

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council, which took place on Monday 18 September 2017 at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT Cllrs Bishop, Brunt, Joy, Lillywhite, Rowswell, Wakely, Messrs A Dance (District & County Councillor) and C Raikes (District Councillor).

APOLOGIES Cllrs Cripps, England, Finlay.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Lillywhite (as applicant) declared an interest in a planning application at Apple Tree Cottage, Wash Cross.

MINUTES The Minutes of the meetings held on 10 July and 21 August were confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

Dates of future meetings The Clerk had booked the Village Hall on the third Monday of each month for Parish Council Meetings up to the end of the year.

DC REPORT

Adam Dance said the Planning Officer had recommended for refusal the planning application at Little Meadow, Love Lane so he will request that it goes to the Committee.

Cllr Wakely expressed concern that Parish Council views do not appear to be taken into consideration by the Planning Officers.

CC REPORT

Adam Dance spoke of a training session he attended on Small Improvement Schemes and said he is allowed to put forward two issues in his area each year for consideration.

He said the future of libraries is under discussion again.

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

The Local Government Boundary Commission is carrying out an electoral review of South Somerset in order to deliver electoral equality for voters. The Clerk will reply that the Parish Council is extremely happy with the current arrangements.

PLANNING

Cllr Lillywhite left the room while the Parish Council considered a planning application for demolition of garage and single storey side extension and erection of two storey side extension, single storey side extension and porch on front elevation at Apple Tree Cottage, Wash Cross. There were no objections to the application.

ACCOUNTS

Cheques were drawn for:

Grant Thornton – External audit of accounts	£120.00
South Som District Council – Parish Ranger	754.80
R Cripps – Dog waste bags	98.70

DEFIBRILLATORS

It was agreed that Cllr Joy would go ahead and order the two defibrillators from the Community Heartbeat Trust at a cost of £3,100.

SOUTH PETHERTON DOCTORS SURGERY

Cllr Brunt spoke of the difficulty getting an appointment at the Doctors Surgery and the Clerk will express the Parish Council's concerns to the Practice Manager.

PARISH PLAN

The Soap Box Challenge was a great success, raising £400 for St Margaret's Hospice. Future events include a Harvest Lunch for the Church, Bingo on 23 September at The Duke of York and a Christmas Lunch in the Village Hall in December for elderly people who live alone.

A successful work party of 8 volunteers had carried out pruning and tidying at Cowleaze Meadow. The Events Team had given a donation of £150 to Cowleaze Meadow funds and Roger Cripps is in contact with the District Council regarding a grant for fence replacement.

DOG WASTE BAGS

The Parish Councillors discussed whether to continue providing dog waste bags and, due to the cost involved, it was decided to discontinue this practice as it was felt the money could be put to better use in the parish.

HIGHWAYS

Cllr Joy reported that the white lines to prohibit parking are about to be re-painted in the correct position. The Clerk will ask for the line opposite the turning to Love Lane to be reinstated.

FOOTPATHS

The County Council have now completed the second cut. Cllr Cripps and the Parish Ranger will now take care of the paths until the next season.

ALLOTMENTS

Three new allotmenters had started this year, one of whom has now left the village and one has given up. The Parish Ranger and Cllr Cripps had strimmed vacant plots and the main paths. The Parish Council is grateful to Cllr Cripps and Robert Rowswell for pulling the ragwort.

COMPTON DURVILLE SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS

The improvements at the Treatment Works are well underway, the redundant pipe work and pressure vessels having been removed and the main construction works commencing. Wessex Water apologises for any disruption which may have been caused.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55 pm.