

HORTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15th JANUARY 2018 IN

ST PETERS CHURCH, HORTON AT 7.30pm

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Public Forum

- A) 17 members of the public in attendance of the meeting.
- B) Cllr Linda Vijeh was in attendance of the meeting. Please see attached report (**Appendix 1**) written by Cllr Linda Vijeh for SCC/SSDC Councillor Monthly Report.
- 2834 PRESENT** Cllrs Adele Brady - Chair, David Johnson – Vice Chairman, Richard Clifford, Pippa Woodman, Vickie Hobbs, Julie Layzell, Ann Winter, Ann Richards.
- 2835 APOLOGIES** Cllr David Lester.
- 2836 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None.
- 2837 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** Minutes of the meeting held in December having previously been circulated were approved as a true record and correct record of the meeting. Cllrs approved, seconded and unanimously agreed.
- 2838 PLAYING FIELD** A number of residents were in attendance of the meeting to discuss the playing field, what is desired, what needs to be done and what is needed to achieve this. Various discussions between councillors and residents were had. The main points/comments made:
- Clerk handed out 3 documents to residents; answers to questions residents had previously asked; a document of likely costs for new playing equipment; a document outlining what is needed from the community for the grant/funding process and organisations to approach for grants/funding.
 - Cllr Adele Brady suggested that the residents set up a playing field committee and Cllr Vickie Hobbs will be the nominated parish council representative to attend all playing field committee meetings where possible. Residents were happy with this suggestion.
 - It was agreed to list the playing field as an agenda item on the bi-monthly meetings for updates.
 - Sign on field gate with incorrect details has been removed and a new sign has been ordered.
 - Clerk had been in contact with a company called Spark who were offering a course to members of the public which was coming up at the end of January. The course offered guidance, advice and training for what is needed to apply for grant funding for community projects. It was unanimously agreed that the parish council would pay for 3 members of the public to attend this course in order to help progress the playing field project.
 - It was suggested to residents that they take over the Horton Breakfast Club as the current organisers of this event wish to hand it over. The Breakfast Club is a successful event in the village and often makes profits between £300 to £500 each time. It was suggested to residents that they take this over as any profit made could be put into the playing field project.
 - Residents requested to read the playing field audit undertaken by SSDC. The request was approved and the document was handed around in meeting.
 - Cllr Adele Brady suggested making contact with local businesses within the village to see if they would offer a donation to the playing field project as there is a large number of businesses with the village.
 - A decision needs to be made over whether to fix or remove the equipment at the playing field as per the audit report. Cllr Pippa Woodman offered to meet with contractor to discuss options and cost. Clerk to arrange time and date.
- 2839 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**
- A) **17/04683/OUT – Land Adj Bullen Bungalow, Goose Lane, Horton** – Outline application for the erection of a dwelling and access thereto.

The Parish Council object to the planning application based on highway/access issues and fully support SCC Highway and Planning Officer comments to recommend refusal for the application.

- B) 17/04800/FUL – Old Police House, Hanning Road, Horton** – Erection of a single storey rear extension and replacement porch to front elevation.

The Parish Council unanimously support the application.

- C) 17/04876/FUL – Orchard House, Langworthy Orchard, Horton** – Single storey side extension and outbuilding.

The Parish Council recommend refusal for the following reasons:

Over development of site, proposal not in keeping with the area, there will be a loss of natural light to neighbouring property and the noise of the plant room will be unacceptable to neighbouring property.

- 2840 STANDING ORDERS** Cllrs Ann Winter, Ann Richards, Julie Layzell and Vickie Hobbs signed the Standing Orders policy.
- 2841 CODE OF CONDUCT** Cllrs Ann Winter, Ann Richards, Julie Layzell and Vickie Hobbs signed the Code of Conduct policy.
- 2842 INVENTORY OF COUNCIL OWNED PROPERTY/ITEMS** List of items of current items owned by the parish council were circulated to councillors. Clerk needs to review the list to add/remove any items as necessary as the list is needed for audit purposes. Item to be listed on March 2018 agenda.
- 2843 BUS SERVICE** Discussions were held over the minimal bus service from Horton to Taunton/Yeovil etc. Clerk to speak with Transport Officer at SSDC over concerns and issues.
- 2844 HOUSING NEED SURVEY** Grant funding form circulated to all councillors in order to help formulate a response to questions asked. It was agreed to delay the housing need survey due to the playing field project as time and resources are limited.
- 2445 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME** Item was listed as an agenda item at the request of Cllr David Lester. Item to be relisted on March 2018 agenda as Cllr David Lester was absent from the meeting.
- 2846 FINANCE**
Proposal – To approve financial statement - Unanimously approved
Proposal – Budget 2018/2019 - Unanimously Approved
Proposal – Precept 2018/2019 – A request of £13,550 was unanimously approved
Proposal – To approve payment of the following cheques:
- St Peters Church - hall rental - cheque No. 000698 - £10.00 – Unanimously approved
- C Duff – wages and expenses - cheque No. 000699 - £418.08 – Unanimously approved
- 2847 CLERKS REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**
- Letters received by clerk from Andrew J Bradbury over concerns of the spend limit in Puddlebridge. Clerk to forward on correspondence to SCC Highways and ask for a copy of their response.
 - Local Government Boundary Review consultation received and to go on next agenda.
 - Rights of Way consultation received – noted.
- 2848 ANY OTHER MATTERS RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN** None.
- 2849 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** 7.30pm Monday 15th January 2018

2850 CLOSED SESSION: To agree date for meeting regarding A358 Letter received from Mott McDonald in connection with the proposal for the A358. Letter offers to visit parish council only to discuss proposal. Dates discussed and clerk will request a meeting on the 8th February.

ILMINSTER DIVISION COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT DECEMBER 2017

ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES

In recent weeks, I have been asked to intervene in a number of cases relating to adult social care within the division. I am pleased to report that I was able to achieve the placement of an elderly couple in a care home where they can be together, just 2 days before Christmas.

LOCAL AUTHORITY FINANCIAL SETTLEMENTS

The Government's Financial Settlement for LAs was announced recently. The Government chose not to award Pilot Business Rate Retention to Somerset, but did give it to Devon and Glos. This will mean that SCC will now have to find an additional £4m. of savings, and underlines the need for MPs to understand the progressive financial stresses that such decisions are causing. In the meantime, SCC Financial Officers are remodelling the MTFP options (Revenue and Capital).

SCC – DBS CHECKS

It has now been agreed that in future all councillors will be expected to undergo DBS checks.

SCC SCRUTINY – POLICIES, CHILDREN & FAMILIES

A joint meeting is planned with Adults Scrutiny on Jan. 12th

The Special Education Needs and Disabilities report indicates that SEND is more prevalent in boys and that in Somerset there is a higher % of Children Looked After with SEN than the national average, a higher proportion with social, emotional and mental health needs. They are also three times more likely to be eligible for free school meals.

Key stage2 performance for 2016 for SEND children is below the national average as are GCSE results for English and Maths. There has also been an increase in exclusions, especially in secondary schools.

Plans in place to address these issues, as part of a multi-agency approach, include 'Choice for Life' area based panels, and a strategy to aid transition.

BROADBAND – CONNECTING DEVON & SOMERSET UPDATE

The issue has been raised over the position in relation to siting of boxes. For those over 2kms. away there has been no noticeable improvement in speed. Superfast connection for Phase 1 for 270k business and homes has now been completed. No data has yet been released for Phase 2, but information is being gathered down to individual properties.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES – OFSTED

OFSTED have now completed their monitoring visit, with their report due in early 2018.

CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY

Funding allocations relating to the new Schools National Funding formula will be discussed at the January meeting.

COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BID

At this month's meeting Ilminster Town Council have agreed to submit a community right to bid application for the Somerset Skills & Learning premises on Ditton Street.

ILMINSTER SCHOOLS UPDATE

The planned meeting with governors, due to be held in Dec. has been postponed until the 9th Jan.

ROADWORKS UPDATE

No new roadworks, not previously notified, are planned for the new year.

HIGHWAYS

A358 Taunton to Southfields Scheme - update on the upcoming public consultation.

This will take place in Jan./Feb. with more detail due to be published on 3rd Jan. 2018.

The consultation will offer an opportunity to comment on our route options and will involve public exhibitions in the vicinity of the options. Info. will be available online and at public info. points.

visit www.highways.gov.uk/a358-taunton-to-southfields or email A358TauntontoSouthfields@highwaysengland.co.uk

ILMINSTER FLOODING UPDATE

As promised, the initial investigation report was produced this month and will be published on the Flood Risk Management website in the new year.

In response to local enquiries about the impact of flooding on property insurance, I have been given details of an initiative named Floodre, set up to help those who struggle to get affordable insurance due to flooding. The link to further info. is <https://www.floodre.co.uk/>

Comments from Ilminster TC have resulted in the following revisions:

- ☐ The duration of internal flooding and also flooding of strategic infrastructure has been updated to more accurately record the circumstances.
- ☐ The information in the report comes from the historic database of flooding as reported to the Local Authority (others). As flooding is often under reported there are likely to be events missing. A note has been added to only record what they are told about, and confirmation that they are always happy to receive information to keep the historic database as comprehensive as possible.
- ☐ Reference to sewage flooding is now included.

FOOTPATHS

An order for the closure of public footpath CH 6/4 in Chillington has been received. An inspection of the old bridge in the valley found that there is significant stone loss particularly to the upstream arch which could result in a collapse should it be washed out further. The closure is for 21 days and this will be extended for a further 6 months initially.

For further info. contact Rachel Pearce, Rights of Way Warden (Bridges) on 01823 356001 or by email: rpearce@somerset.gov.uk

DONYATT SIS CONSULTATION

An outline design has been completed now and highways are starting a consultation exercise to receive comments from the community. The proposal includes the relocation of the southern 30mph gateway and enhancement of all gateways, installation of centre hatching and bollards to visually narrow the carriageway, construction of two uncontrolled crossings along with tactile paving to assist the visually impaired, installation of roundels and 'SLOW' markings and vegetation clearance. The installation of countdown 9, 6, 3 yellow bar markings, retroreflective verge marker posts, new signs and the refreshment of existing lining and road markings would also be undertaken.

Due to the geographical extent of the scheme hard copies of the plans are unable to be provided to adjacent residents but they will receive a letter shortly advising them of the proposed works, stating that hard copies of the plans have been provided to the PC. Electronic copies can be found at

<http://www.somerset.gov.uk/policies-and-plans/schemes-and-initiatives/small-improvement-schemes/>

A Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) has been included as an alternative to yellow backed repeaters (plan 70023646-101) but it must be noted that it is unlikely that this option will meet the criteria for installation.

100 YEARS OF THE VOTE FOR WOMEN

A Champagne Tea is planned to mark this event on 8th Feb. at The Shrubbery.

PARISH COUNCIL TRAINING

Winsham Parish Council are holding a training evening for Councillors on Thurs. Feb.22ND 2018, from 7 - 9pm at Jubilee Hall, Winsham, costing £20 per person. The training will include 'Being a Good Councillor' and the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Any councillors wishing to attend should contact winshampc@hotmail.co.uk by Wed. 3rd Jan. 2018 at the latest.

ACTIVITIES/MEETINGS

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| 1/12 | Fiveways School Governor visit |
| 1/12 | SSDC – planning officers re: local applications |
| 1/12 | Horton Christmas Tree Lighting |
| 2/12 | Donyatt Christmas Bazaar |
| 2/12 | Dillington Going Crackers |
| 2/12 | CLOKS Christmas performance |
| 3/12 | Kingstone Christingle |
| 4/12 | Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service – forum meeting |
| 4/12 | DSFRS – fire fighter presentation |
| 4/12 | DSFRS – interview shortlisting |
| 5/12 | SCC -Scrutiny |
| 5/12 | SCC – Broadband update |
| 5/12 | Greenfylde Nativity |
| 5/12 | Minster Tree Festival |
| 5/12 | Ilminster Town Council |
| 6/12 | SSDC Area West |
| 6/12 | Horton – Adult Social Care |
| 6/12 | Winsham PC |
| 7/12 | Donyatt Carols by Candlelight |
| 8/12 | SCC – Scrutiny for Policies, Children & Families |
| 8/12 | Samaritans Christmas Quiz |
| 9/12 | Horton Christmas Bazaar |
| 9/12 | Broadway Christmas Quiz |
| 10/12 | Donyatt VH Breakfast |
| 10/12 | Horton Church Nativity |
| 10/12 | Ashill Christmas Fair |
| 10/12 | Dowlish Wake Christingle |
| 12/12 | Greenfylde School Nativity |
| 12/12 | Ilminster TC |
| 14/12 | Fiveways School Christmas Performance |
| 17/12 | Horton Church Christingle |
| 17/12 | Chaffcombe Christmas Lunch |
| 17/12 | Ilminster Town & Country Carol Service |
| 18/12 | Horton – Social Services |
| 18/12 | Horton PC |
| 19/12 | Neroche School Christmas Performance |
| 19/12 | SCC – Highways – Ilminster Flooding Report |
| 12 | SCC – Corporate Governance meeting |
| 19/12 | South Somerset Choral Society Concert |
| 20/12 | Ilminster – Community Service |
| 20/12 | Horton Carol Service |