

MILBORNE PORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4th July at 7pm at the Town Hall

Present: Mr J Oldham (Chair), Mr M Ritchie, Mr R Biss, Mr T Watts, Mrs M Lock, Mr P Lock, Mr R Douglas, Mr J Edmonds, Mr C Laughton, Mr M Lancaster and Mr G Crudgington

Also Present: County Councillor William Wallace
Emma Curtis – Parish Clerk

Public Question Time

There were four members of the public present.

A lady informed Councillors that she had that day sent the Clerk images showing the considerable extent of overgrown trees, bushes, shrubs and brambles in the village along various rights of way, pavements and highways. The lady said that the overgrowth had caused a blind man within the village to lose his glasses and hat and was preventing his guide dog from going further along the pathways due to the hazard. Mr Oldham displayed some images on the screen for Councillors to see. The lady concluded by commenting that although she realised most of the problem areas were not the responsibility of the Parish Council, that all Councillors take responsibility for the village they live in and report any obstructions along footpaths. Mrs Lock and the Clerk confirmed that this already happened, and that Mrs Lock and the Clerk were in regular contact with Eve Wynn the Rights of Way Officer at SCC. The Clerk confirmed that she had reported all the issues the lady had raised to Rights of Way, Highways and Trinity Estates along with forwarding the images and requesting urgent action. To conclude, the lady also reported that people were ignoring the one way and no entry signs at Lower Gunville and requested that the Council report this to Highways.

Action – Clerk report signage issues to Highways

Receive reports from County Councillor William Wallace, District Councillor Sarah Dyke and Parish Councillors

County Councillor William Wallace – Following the comments made during Public Question Time Councillor Wallace reported that Somerset has the largest network of footpaths and bridleways in the country and that although funding was lacking and they were difficult to maintain the County Council worked hard care for all Rights of Way in the county. Councillor Wallace had no specific report but stated that the new quadrennium had commenced and he was working hard in his new role as Chairman to maintain cohesion between the political parties. Councillor Wallace confirmed there was no update on the A30 crossing application.

District Councillor Sarah Dyke – No report received

Mr Lock – In addition to the comments made during Public Question Time Mr Lock stated that the ranger was contracted to complete garden work but that SSDC also had a linesman to clear near highways and pavements and perhaps this should be considered for the next year's budget in conjunction with a change in contract.

Mr Crudgington – Mr Crudgington commented that he could not get hold of a positive map of the footpaths in the village and questioned who was responsible. Mrs Lock and the Clerk reported that the Parish Council had a thorough map of the footpaths and that there was also an extremely adequate online map available.

Mr Laughton – Recommended that everyone visit the newly redecorated bus shelter at Crackmore Garage and thanked all those involved for their hard work.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Received from Mrs A Flynn, Mr R Lockey and District Councillor Sarah Dyke
2. **Declarations of Interest:** Received from Mr T Watts, agenda item 9.1, *owner of Nursery House, Wheathill Lane* and from Mr M Lancaster, Mr R Douglas and Mr Jo Oldham, agenda item 11 point 3 Big Lottery Fund letter, *members of the Village Hall Management Committee*.
3. **Minutes of the Full Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6th June 2017** were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
4. **Circulation of the draft minutes for the Planning and Open Spaces and Footpaths Committee held on Tuesday 20th June** was noted. Regarding the Planning minutes, Mr Watts suggested that a response be considered and sent to Redcliffe Homes regarding the proposed development along Station Road stating that the village would like a shop to be included on the site. Mr Oldham and the Clerk stated that as this was not a business item on the agenda, it could not be lawfully discussed or considered at this meeting. M. Oldham suggested it might be worthwhile speaking to the owner of the land to understand the totality of development with this and other land she owned so that we might have a better outcome for the village, especially in view of the recent questionnaire on the subject. The Clerk was requested to add as an agenda item at the July Planning Committee meeting to be discussed and considered in full. Mr Watts agreed to prepare a draft motion.
Action – Clerk to add as an item of business on the July Planning Committee agenda and Mr Watts to prepare a draft motion.
5. **Review and Update Action List:** The Action List was reviewed and the Clerk was requested to update and circulate following the meeting. The following points in particular were discussed:
 - Big Lottery Fund grant application – Mr Oldham requested some assistance from Councillors in resubmitting the application. Mr Lancaster and Mr Douglas agreed to support.
 - Some items, although actioned, were re-opened and would remain so until a response had been received from the relevant parties
 - Mr Lock confirmed that the project for A30 entrance improvements was still in progress
6. **Consider proposal for tourism walk:** Mr Oldham referred Councillors to the paper prepared by Mr Crudgington and circulated with the agenda. Mr Crudgington supplied background information concerning his proposal to introduce a tourism walk. A discussion took place with Mrs Lock commenting that the Council had produced six walking leaflets already with the History and Heritage Group also arranging walks. Mrs Lock confirmed that these leaflets were available in the Tourist Information Centre in Sherborne and also in the Parish Council office and on the community website. Mrs Lock felt that Mr Crudgington's proposed scheme was complex and covered too many issues. These comments were supported by other Council

members. Mr Lock mentioned that he accepted that more tourism should be encouraged but that the Council could not force permissive ways through private land and that perhaps a way forward to introduce more tourism and vitality to the village would be by involving the local businesses and publicans. Mr Lock suggested that this be put on the next Open Spaces and Footpaths Committee agenda. Mr Laughton mentioned that a blue plaque scheme along current walking routes may be a good way forward. To conclude, Mr Crudgington proposed that a working party was put together to look at producing his tourism walk. A vote was taken with one vote in favour of the proposal, eight against, with two abstentions. Therefore, the proposal was dismissed.

- 7. Consider request from Market Towns Investment Group for Parish Council representative for the year:** As the current representative on the Market Towns Investment Group, in her absence, the Clerk was requested to ask Mrs Flynn if she was happy to remain as a representative. Mr Oldham volunteered to be the second representative.

Action – Clerk to contact Mrs Flynn and inform SSDC of representatives.

- 8. Consider quotations for Gainsborough Play Area upgrade:** The paper produced by Mrs Flynn and the quotation papers produced by the Clerk were considered in detail. The Clerk commented that Rob Parr from SSDC had provided advice while producing the specification and gaining the quotations and had offered to try and liaise with the suppliers to try and arrange a discount once quotations had been considered. Quotes, products and safety information were considered in detail. To conclude, Mr Oldham proposed that Company A were selected to provide the new swing set with a disability seat. All voted in favour of selecting Company A at £4405 + VAT. Mr Oldham then proposed that Company B be selected to provide the bespoke safety surfacing at £2830.75 + VAT. All agreed in favour of selecting Company B.

Action – Clerk to liaise with Mrs Flynn and Rob Parr to try and obtain a discount from suppliers and then place order with suppliers.

9. Planning

- 9.1** The following **Planning Applications** were considered:

17/02510/FUL Extension and alterations

72 Baunton's Orchard

No Objections

17/02438/REM Application for reserved matters following approval of 14/01514/OUT to include details of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale

The Old Mill House, Lower Kingsbury

No Objections

17/02519/S73A Application to vary condition No.02 (approved plans) in order to re-site Plots 3 and 4 and installation of roof light on Plot 5

Land At Nursery House, Wheathill Lane

No Objections

17/02582/FUL Erection of 2 No. new detached dwellings with access, garaging and parking

Land At Junction of Station Road, Springfield Road

No objections to the development, however the Council are concerned about the access to plot 3 as the proposed layout would cause pedestrian and vehicular hazards. The Council suggest plot 3 is moved an estimated 3.5 meters to the east with the access and driveway on the west side adjacent to plot 2.

9.2 The following **Planning Approval** was noted:

16/00075/FUL Change of use of Agricultural Buildings to Equestrian use for the training of Race Horses and the extension of the existing buildings to accommodate stabling, Horse Walker and storage facilities – Retrospective

Land and Buildings to The West of Spurles Farm Wheathill Lane

9.3 The following **Tree Preservation Order** was noted:

17/01801/TPO Application to carry out coppicing and overall crown reduction to an Alder Tree T1 known as South Somerset District Council (MIPO 1) 2010 Tree Preservation Order and tree surgery to a Yew T2 known as South Somerset District Council (MIPO 1) 2010

The Old Mill House, Lower Kingsbury

9.4 The following **Notification of Appeal Decision** was noted:

15/00232/FUL Demolition of existing Class A4 public house and redevelopment of site to provide a Class A1 convenience store including ATM with dedicated external servicing, refuse and plan area, associated car parking, access and landscaping

Gainsborough Arms, 74 Gainsborough

APPEAL DISMISSED

10. Finance

10.1 The following **Payments** were approved:

Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd – Finance Package Inv 25582	£831.24
Crackmore Garage – Lawn mower fuel Inv 71	£53.37
SSDC – Ranger scheme Inv: 06000032528	£150.96
KM Dike Nurseries – Grounds maintenance Inv: 156	£1006.82
Dave Lacey Electrical – Fitting of emergency lighting	£165.00
Mr P Lock – Open Spaces reimbursement costs	£165.02
Mr S Davis – Handyman Inv: 48	£430.10
SSDC – Ranger scheme Inv: 06000032680	£603.84
Milborne Port Computers – General service Inv: 12403	£18.00
Pet Waste Solutions – Dog bin emptying Inv:1504	£212.33

10.2 The following **Direct Debits** were noted:

BT – Mobile phone	£18.00
Water 2 Business	£55.72

10.3 The following **Income** was noted:

History and Heritage Group (Chapel electricity bill)	£25.11
A J Wakely and Son (Internment fees)	£70.00

Irish and Denham (Internment fees)
WI – Pat Testing

£55.00
£11.25

11.The following **Correspondence** was considered:

- Email regarding bus shelter - Council considered this and agreed that there was no additional information requiring a response at this time.
- Email regarding tidying of weeds at Higher Gunville – Clerk to write a letter of thanks.
- Letter from the Big Lottery Fund stating that the awards application was unsuccessful – Discuss under the Action List
- Email regarding Town Hall usage - Council discussed this at length, particularly the misinformation contained within (the WI room is used by several groups including SOMP, craft and coffee morning). Also there was concern that the libellous statement asserting that the erection of the shelter was unlawful. The rest of the e-mail seemed to contain information pertaining to a potential planning application. Council took a vote and determined that there was no benefit to be gained from a separated response to this.

12.The following **Correspondence** was noted:

- Letter from barber confirming termination of rental contract

13. Newsletter and Communications: It was agreed to publicise the following items – room rental at the Town Hall as the barber is vacating, redecorated bus shelter, new swing set with a disability seat and surfacing at Gainsborough Play Area, SWIB judging date being Wednesday 12th July, recognition and thanks to those parishioners tidying weeds and a reminder to residents to report footpaths issues.

14. The date of the next Full Council Meeting was confirmed as **Tuesday 1st August 2017.**