

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council, which took place on Monday 10 June 2013 at the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

PRESENT Cllrs Rowswell (Chair), Hallett, Lillywhite, Wakely, Willoughby, Messrs P Thompson & B Walker (District Councillors), C LeHardy (County Councillor) and 5 parishioners.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllrs Bishop, Cripps, England, Fowler.

The Council were advised that, due to work commitments, Kim Fowler had decided to resign.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mark Singleton asked if he could put a shed measuring approximately 6' x 4' on his allotment. The Parish Council gave permission, provided it does not cause an obstruction, and said he would be responsible for removing it if he gave up the allotment and the new tenant did not require it.

Dan Mason spoke of his planning application at Stephens for a ground floor extension for utility room and toilet and said the Conservation Officer has no objections.

Andrew Humphreys asked for the Parish Council's support of his application for a dwelling adjacent to Hillside Farm, Shells Lane. He had been in consultation with the Planning Department since November and the Parish Council had already agreed in principle to a dwelling on the site. He said he would be prepared to contribute towards a parish project and suggested improving the drainage in Ash Lane. If this application is approved, a further application will be submitted to demolish the barn and replace it with a steel framed purpose built wooden clad building with vehicle bays, storage and animal shelter.

Cllr Rowswell said that, now the development line no longer exists, any development has to be seen as a benefit to the parish.

There was some concern that the proposed dwelling is larger than expected.

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

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

DC REPORT

At the Full Council Meeting Patrick Palmer, who had chaired Area North for ten years, handed over to his Deputy, Shane Pledger, with Paul Thompson as the new Deputy Chair

Mr Walker suggested that several parishes get together and arrange a meeting with Sue Mountstephens, the Police Commissioner.

South Petherton is temporarily without a Parish Council due to an administrative error and plans are in place to set up an emergency Parish Council until an election is arranged.

CC REPORT

Mr LeHardy was welcomed to the meeting and is at present undergoing training. He will produce a brief for the parish approximately every two months.

PLANNING

No objections were raised to an application to erect a single storey extension to the rear of Stephens, Church Street.

The plans were considered for the erection of a dwelling adjacent to Hillside Farm, Shells Lane, and four of the five Councillors present voted in favour of supporting the application.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

It is hoped to organise an emergency plan, covering such incidents as flooding possibly having a store of sandbags, road signs, bollards, fluorescent jackets, etc. Details were received of funding for flood alleviation work and Cllr Rowswell will speak to Mike Fear about drainage problems.

ACCOUNTS

A cheque was drawn for £93.51 to reimburse Roger Cripps for petrol used in the mower and strimmer and refills for the dog bag dispenser.

PARISH PLAN

It was noted that the Recreation Field grass had not been cut this year and the field will be needed for the School Sports and the Whacky Olympics. It is understood that arrangements are being made to have the grass cut.

A letter was received expressing concern about the parking of vehicles at the entrance to the Recreation Field which causes problems for anyone wishing to turn there.

The Recreation Committee had agreed to put a sign on the gates prohibiting parking there.

LENGHSMAN

The Rights of Way Department have carried out the first cut on some of the paths and will do one more cut, probably in September, and the Lengthsman will be working on the rest during the next few weeks.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

