

Minutes of Horsington Parish Council Meeting

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at St Margaret's Hall, Horsington

DRAFT

138. Open Forum:

Two local residents expressed their concerns about planning applications 22/00167/HOU & 22/00168/HOU regarding the height of the proposed buildings, chimney, roof lights, drainage and inconsistencies in the plans.

139. District / County Councillor Reports:

Hayward Burt reported that the SSDC element of the council tax will rise by 2.8% meaning an increase of £5 for a band D property.

Mr Burt also reported that £2.9 million will be spent on the Wincanton Town regeneration project.

There is also a Somerset Food Fayre taking place in July.

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). £18 million will be spent on adult social care and £12 million on children. There is a budget of £48 million for capital projects including zero carbon which including electrifying the council fleet of vehicles.

Somerset County Council will provide food vouchers covering the half term holidays for needy children.

Somerset County Council will help relocate refugees from Ukraine and has been flying the Ukrainian flag over its offices.

140. Members Present and Apologies:

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

b. Public present: D Chapman (Clerk), W Wallace, H Burt and 2 members of the public.

Apologies: Judy Hodges.

141. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations: None.

142. Approve the draft minutes of the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022

It was reported that the cost of the tickets for the Queen's jubilee event is £15 not £12 as stated in the draft minutes. The minutes were changed to reflect this. The minutes were then proposed by Adrian Pratt and seconded by Gill Miles and signed as correct.

143. Matters arising from minutes

Clerk reported that Mr Peters has now trimmed the yew trees at the cemetery.

Angela Clayton reported that S Hawkins has cut back a lot of the hedge and overgrown trees at the cemetery and hopes to finish the work in the next week.

Hayward Burt has been chasing SSDC regarding the installation of new dog poo bins and has received a reply stating that no new bins are being allowed at this time.

Clerk reported that the quote from Crestmoor for installing posts for a speed indicator device has not been received but, due to the upcoming election in May, a decision could not be made until the May meeting at the earliest.

144. Planning:

Applications:

22/00281/HOU Stantor, High Road, Horsington – installation of ground mounted photo voltaic panels –  
**Councillors had no objections.**

22/00341/HOU Horsington Hill, Back Lane, Horsington – installation of dormer window to the north east elevation of the guest accommodation and the installation of a dormer window to the south west elevation of the carport. **Councillors had no objections.**

22/00356/FUL Sandpit, Horsington Road, Horsington – construction of residential annexe to existing dwelling following demolition of existing garage/store. Construction of replacement agricultural barn following demolition of existing agricultural barns. **Councillors had no objections subject to a condition that the proposed annexe is tied to the main residence as ancillary accommodation and cannot be sold off as a separate dwelling in the future.**

22/00167/HOU & 22/00168/LBC Rookes House, Church Lane, Horsington BA8 0EG – convert existing garage and reconstruct detached single storey stable outbuildings to form residential annex and convert former trailer store to double garage for Rookes House. **Councillors have no objections in principle but have concerns about the inconsistencies in the plans that need to be clarified. These include the louvred structure shown on the plans from one elevation but not the others. Is this a chimney? If it is a chimney there are concerns about emissions towards Pond House.**

**Councillors questioned the need for the roof lights on the Pond House side of the house. There were concerns that the plans show that the building will be 1.7 metres higher than the existing garage and that the new garage will be 1.3 metres higher than the existing garage but the application states that the stable block will retain the same ridge height.**

**Although not a planning issue, the plans show the drains for the main house connecting to the private 'break chamber'. This is not correct.**

**Should the application be approved the Parish Council would like a condition imposed linking the new dwelling as ancillary to the main house and preventing it being sold as a separate dwelling in the future.**

Determinations:

21/03343/PAMB Land OS7242 Horsington – notification of prior approval for conversion of agricultural barn into dwelling – approved – **noted.**

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 – approved – **noted.**

Other: none

145. Play Area – It was noted that the basketball post has not yet been removed. Clerk to remind Mr Hawkins.

146. Cemetery / Churchyard

Angela Clayton asked if she can be informed when the people who are tidying up their graves (as agreed at the previous meeting) attend. Clerk will pass on Angela's contact details to the people so that she can be notified.

It was reported that there are still a lot of Christmas wreaths etc around some of the graves and these can get caught in the mower. Mark Tucker will put something in the Villager magazine reminding people to take such items away after a reasonable amount of time.

Angela Clayton reported that she has contacted a number of people about selling the pews in the chapel and that some of the people contacted were not interested. It was agreed that she make further enquiries.

147. Horse Pond

It was reported that there is still some scum in the pond following oil leak. Mark Tucker has tried to contact the Environment Agency contractors for an update without any luck.

Mark Tucker reported that a local resident has offered to clear the fallen tree in the pond at no cost to us as long as he can keep the wood.

148. Footpaths

It was reported that a tree has fallen across the footpath near the chicken farm in Marsh Lane. Clerk will contact the landowner and ask for it to be cleared.

149. Finance:

a. Authorised Cheques

1285 - £233.81 – D Chapman – Clerk’s salary March 2022 and expenses between 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022

1286 - £123.50 – S Hawkins – tree and hedge cutting at cemetery.

b. Monies Received: £948.37 HMRC recovery of VAT paid during year.

150. Correspondence:

a. email from a Parishioner, living on the A357 in South Cheriton, asking for a weight limit for HGV’s using the A357 and SCC Highways Department that this is not possible on this road – **noted**.

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

151. County / Parish Elections

Clerk distributed nomination forms for the upcoming elections. Clerk offered to take the forms into the SSDC offices in Yeovil if Councillors get them back to him by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April.

152. Any other business of importance:

Gill Miles reported that a number of volunteers have offered to tidy up the car park at the primary school including cutting back the trees. Councils agreed to the request.

Gill Miles also reported that the School has been trying to get the yellow zigzag lines repainted for the last two years without success. Clerk will contact Somerset County Council to try to progress the matter.

It was also reported that the Village Hall is to be painted, purchasing new chairs and looking into installing CCTV because of the amount of litter being dropped in the car park.

Clerk reported that he will be retiring as Clerk by September this year. It was agreed that the vacancy should be advertised in the Villager magazine, with SSDC and maybe in the Blackmore Vale magazine in time for a replacement to have a suitable handover.

Meeting closed 21:25