

Minutes of Horsington Parish Council Meeting

On Wednesday 12th January 2022 at St Margaret's Hall, Horsington

DRAFT

110. Open Forum: A local resident expressed their concerns about the overgrown vegetation near the brook in South Cheriton. Clerk reported that the Highways Department intend to cut it on 21st January. It was reported that Highways have been asked to add it to their list so that is cut back on a regular basis. Angela Clayton, Adrian Pratt and Belinda Mann will try and attend when the contractors come on the 21st January.

111. District / County Councillor Reports.

Hayward Burt reported that South West Railways has changed the timetable for trains and this will affect the latest train coming back from London to Templecombe.

Mr Burt also reported that the SSDC website failed over Christmas due to an update.

Mr Burt also reported that applications for the SSDC hospitality grants run up to the end of February.

William Wallace reported that Somerset County Council has introduced a facility where members of the public can report problems with roads on their website.

Mr Wallace also reported that the Government has accepted the changes to one Council for Somerset effective from April 2023 and that elections for the new Council and Parish Councils will take place in May 2022.

112. Members Present and Apologies:

a. Members present: Mark Tucker (Chair), Adrian Pratt, Belinda Mann, Angela Clayton, Judy Hodges & Gill Miles.

b. Public present: D Chapman (Clerk), W Wallace and H Burt and 1 member of the public.

Apologies: M Tucker reported that Justine Kemp has resigned from the Parish Council as she felt that she could not afford the time for the role. M Tucker expressed his thanks for her efforts while on the Parish Council.

113. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations: None.

114. Approve the draft minutes of the meeting on 8th December 2021

Proposed by Gill Miles and seconded by Adrian Pratt.

115. Matters arising from minutes

Clerk reported that he has received some quotes for portable speed indicator device but is still waiting for a quote from Crestmoor for erecting posts.

Mark Tucker reported that he has erected the new sign at the play area and has cleaned the other ones.

It was reported that Adrian Pratt and Gillian Miles, together with her husband have reviewed the furniture in the Chapel.

116. Planning:

Applications: none

Determinations:

21/03275/HOU Lower Rock House, South Cheriton Road, South Cheriton – proposed ground floor and first floor extension to provide one bedroom with en suite shower room on first floor and family room on ground floor (re – submission) – application withdrawn – noted.

21/02205/FUL Solar Site South of Brains Farm, Moor Lane, Wincanton – Adjoining Parish – proposed solar farm and associated development. Amended plans, which exclude the proposal to erect the 15m communications tower/mast – granted – noted.

Other: none

117. Play Area

Clerk reported that S Hawkins hopes to finish the work in the play area during January.

118. Cemetery / Churchyard

It was reported that the pews in the chapel belong to the Methodist church in South Cheriton and that their representative will arrange for them to be removed and sold. A Councillor suggested that, maybe, the proceeds could be split between the Methodist church and the Parish Council. It was suggested that the building could be used for Church meetings but Councillors were concerned about spending any money on a building that is not used very often. It was agreed that when the furniture has been removed the building should be cleaned and then a decision made about any future works.

Clerk reported that a printing company in Yeovil has provide paper and digital copies of the cemetery plans. It was suggested that a digital copy could be sent to the County Records Office.

Angela Clayton reported that the yew trees need to be cut and that the February is the best time. Clerk has asked R Peters to do the work and will remind him.

119. Horse Pond

Mark tucker reported that the Environment Agency contractors say that it will take a few more weeks for the Problem caused by the oil leak to be fully resolved.

Councillors agreed that changes to the silt trap in the pond will be needed in the future to reduce the amount silt accumulating in the main pond.

106. Footpaths

It was reported that the footpath that a member of the public has offered to put down some gravel on the footpath that runs alongside the Church as it is very muddy.

120. Finance:

a. Authorised Cheques

1281 - £168.00 – D Chapman – Clerk's salary January 2022

1282- £4,393.48 pond (includes £732.24 recoverable VAT) – Crestmoor Construction Ltd – clearance of silt from horse pond

1283 - £60.00 – Mark Tucker – reimbursement of cost of new sign at play area

b. Monies Received: £250 donation towards the cost of the new picnic table in the play area.

c. Agree Budget/Precept for 2022/2023. Councillors reviewed an analysis of income and expenditure for the current year and a forecast for the next financial year. A proposal to increase the precept to cover the clearance of silt from the pond in future was discussed in detail. It was agreed to increase the precept to £12,980 to cover the future increase in silt clearance and possible election costs.

d. Other – Clerk reported that Belinda Mann is the only authorised signatory on the NS+I burial account. Councillors passed a resolution that Mark Tucker and Angela Clayton should be added as authorised signatories.

121. Correspondence:

a. Somerset County Council – procedures for reporting faults with roads and footpaths– **noted**.

122. Any other business of importance:

It was reported that there have been some building works at a property on Horsington High Road. Councillors are not aware of any recent planning applications. Adrian Pratt will investigate.

Gillian Miles asked if there has been any progress with the request to SSDC for dog poo bins in the villages. Clerk has chase Tim Cook at SSDC but has not received an update. Hayward Burt will contact SSDC for an update.

It was reported that when the hedge was cut between the Manor and the Village Hall a lot of cuttings were left on the road. Adrian Pratt will investigate.

Meeting closed 21:00