

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council, which took place on Monday 14 October 2013 at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT Cllrs Rowswell (Chair), Bishop, Cripps, England, Finlay, Hallett, Lillywhite, Wakely, Willoughby, Messrs C Le Hardy (County Councillor), Clive Miller (Planning Agent) and 3 parishioners.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Mr P Thompson (District Councillor)

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Clive Miller, as Agent, spoke about the planning application to build a dwelling to the rear of the Duke of York, situated within the existing pub grounds and well screened. He answered queries from the Parish Council about storage of empty beer casks, adequate drainage and roof heights.

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

#### MATTERS ARISING

Highways Cllr England queried the position of the proposed silt trap and Cllr Rowswell will check this.

Recreation Field Cllr Willoughby had enquired whether the play area is to be fenced but there are no plans to do this. There had been no complaints of dog fouling this summer but the situation will be monitored.

#### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Bishop, as neighbour, declared an interest in a planning application to erect a replacement barn at Hillside, Shells Lane.

#### CC REPORT

Mr Le Hardy spoke of the financial difficulties faced by the County Council and said villages would need to become more self-sufficient. The Council Tax is likely to remain the same and parishes are encouraged to increase their precepts.

Applications are invited for funding up to £350 from the Health and Wellbeing budget.

There were over 100 applicants for flood mitigation funding and Shepton Beauchamp was not successful.

Under the small roads improvement scheme, a 20 mph speed limit has been requested near Shepton Beauchamp and South Petherton Schools.

The Clerk will remind landowners to clear their ditches in readiness for heavy rainfall.

#### PLANNING

There were no objections to an application to erect a dwelling on land to the rear of the Duke of York provided adequate drainage is provided as there are flooding issues in this part of the village. Consideration as to siting of the beer barrels was also requested.

There were no objections to the demolition of lean-to extension, the erection of two storey side extension, single storey front extension and conservatory to rear of 14 Piece Lane, but there were grave concerns about surface water run-off due to the soft drainage area being replaced by tarmac. The Parish Council would like to see at least three parking spaces provided.

Cllr Bishop left the room while an application to erect replacement barn at Hillside, Shells Lane, was considered. There were no objections but the Clerk will query the fact that the plan shows the solar panels to be sited on the north elevation.

#### DISTRICT COUNCIL AREA NORTH MEETING WITH PARISHES

This will take place on 24 October and Cllrs Lillywhite and Willoughby will attend.

#### SCC LOCAL CHOICES EVENT

This will take place on 6 November and Cllrs Bishop and Rowswell will attend.

#### ACCOUNTS

Cheques were drawn for:

R Cripps – dog waste bags	£68.15
Shepton Beauchamp Village Hall – hire of room	177.00
Grant Thornton – external audit of 2012/13 Accounts	120.00

#### PARISH PLAN

Pete Sanderson circulated pie charts showing the Recreation Committee finances. Negotiations are taking place with grass cutting contractors and the Parish Council was asked to consider paying for future grass cutting and helping towards insurance costs so that fund raising does not have to be for day to day maintenance.

#### LENGTHSMAN

Cllr Cripps advised of a misunderstanding whereby privately owned foliage was cut back and the Clerk will send the owner a letter of apology.

#### HIGHWAYS

A request for a grit bin at Piece Lane was considered but the Councillors did not feel they could help as they would be expected to provide others around the village. As some of the houses are owned by Yarlington Homes they may be worth approaching.

Cllr England would be willing to store the parish's supply of salt/grit and Cllr Finlay offered to administer it when the weather dictates.

A parishioner had expressed concern about the speed at which tractors are driven through the village.

#### FOOTPATHS

A footpath post had been damaged by a hedge trimmer in Ash Lane and Cllr Cripps will ask to have it replaced.

#### ALLOTMENTS

The rent had been collected and three people had given up their allotments.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.