

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council, which took place on Monday 12 January 2015 at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT Cllrs Rowswell (Chair), Bishop, Brunt, Cripps, England, Finlay, Hallett, Lillywhite, Wakely, Mr B Walker (District Councillor) & Messrs P Robathan and G Gatehouse.

SOUTH PETHERTON PARISH/NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Paull Robathan and Graham Gatehouse spoke of the decision by South Petherton Parish Council to draw up a new Parish/Neighbourhood Plan for their village. So many changes had taken place since the previous Plan was compiled ten years ago, such as housing development, the building of a new hospital, the relocation of the Doctors Surgery and the proposed closure of the Nat West Bank. South Petherton Parish Council felt that if a new Plan is drawn up, and accepted by the District Council, then they would have more influence in future planning applications.

There will be a consultation period and, by July, the Committee will know what the people of South Petherton consider to be important to them.

Cllr Rowswell will be kept informed of developments and Shepton Beauchamp Parish Councillors will receive a copy of the proposals and will be invited to a meeting.

Paull and Graham were thanked for attending and giving the presentation.

MINUTES The Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

Highways Cllr Cripps attended a meeting at Stratton Village Hall to look at highway issues in the South Petherton area. Whilst the items discussed did not directly affect Shepton Beauchamp, it was useful for the parishes to get together for a general discussion.

Planning Following a query at the last meeting, the Clerk will ask the Planning Department the timescale for notifying neighbours of planning applications.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

DC REPORT

Mr Walker said that District Councillor, Paul Thompson, had married in America on New Year's Day and would be looking to become resident in the United States so will not be standing for re-election in May. The Parish Councillors would like to offer their best wishes for his future happiness.

No plans have yet been seen for the proposed improvements to the A303.

The Inspector has now accepted the Local Plan, which should be effective from March.

Despite much opposition to the closure, it seems that the Nat West Bank will be closing on 20 January.

WAR MEMORIAL SITE

Broomhead and Saul are unable to act for the Parish Council in the renewal of the Lease as they only deal with residential property but the District Council Solicitor had agreed to do it.

The Parish Council suggested a 125 year Lease.

PLANNING

The Parish Council objected to an application to amend the condition relating to controls over the first floor windows on Plots 1 to 3, Bakery Mews, as it was felt there had been no change in visual amenity and the condition had been imposed for a reason so should be adhered to.

The application to erect two dwellings and garages on land OS 2733 Shells Lane had been revised. It was noted that it is no longer planned to convert the bakery shop into two flats but the Councillors felt the two parking spaces should be retained as the building is used for commercial purposes so parking will still be required.

Permission has been granted for the following:

Erection of detached dwelling and garage on land at Buttle Close.

Outline erection of single dwelling and provision of associated access track on land at Brimfield, Lambrook Road.

ACCOUNTS

Cheques were drawn for:

R Cripps – dog waste bags	£157.25
S Som District Council – Parish Ranger	301.92

A letter of thanks was received from the Citizens Advice Bureau for the donation of £25.

It was unanimously agreed to increase the Precept for 2015/16 to £13,250.

PARISH PLAN

There will be a showing of the film Lion King in the Village Hall on 24 January.

Plans are now underway for the Village Fayre.

Cllr Cripps asked if the Parish Council wished to continue providing bags for dog waste at a cost of £320 per annum and it was agreed to do so.

Cllr Finlay said the Recreation Committee Meeting had clashed with this evening's Parish Council Meeting. Cllr Rowswell wondered if the risk assessment on the play area is carried out regularly as she felt the zip wire needs tightening.

HIGHWAYS

Notification was received of a road closure from 16 February for 33 days to enable drainage work to be carried out on Shepton Hill. The Clerk will inform the Highway Authority that the drains are blocked further up the hill than the area shown on their map and will also ask them to make it clear that the diversion along Shells Lane is unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles.

A very large pothole will be reported near the Great Lane/Barrington Main junction and the Highway Authority will be asked to scoop mud off the road in Whitefield Lane as it is scraping the bottom of cars.

Parking near the Buttle Lane junction is causing problems for the recycling lorry and it would be impossible for emergency vehicles to access the lane. The Parish Council will leave notes on vehicles which are parked inappropriately.

Flooding on Barrington Main (in Seavington Parish) is dangerous after dark and will be reported again.

FOOTPATHS

A loose kerb on the pavement at The Shambles and the poor condition of the pavement outside Watts House, Middle Street, had been reported and a reminder will be sent.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.