

Minutes of Horsington Parish Council Meeting

On Wednesday 9th February 2022 at St Margaret's Hall, Horsington

DRAFT

124. Open Forum: none.

125. District / County Councillor Reports.

William Wallace reported that the Somerset County Council portion of the council tax is due to rise by 3% in April 2022 (including a 1% raise for social care).

126. Members Present and Apologies:

- a. Members present: Mark Tucker (Chair), Adrian Pratt, Judy Hodges & Gill Miles.
- b. Public present: D Chapman (Clerk) and W Wallace.

Apologies: Angela Clayton, Belinda Mann and Hayward Burt.

127. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations: None.

128. Approve the draft minutes of the meeting on 12th February 2022

Proposed by Adrian Pratt and seconded by Judy Hodges.

129. Matters arising from minutes

Clerk reported that the white lines in South Cheriton have now been re- done.

It was also reported that the vegetation in South Cheriton has now been cut back. Mark Tucker thanked Adrian Pratt for all his work clearing up. Clerk reported that the Highways Department has asked for the area to be included for biannual maintenance but Councillors agreed that Richard Peters should be asked to cut the vegetation back once or twice a year.

Angela Clayton has been liaising with the Methodist Church about the pews etc. in the chapel at the cemetery and is arranging to get valuations. The proceeds will then be split between the Methodist Church and the Parish Council.

Clerk has spoken to Richard Peters about trimming the yew trees in the cemetery and the work should be done in the next couple of weeks.

Hayward Burt has been chasing SSDC regarding the installation of new dog poo bins but is still awaiting a response.

Adrian Pratt has investigated the building works at the property on Horsington High Road and the work is just replacing existing structures.

130. Planning:

Applications:

21/03854/FUL Land Adjoining 17 Batchpool Lane, Horsington – erection of 6No. detached dwellings and 3No. discount market homes for local residents with associated access, parking and garaging – **Councillors objected to the application for the following reasons:**

- **Councillors feel that 9 houses on this site is over development. The revised plans have removed the green barrier along the road that the original plans provided as, to accommodate the extra house all the houses have been moved nearer to the road.**
- **there are concerns about the increased traffic along this narrow road. The extra house will only increase the traffic.**
- **some councillors were concerned about parking, particularly for visitors.**
- **there were concerns about the affordability of the discounted houses under this scheme.**
- **the affordable houses appear to be small and squashed in.**
- **with the original application the Parish Council was more supportive of allowing an existing parishioner to stay in the village but this is no longer relevant.**

21/03816/COL Southland Farm, Marsh Lane, South Cheriton – application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an existing use; the erection of 2 identical biomass boiler units and pellet storage to provide heat to poultry sheds – **Councillors had no objections.**

21/03670/FUL Land OS 5231, Tower Hill Barn, Horsington Park, Tower Hill Horsington – conversion of an existing agricultural building into a residential dwelling including the change of use of agricultural land to residential curtilage – **Councillors had no objections.**

Determinations: 20/03423/FUL Land East of Coombe Cross, Stowell Lane, Horsington – the erection of 2 No. self-build passive-houses with associated access and landscaping – William Wallace reported that this application was approved at the SSDC Area East meeting earlier that day – **noted.**

Other: none

131. Play Area – nothing to report.

132. Cemetery / Churchyard

It was reported that doors to the chapel have been open – **noted.**

It was reported that the hedges at the cemetery are very overgrown and need cutting back. It was agreed that a meeting with Steve Hawkins should be held at the cemetery to discuss the issue to ascertain the likely cost.

133. Horse Pond

It was reported that there is still some scum in the pond following oil leak. Mark Tucker will contact the Environment Agency for an update

134. Footpaths

It was reported 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. Although this work has not yet been done, it is expected that it will be done in due course.

135. Finance:

a. Authorised Cheques

1284 - £168.00 – D Chapman – Clerk's salary February 2022

b. Monies Received: 25 pence interest on the Burial Account held with NS&I.

c. Other – Mark Tucker reported that Lloyds Bank has now processed the paperwork so that all the current Councillors are now cheque signatories – **noted.**

136. Correspondence:

a. South Somerset County Council – timetable for elections for Parish Councils in May 2022 – **noted.**

b. Rev K Rogers – passing on an email from the relatives of a lady whose parents are buried in the cemetery – **noted.**

c. Relative of a number of people buried at the cemetery – request to tidy up the graves – **Councillors agreed subject to the work being done at the family's own expense and on the condition that it does not impede on the maintenance of the rest of the cemetery.**

137. Any other business of importance:

It was reported that John Sansom is arranging for an event to celebrate the Queen's jubilee. This will involve a blocking the road from Freshford to the junction of Lower Road between Saturday and Monday morning over the bank holiday weekend. Tickets will be available at a cost of £12 to include food and a bar.

Mark Tucker suggested that the Parish Council could offer financial support and /or physical help.

Meeting closed 21:00