00 pm, in the main hall of the Memorial Hall. This will be the 2022 Annual Parish Meeting to be immediately followed by the 2022/23 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 8.55 pm.

This being the last meeting for the retiring Clerk, there followed a presentation attended by past Chairmen of SPPC, Mel Lucas, Maggie Muggleton and Colin Passey.

Cllr David Cutts thanked Mike for support given and for his work for the Parish over 20 years. In response, Mike spoke of the work of the Parish Council in supporting a vibrant community under the leadership of Chairmen past and present, not forgetting the work of David Sweatman.