

KINGSTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, KINGSTON ST MARY, ON MONDAY 12th FEBRUARY 2007 AT 7.30 PM

1 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Councillors

J W Fitton (Chairman)	J M Aldrich
K J Taylor	D S Bradley
C Miles	D Leach
W R I Barrie	J L Clarke

The Clerk - Mrs T J Canavan; Mr N Pincombe and Mr D Martin, Somerset County Council; and 4 members of the public attended the meeting.

Apologies were received from Cllr S B Harris

2 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8th January 2007.

Cllr Barrie queried item 6.2 where it is stated that CCllr Tully is to investigate the possibility of a 25 mph speed limit in the village. It was confirmed that this minute is correct.

Resolved

The Minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** in any Agenda item - Nil

4 **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC** -The Chairman will allow questions from members of the public – nil, however members of the public asked permission to join the discussion regarding the Pinch Point.

5 **HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATHS**

5.1 Footpath opposite the Swan to the Post Office

Mr D Martin, Somerset County Council (SCC), confirmed that it is hoped that the scheme will start before the end of February and that it is a 6 week scheme, anticipated to complete by the end of March.

5.2 Pinch Point at Mill Cross

The results of the November 2006 traffic survey were discussed with Mr N Pincombe and Mr D Martin, representatives from SCC.

Mr Pincombe explained the survey results, in particular the 85th percentile. He advised that the top 15% of speeding motorists is disregarded in the survey as they are perpetual speeders.

A comparison of the results of the survey in 2003 and the results of the latest survey took place.

It was noted by the Clerk that a member of the public was making an audio tape recording of the meeting. The Chairman stopped the meeting and asked if any of those present objected to the meeting being tape recorded. No objections were received.

Mr H Masterton-Smith, member of the public, is to email his comments regarding the traffic survey, and his objections over the Pinch Point to Mr Pincombe.

Possible ways of reducing traffic speed through the village were discussed including speed bumps, speed checks, 20mph speed limit, Speedwatch Scheme, and flashing speed signs.

The PC then raised other highway problems in the Parish, including road markings and drainage.

Cllr C Miles left the meeting at 8.12pm and returned at 8.15pm.

Resolved

The Clerk is to contact PC Andy Davies regarding the Speedwatch Scheme. Mr N Pincombe is to investigate the possibility of 20mph outside the school, including the pre-school in the village hall.

The PC requested that flashing speed signs are installed in the village for a week during term time.

Mr N Pincombe is to ask a lighting engineer to come and look at the street lighting adjacent to the Pinch Point to see if it can be minimised.

Mr N Pincombe is to find out when the road markings are to be re-done; will also speak to Dennis Quick at SCC regarding the poor drainage on Kingston Road.

Cllr D Bradley entered the meeting at 8.20pm

Mr Pincombe and Mr Martin left the meeting. The Chairman thanked Mr Pincombe and Mr Martin for attending the meeting.

6 HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY – the PC considered the covering letter drawn up by the Community Council for Somerset.

The Clerk advised that the Link Up Committee had apologised that they were unable to deliver the survey forms as they do not have a comprehensive list of all households in the parish, also many of the Link Up distributors are elderly and it was felt that the weight of the forms could be excessive for them.

Resolved

That the covering letter is fine and needs no changes. May need to amend the date depending on when the forms are delivered.

The Parish Council will deliver the forms.

The Clerk is to speak to TDBC to see if there is a list detailing all households in the Parish.

7 PARISH PLAN – Harry Masterton-Smith gave an update on progress to date.

A field officer has been invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting on 12th March.

The Plan Committee has prepared a flyer/poster to be placed on notice

boards in the Parish.

They will be placing an item in Link Up.

A questionnaire is being drawn up to be sent to every household in the community.

The Clerk suggested placing an article in the school newsletter to generate interest amongst parents.

8 SHOP/POST OFFICE PROJECT

Cllr Fitton had asked for this item to be placed on the agenda.

He has met with Martin Dunsford and David Fisher to discuss the possibility/viability of a shop within the village, including the question of a shop at the pub.

Resolved

That the Parish Plan Committee places something in their questionnaire regarding the post office / shop to gauge the community's opinion/suggestions.

9 AREA WORKING PANELS

The Clerk and Cllr Bradley fed back details of a meeting they had attended regarding the Area Working Panels established by the County Council.

The Clerk circulated leaflets to all Councillors outlining how the Area Working Panels will work in practice.

The County Council will be carrying out further consultation directed toward Parish Councils.

10 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Clerk confirmed that the Annual Parish Meeting is taking place on Monday 12th March at 7.00pm in the Kingston St Mary Primary School Hall.

11 LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The Clerk reported that she had received a Democracy Pack from the Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC) regarding the forthcoming local elections on Thursday 3RD May.

The Clerk advised that the last date and time for nominations is 12 noon on Wednesday 4th April.

The Clerk also distributed details of forthcoming Councillor and Chairman training events.

Resolved

The Clerk is to speak to the editor of Link Up about placing an article in the magazine about the elections.

Place an item on next month's agenda to discuss the Elections and to provide information to the public on what being a Parish Councillor involves.

The Clerk will distribute nomination papers once they have been received from the District Council.

12 CORRESPONDENCE

12.1TDBC-bulletin - Cllr Miles

- 12.2 TDBC – Community Handyman Service – notification of increase in charges
- 12.3 TDBC – Summary of accounts 2005/06
- 12.4 TDBC – Response to “Strong and Prosperous Communities White Paper”
- 12.5 Somerset County Council (SCC) – letter from Chief Executive regarding SCC’s Business Case to create a Unitary Council for Somerset
- 12.6 SCC – Somerset Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund
- 12.7 SCC – Community Chest is re-launched
- 12.8 SALC – Items of Interest to Clerks and Councillors; Minutes of meeting of West Area held on 4th December 2006; Notice of meeting of West Area on 8th March at 7.30pm in Wiveliscombe Community Centre – Cllr Taylor
- 12.9 South West Regional Assembly – Regional Spatial Strategy update
- 12.10 South West Planning Aid – Information leaflet

Matters arising from correspondence:

- 12.1 Cllr Miles advised that there were no weekly bulletins on the TDBC website dated after 7 December 2006. Cllr Bradley will speak to the appropriate officers at TDBC.
- 12.4 The Chairman is to read and prepare a response
- 12.6, 12.7, 12.10 details are to be placed in Link Up.

13 PLANNING MATTERS

13.1 Applications

- 20/2007/001 – Erection of dwelling for person involved with running of Flying Start Riding Centre, and new track through field at Flying Start Riding Centre, Fulford Road, KSM
- 20/2007/002 – Erection of conservatory, double garage/domestic workshop/store and retaining wall at Stoneybrooke, Nailsbourne
- 20/2007/003AGN – Erection of polytunnel at Lower Portman Farm, Fitzroy, Taunton

Resolved

That having considered the above applications the PC has no objections and supports the applications

- 20/2006/037 – Amendment to wording of condition 5 of permission 20/2005/005 at Mill Meadow, Parsonage Lane, KSM
 - 20/2006/038 – Amendment to wording of condition 6 of permission 20/2005/022 at Mill Meadow, Parsonage Lane, KSM
 - 20/2006/039 – Amendment to wording of condition 3 of permission 20/2006/026 at Mill Meadow, Parsonage Lane, KSM
- Correspondence from Mr C Heayns

The above applications were considered in conjunction with the correspondence from Mr Heayns which had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. The Councillors also considered the contents of the Department for Communities and Local Government’s Good Practice Guide on Planning for Tourism referred to by Mr Heayns in his correspondence. This document was circulated to the Chairman and

members of the Planning Advisory Group prior to the meeting, who fed back the document's recommendations to the Parish Council. The document was also made available and referred to during the meeting.

Resolved

That having considered the above applications the PC objects for the following reasons:

1. Permission has been granted for a total of 18 log cabins to let for tourism/ education purposes. This was granted with the following important condition:

“The occupation of the holiday accommodation shall be restricted to bona fide holiday makers for individual periods not exceeding 4 weeks in total in any period of 12 weeks. A register of holidaymakers shall be kept and made available for inspection by an authorised officer of the Council at all reasonable times”

Amendment of this condition would seriously undermine the rationale of the Planning Authority in its deliberations to grant permission for the defined purpose of this development of log cabins for letting to “bona fida holiday makers”.

2. Approval of the applications would facilitate the sale of these log cabins as 2nd homes, and allow the owner to occupy them for a period of 6 months a year on a permanent basis. This would be against the spirit of the original consent and be unacceptable to the local community, environment, and amenities.

3. Removal of this condition would not allow TDBC sufficient control to ensure that these buildings do not become permanent residential properties contrary to local and national planning policy.

The Clerk is to write to TDBC detailing these objections.

13.2 Waiting Decisions - Nil

13.3 Granted permission

20/2006/032 – Erection of entrance portico and additional first floor bedroom at Copperhill, KSM

20/2006/036 – Erection of single storey extension to rear of “Ivesta”, Kingston St Mary

13.4 Refused Permission

20/2006/029 - Conversion of barn to dwelling and alteration of access onto Lodes Lane, the barn OS Field No 9138, Lodes Lane, KSM

13.5 Withdrawn - Nil

13.6 Other - Nil

14 SUBMISSION TO LINK-UP

Resolved

That the following should be included:

- Annual Parish Meeting
- Local Council Elections
- Parish Plan
- Somerset Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund
- Community Chest
- South West Planning Aid

15 FINANCIAL MATTERS

15.1 PC to decide how to allocate £1000 funds from SCC

Resolved

That the money be earmarked for youth work. Cllr Taylor advised that members of the community are keen to establish a youth club type initiative. The PC will await further detailed information.

15.2 Payments:

Resolved

That the following payments should be made:

Clerk's Salary S/O	
SCC (refurbishment of finger post)	£1036.75
Parish Plan	£ 500
Village Hall booking	£ 27
Citizens Advice Bureau	£ 100
Relate	£ 25
Age Concern	£ 25
Air Ambulance	£ 50

16 URGENT MATTERS RAISED WITH THE CHAIRMAN'S PERMISSION AND ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA –

It was brought to the Parish Council's attention that a number of trees are being felled by Tetton Estate adjacent to the Highway. Many local residents have objected and the possibility of placing TPOs on the trees is being investigated. Eric Lovell advised the PC that this may not be possible.

17 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC –When time allows the Chairman will allow questions from members of the public.

The Chairman read out a letter from Somerset County Council thanking Mr

Eric Lovell for his contribution to the Rights of Way Network Management initiative.

The following item was considered after the press and public had been excluded in accordance with Public Bodies (admissions to meetings) Act 1960

18 TO RECEIVE REORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN REGARDING THE CLERK'S APPRAISAL AND TO CONSIDER THE CLERK'S SALARY

The Chairman reported that he had carried out the Clerk's appraisal and that the Parish Council was happy with the Clerk's performance and standard of work. The Clerk will be attending further relevant training courses.

The Chairman also advised that the Clerk is working more hours per month, undertaking Parish Council duties, than she is contracted to. The Chairman proposed that the Clerk's salary is increased to reflect her increased work load.

Resolved

That the Clerk's salary be increased from £209.68 to £228.11 per month.
The Clerk thanked Councillors.

19 DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Mon 12 March 2007	Mon 16 April 2007	Mon 14 May 2007
Mon 11 June 2007	Mon 9 July 2007	Mon 10 September 2007
Mon 8 October 2007	Mon12 November 2007	Mon 10 December 2007

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Signed

Date: