

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022 AT 6.30PM AT BROADWAY HILL  
METHODIST CHURCH, HORTON.

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**Public Forum**

One member of the public was in attendance at the meeting.

**3395 ATTENDANCE** Cllrs Ann Winter - Chairperson, Ray Buckler, Mike Schmidt, Julie Layzell, David Johnson, Peter Babbington, Ann Richards and Rob Hutchinson.

**3396 APPROVAL OF APOLOGIES** Cllrs Barry Mosley and Julie Layzell.

**3397 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (MAY)** The minutes of the meeting held in May, having previously been circulated, were approved as a true record and correct record of the meeting. Cllrs approved, seconded, and unanimously agreed.

**A358 CONSULTATION RESPONSE** Refer to **Appendix One** for the draft response. Cllrs attended a National Highways presentation to view the proposals. Cllrs met separately to discuss the Council's response to the consultation.

Two amendments are required to the draft response; Modify point 3 – remove neutral and laybys further from the junction and point 4 - amend to include 'Widen road'.

Subject to amendments, the Cllrs approved, seconded and unanimously agreed to submit the response to National Highways.

**3398 PLANNING APPLICATION(S)**

5.1 22/00846/HOU - The Old Manse Goose Lane Horton - Erection of single storey side extension and two storey rear extension to dwelling.

The Council note the amended plans and has no further comments to make.

*Action: Clerk to provide the above comment to SSDC.*

5.2 22/01111/FUL - Land Os 4257 Part Shave Lane Horton - Erection of a single new dwelling and detached double garage with home office space.

The Council considered the planning application and do not object to the principle of a new dwelling however, the Council objected to the proposal for the following reasons:

A three-storey dwelling is out of character for the location/village along with the scale and design being inappropriate, three-storeys will cause overlooking issues to neighbouring properties and the scale of the detached garage causes reason for concern over the potential future use i.e separate dwelling or use as business premises.

The Council consider a two-storey dwelling would be more appropriate. Furthermore, the Council request that a condition is imposed on any planning permission restricting the use of the garage to garage only and not to be used as an annexe/separate dwelling or for business purposes.

*Action: Clerk to provide the above comment to SSDC.*

**3399 FINANCE**

- 6.1.1 Proposal – To Approve Section 1 (Annual Governance Statement 2021/22) of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22 Form 3 – Unanimously approved.
- 6.1.2 Proposal – To Approve Section 2 (Accounting Statements 2020/21) of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22 Form 3 – Unanimously approved.
- 6.1.3 Internal Audit Report 2021/22 Form 3 – Unanimously approved.
- 6.1.4 Proposal – To Approve Summary of Receipts and Payments Statement for 2021/22 – Unanimously approved.
- 6.1.5 Proposal – To Approve Cashbook and Bank Reconciliation as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 – Unanimously approved.
- 6.1.6 Proposal – To Approve Supporting Notes Attached to the Receipts and Payments Statement 2021/22 – Unanimously approved.
- 6.2 Proposal – To approve payment of the following cheques:
- 6.2.1 Grinters – Village maintenance - Cheque No. 000816 - £438.00 - Unanimously Approved.
- 6.2.2 Broadway Hill Methodist Church – Cheque No. 000817 - £19.50 - Unanimously Approved.  
Ray Buckler – Expenses (not listed on agenda) - Cheque No. 000818 - £64.26.00 - Unanimously Approved.

**3400 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE** Nothing to report.

**3401 ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

1. A new defibrillator has now been installed in the bus shelter.
2. Maintenance of verges to be added to next agenda.
3. Cllr Peter Babbington is currently working on and painting the Five Dials fingerpost.

**3402 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022 commencing at 6.30pm.

## Appendix 1: Draft A358 National Highways Supplementary Consultation, June 2022

Our intended response as follows: National Highways is carrying out a supplementary consultation on a number of changes to their earlier plans, with responses due to be submitted by 26th June 2022. Horton Parish Council have considered the implications of the changes and have approved the comments below at its public meeting on 20th June 2022. The following are therefore comment on the issues of most relevance to Horton.

### 1 Proposed bridge at Jordans

Horton Parish Council support this, as this will provide a crossing point for walkers, cyclists and horse riders (WCH), reopening footpaths and creating safer cycleways and bridlepaths. This will provide improved connection to employment sites within Ilton.

### 2 Additional proposal

It is suggested that the proposed WCH path to be created between Broadway Street and the old A358 at Horton Cross should be upgraded to take vehicles. This would create a direct link between Horton Cross and Broadway Street, providing an alternative route for local traffic only from the A358 (south) to join the A358 at Ashill junction without using the Southfields roundabout. It would also link to the service road between Broadway Street and the proposed Ashill junction. To ensure it is only used by local traffic, it would require weight restrictions plus the junction at Horton Cross and Broadway Street would require appropriate design changes.

### 3 Parking laybys on both carriageways of A358 south of the proposed bridge at Jordans

Due to the safety considerations this is not considered an appropriate or desirable addition, however otherwise Horton parish Council is neutral on this proposal.

### 4 Passing points on Broadway Street

These are supported, however, there will be environmental impacts resulting from any removal of hedgerows which should be minimised.

### 5 Lengthening of the parallel merge/diverge layouts of the segregated left-turn lane connecting the A358 (west) to the A303 (east) to facilitate safer merging onto the A303 (east) and reduce congestion on the segregated lane.

This is supported, however the Community of Parishes believes that the segregated lane should be extended further back on the A358 (west) so that there would be an earlier opportunity to separate from the A358 lane, reducing the risk of congestion and traffic spilling back even further onto the A358 (west). At peak times, traffic approaching the roundabout can currently tailback to Rapps or even further west.

### 6 Widening the approach of the A358 (south) to Southfields roundabout from 1 to 2 lanes at Ilminster Services and installing traffic lights to improve traffic access to and from the Services and provide a WCH crossing the A358 (south).

This is not supported. The A358 at this point is used by through traffic travelling from Dorset and the south coast and traffic diverted off the A303 via Horton, as well as local traffic from Chard, Donyatt, Horton and Broadway seeking to reach the roundabout. At peak times this stretch of the A358 (south) is heavily used and often congested. Access to Horton Cross Nursing Home is frequently obstructed. The creation of a second lane in front of the entrance to Horton Cross Services would complicate safe entry and exit and cause additional congestion. The installation of traffic lights would mean that traffic to and from the services have more lanes to traverse and, particularly, those exiting right would have to wait for both entry traffic off the A358 (south) and WCH crossing, whether or not both were present. This would introduce significant additional delay to traffic approaching the roundabout and likely to cause backing up of traffic onto the roundabout. Instead, the two lanes should start after the entry to the services and it would cause less congestion close to the roundabout if the crossing point was further west towards Horton Cross (south on the A358). However, once WCH crosses the A358 south, heading towards Ilminster, there is no

proposed safe crossing over the A303 westbound and without an additional crossing of the A303 westbound to aid access to Ilminster, the purpose of a safe crossing point for WHC on the A358 south is questionable/ almost pointless.

The approach to Southfields from the A358 south requires a segregated left turn lane to allow access to the A358 (west) towards Taunton without using the roundabout, as previously proposed by the Community of Parishes.

There is significant concern that the traffic modelling for Southfields Roundabout and the Ilminster Services signalised junction predict theoretical delays for traffic on the A358 (south) approaching the roundabout are completely unrealistic and are regularly exceeded now.

## 7 Southfields roundabout

Without a rethink / redesign of Southfields roundabout, the current proposals for the roundabout will lead to even greater congestion on all the approach roads and will increase safety risks. This, in turn, will encourage increased use of existing rat runs and shortcuts through Sea, Donyatt, Horton and Broadway by vehicles wishing to avoid the congestion at the roundabout.

Based on the experience of local people over recent years, many local people avoid the congestion at Southfields roundabout at peak times by choosing alternative routes. However, the proposals along the A358 corridor will reduce alternative options and will give many no choice but to use the roundabout. Therefore it is felt that the modelling does not accurately reflect the likely volumes of traffic funnelled into Southfields by the reduction of alternative routes for local traffic

Horton Parish Council urges National Highways to consider more thoroughly its proposals for the redesign of Southfields roundabout. National Highways have not taken account of the suggestions put forward by the Community of Parishes in the previous consultation.

Ends