

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council, which took place on Monday 11 January 2016 at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT Cllrs Bishop (Chair), Brunt, England, Finlay, Lillywhite, Tevendale, Messrs A Dance & C Raikes (District Councillors).

APOLOGIES Cllrs Cripps, Holmes, Wakely, Mr C Le Hardy (County Councillor).

The Councillors were sorry to hear that former Parish Councillor, Norma Hawkins, had passed away and send condolences to the family.

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

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

DC REPORT

Crispin Raikes said the application for an anaerobic digester at Frogmary Green Farm had been passed back to the District Council for reconsideration now that it has changed from electric to gas.

PLANNING

Cllr Bishop reported that she had attended the recent Area North Meeting and spoken in support of the application to build a dwelling on the site of a derelict cottage at Fouts Cross (South Petherton Parish). Adam Dance had also spoken in favour and there were 14 letters of support but permission was refused.

ACCOUNTS

Cheques were drawn for:

South Som District Council – Parish Ranger	£301.92
Shepton Beauchamp Village Hall – grant	500.00
Shepton Beauchamp Parochial Church Council – towards churchyard upkeep	1,000.00
Lethbridge Memorial Rec Committee – towards grass cutting & insurance	1,900.00

It was agreed to increase the Precept by 9%. This will allow the annual £2,000 to be set aside for future projects (bringing the figure held for this to £14,000) and £500 towards maintenance of the MUGA (making the total for this £6,000).

VILLAGE DIRECTORY

Cllr Finlay had updated the Directory and Cllr Tevendale will help with the layout. When printed, it will be posted on the notice board and delivered to all houses. A supply will be left with local Estate Agents for prospective residents.

HIGHWAYS

Cllr Cripps sent a message that the Parish Ranger had been clearing gullies and leaf debris and had drawn his attention to various drainage matters, which the Clerk will report to the County Council. Parking too close to road junctions continues to be a problem and notes will be placed on offending vehicles reminding owners of the Highway Code, which states that vehicles must not be parked opposite or within ten metres of a junction.

ALLOTMENTS

The Parish Council is grateful for all that Cllr Cripps is doing at the Allotments.

Cllr Bishop had spoken to Wessex Water, who said the cost of bringing water to the Allotments would be in the region of £2,000 but there would not be sufficient pressure, so it was felt that water butts may be the best option.

Quotes will be obtained for post and rail fence and sheep netting across the lower end to keep dogs off the Allotments.

AOB

Following recent thefts from parked cars, motorists are reminded to keep their vehicles locked when unattended.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.