

KINGSTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 9 JULY 2007 AT 7.30 PM

1 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Councillors

W R I Barrie (Chairman)	J L Clarke
R J L Flood	C G Hancock
S B Harris	R M Stokes
K J Taylor	

The Clerk - Mrs T J Canavan, Mr E Lovell the Parish Tree Warden, and 5 members of the public attended the meeting.

Apologies were received from Cllrs D S Bradley and C Miles and C/Cllr Tully

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 11 June 2007

Resolved

The Minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST in any Agenda item – Cllr Hancock declared an interest in item 4. His wife is an employee of the Village Pre-school. Cllr Taylor declared an interest in item 10.1, planning application 20/2007/016. He was involved in building the extensions.

4 SITE FOR SHOP/POST OFFICE/VILLAGE HALL – the Parish Council discussed correspondence from the Chair of the village pre-school committee, asking that the needs of the pre-school should be taken into consideration in the planning of any Community Centre in the village.

Resolved

The contents of the letter were noted and it was decided that the needs of the pre-school should be taken into account in any future provision of a Community Centre.

The need for separate storage and child friendly toilet facilities was recognised.

The Parish Council supports the concept of the pre-school being included in any Community Centre. However, if the pre-school requires separate rooms, full rates should be paid.

A member of the public queried the current position regarding the possible relocation of the village hall etc.

The Clerk has received no further information.

Resolved

Cllr Harris to contact the site owner/developer.

5 HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATHS

5.1 Relocation of telephone box - the Clerk advised that she had not received an update on the progress of negotiations between Taunton Deane Borough Council

and BT

Resolved

The Clerk is to write to Dan Martin asking for the current position. The letter is to be copied to BT.

5.2 White Lines on road between the Swan Pub and Post Office

The Parish Council is not happy with the state of the White Lines. No remedial work seems to have been carried out and the lines still present a road safety hazard.

Resolved

The Clerk is to write to Dennis Quick at Somerset Highways requesting that the remedial work is carried out as soon as possible.

5.3 Street Lighting at Pinch point at Mill Cross

As yet it does not appear that internal louvers have been installed to remove light intrusion to neighbouring properties.

Resolved

A request that the louvers be installed as soon as possible to be included in the letter to Dennis Quick.

5.4 Parking outside the Village Hall

The Parish Council still has not received any contact from the Village Hall Committee with suggestions of how to improve parking outside the Village Hall.

Resolved

It was decided that, for the time being, to leave this item on future agendas.

5.5 Double yellow lines from Swan Pub to Post Office – The Chairman advised that a legal notice came into effect on that day prohibiting waiting at any time on that section of the road marked by double yellows.

The finger post opposite the Swan Pub was also discussed, and that the rusting of the sign had not been rectified.

Resolved

To place the finger post on September's agenda.

6 HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

The Clerk reminded Members that it was resolved to set up a sub-committee at the last meeting that would meet with the Community Council for Somerset and Falcon Rural Housing Association to progress additional affordable housing in the Parish. To date the sub committee has not met.

The Parish Council was also informed that Falcon Rural Housing Association is willing to build a scheme of 8 properties in the Parish based on the results of the Housing Needs Survey.

Resolved

The sub-committee is to set up a meeting with the Community Council for Somerset and Justin Roxburgh from Falcon Rural Housing Association.

7 PARISH PLAN

Mr John Fitton, member of the public, queried why there were no questions relating to future development within the Parish in the Parish Plan Questionnaire,

especially beyond the settlement boundary. This is a key issue and will be fundamental when presenting the completed Parish Plan to the local planning authority.

Cllr Flood and Mr Masterton-Smith said that members of the public will have the opportunity to discuss this issue at a future date when the initial findings of the questionnaire will be presented at an open meeting.

Mr Masterton-Smith also advised that he had met with various groups discuss their needs within the village e.g. pre-school, PCC.

8 CONSULTATION

8.1 TDBC – Choice Based Lettings Consultation. Comments due by 8 August 2007. The Clerk had previously circulated a summary of the proposals, which the Parish Council discussed.

The Parish Council is concerned that affordable housing in the Parish, including any future properties as identified by the Housing Needs Survey, may be allocated to households that do not have a local connection with the Parish.

Resolved

The clerk is to write to Taunton Deane Borough Council highlighting the Parish Council's concerns and requesting that where the proposed allocation's policy states that "preference may be given to local residents who may be economically or socially driven from their community due to lack of affordable housing", this should be changed to "preference will be given to local residents....."

The Chairman then proposed to bring item 10 forward on the agenda as the applicant was present to discuss his planning application. This motion was carried.

10 PLANNING MATTERS

10.1 Applications

20/2007/016 – Retrospective application for retention of three single storey extensions, alterations to fenestration and relocation of conservatory, erection of single storey extension to form new en-suite at South View, KSM

The plans were circulated and the applicant addressed the Parish Council and answered questions. The Parish Council discussed the application and how to respond.

Resolved

That having considered the application the Parish Council does not object.

20/2007/021T – Application to fell one willow tree and carry out management work to one apple tree, one lilac, one cedar, one pine and several larches within Kingston St Mary Conservation Area at Badgershay, KSM.

The Parish Council sought the views of Mr E Lovell, who voiced no objections to the proposed works. Planning permission has been sought due to the trees being within the Conservation Area.

Resolved

That having considered the application the Parish Council does not object.

10.2 Waiting Decisions

20/2007/018 – Erection of two storey extension, covered area and pergola, use of agricultural land for paddocks and wildlife pond, new drive and entrance and block up previous entrance at Parsonage Farm, Parsonage Lane, KSM

20/2007/020 – Erection of two storey extension and first floor balcony to rear at

Orchard House, Nailsbourne, KSM

10.3 Granted permission

20/2007/014 – Erection of conservatory at Stream Corner, Yarford, KSM

20/2007/017 – Formation of Swimming Pool at Cutley House, KSM

20/2007/019LB – Demolition of garden shed and internal alterations to include replacement staircase, re-plastering of ground floor walls and painting all internal walls at Boo Cottage, KSM

10.4 Refused Permission - Nil

10.5 Withdrawn - Nil

10.6 Other – Tree Preservation Order 2007 (TD1024) – Roadside trees west of Quantock Way

9 CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 TDBC – bulletin - Cllr Harris

9.2 TDBC – Taunton Deane Standards Committee – request for nominations from Parish Councils for two parish representatives to stand on Standards Committee. Deadline of 13 July 2007

9.3 Taunton Deane Electoral Services – Return of election expenses

9.4 Mind in Taunton and West Somerset – Introduction and newsletter.

9.5 Avon and Somerset Police Authority – Policing Plan 2007/08; Local Policing Summary 2006/07

9.6 SALC – Quantock Hills Advisory Committee – Result of Postal Ballot for 4 Parish Members June 2007

9.7 Community Council for Somerset – Details of Rural Road show July 2007; Thatch Magazine

Items of interest were noted and documents circulated as requested.

Matters arising from correspondence

- 9.2 – the Parish Council will be making no nominations.
- 9.3 – noted.
- 9.5 – Cllr Stokes advised that the Neighbourhood Watch will be holding an open meeting at the School on 5 September. Representatives from the Police will also be present. Further details will be placed in Link-up.
- 9.6 – It was noted that Cllr Clarke was not elected on to the committee.

11 OAK TREE ON VILLAGE GREEN – The Chairman advised that a member of the public had brought an unsafe branch on the tree to his attention.

Resolved

Cllr Taylor is to ask someone to look at the tree and carry out any necessary works.

Mr E Lovell also raised the subject of Taunton Deane Borough Council's 50 Notable Trees scheme. He wished to nominate the Oak Tree on the village green. The Clerk advised that she had been contacted by a member of the public nominating the Oak Tree on Tarr Lane, and suggested waiting until the September meeting to see if any other nominations were received.

Resolved

The Parish Council agreed unanimously to nominate the Oak Tree on the village green. Mr Lovell is to complete the necessary forms and pass them to the Clerk.

12 MEMBERS OF PUBLIC CONTACTING THE CLERK – The Clerk advised that she had been receiving telephone calls from members of the public seven days a

week up until after 9.00 pm. She had also received unannounced visits to her home including at the weekend.

Members discussed the matter and agreed that it was unreasonable.

Resolved

That something should be placed in the Standing Orders and in Link-up stating that the Clerk can be contacted in writing; by telephone (Monday to Friday between 9 and 5.30 pm) or by email. If anyone wishes to view documents they should contact the Clerk first to arrange a mutually convenient date and time. It was also agreed that a Parish Councillor should also be present if anyone visited the Clerk's home.

13 SUBMISSION TO LINK-UP

Resolved

That the following should be included:

- How to contact the Clerk
- That the PC has agreed to nominate the Oak Tree on the Village Green
- That there is no meeting scheduled for August.

14 SELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES – Cllr

Hancock advised that his wife has agreed to represent the Parish Council on the Playing Field Management Committee. She will feed back to Cllr Hancock who in turn will feed back to the Parish Council meetings.

The Parish Council expressed its thanks.

15 COMMITTEE/TRAINING/MEETING REPORTS

15.1 Chairmanship Training. Cllr Barrie reported back from the recently attended training. There were a number of points of interest which were noted.

- Questions from members of the public should take place before the meeting starts
- The agenda must be hand delivered to Parish Councillors
- Under financial matters can add "together with any other cheques agreed during meeting"

16 REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS. - this was discussed in light of the revised NALC guidance

Resolved

The Clerk is to contact Peter Lacey, SALC, on how to amend Standing Orders particularly in relation to the new Code of Conduct.

17 FINANCIAL MATTERS

17.1 Members to complete Bank Mandate – those Members present completed the Mandate. Those councillors who were absent will complete the form at a future meeting where it will be formally agreed, signed and recorded in the minutes.

17.2 Requests for Grants from TDBC – Playing field, burial ground and footpath maintenance

Resolved

The Clerk is to complete the relevant form requesting the same amount requested the previous year.

17.3 Budget against spend quarter ending 30 June 2007 and bank reconciliation as at 30 June 2007.

The Clerk updated the Council and circulated the relevant spreadsheets which had been updated following the receipt of the up to date bank statement and receipt of £139.71 bank interest.

Resolved

Cllr Harris will check and agree the bank reconciliation.

17.4 Receipts: The following income had been received

Photocopying fees £3.20

Bank interest £139.71

Payments:

Resolved

That the following payments should be made:

Clerks salary (S/O) £ 228.11

Clerk's expenses (cheque no. 083) £ 38.60

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme (cheque no. 085) £ 35

St Margaret's Somerset Hospice (cheque no. 084) £100

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

- Cllr Clarke raised concerns over the dangers of contacting Lyme Disease

19 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- Harry Masterton-Smith will place something in Link – up regarding future development including outside the settlement boundary. He will also include a definition of the settlement boundary. Cllr Hancock said he will be able to provide this.
- Mr Masterton-Smith also requested that the Clerk email the latest minutes to the website.
- Eric Lovell said that he had received a number of complaints over the state of footpaths in the Parish. Also advised that the Clerk had had to chase up the cutting back of bushes along the footpath between Sawyers Leigh and the playing field. It was agreed that this should not be necessary and that it should automatically be part of TDBC's planned programme.

20 DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Mon 10 September 2007 Mon 8 October 2007

Mon 12 November 2007 Mon 10 December 2007

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Signed

Date: