

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council, which took place on Monday 10 November 2014 at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT Cllrs Rowswell (Chair), Brunt, Cripps, England, Finlay, Hallett, Lillywhite, Wakely, Messrs P Thompson & B Walker (District Councillors), C Le Hardy (County Councillor), Jo Fryer (Planning Agent) and 2 parishioners.

APOLOGIES Cllr Bishop

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Jo Fryer spoke about the planning application for outline consent to build a dwelling and provide access track on part of the garden of Brimfield, Lambrook Road.

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

MATTERS ARISING

County Council Chairman's Awards Cllr Rowswell congratulated Sharon Humphreys and Roger Cripps on their awards for Service to the Community and said the presentation ceremony was a very enjoyable evening.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST No interests were declared.

DC REPORT

Mr Thompson reported that the planned dredging on the Somerset Levels is now complete and consideration will be given to taking it further.

The mobile telephone mast at Lopen Head is reported to be the best in the area and the original O2 dish will be replaced with O2, Vodaphone, 3G and 4G.

The full Council had approved the amendments to the Local Plan and re-submitted it.

It was decided that 20% of taxis are to have disabled access.

Mr Walker spoke of the Government's support for changes to the A303.

South Petherton is to lose its Nat West Bank and it is hoped that a card machine will still be available.

A review of the Library Service is being undertaken and some mobile libraries are under threat. The Clerk will write in support of the mobile library service, which is so important in rural areas.

CC REPORT

Mr Le Hardy spoke of his roads review for South Petherton and the immediate area and is seeking views on possible improvements to the A303.

The 20 mph speed limit outside the School is still on the list of small improvement schemes and the Parish Council agreed to this going ahead provided that they are consulted over the signs.

Flood prevention work is in progress at Muchelney and a drainage scheme is due to start in Barrington.

PLANNING

There were no objections to a planning application to erect a dwelling and provide access track on land at Brimfield, Lambrook Road.

An application was considered for the erection of two dwellings and garages on land OS 2733 Shells Lane. The Parish Councillors did not object in principle to two dwellings being built on this site but they did have very strong objections to part of the access driveway being positioned on the area already allocated for two of the parking spaces for the five cottages permitted under application 09/02238/FUL and currently under construction. This is already a congested area with no further space for parking on the road. The Parish Council also expressed concern about drainage and would need to be certain that the Lambrook Road drains could cope with the extra surface water. Any construction would need to be kept well away from the bank and the stability of the bank would need to be monitored as there have been problems with the higher bank on the opposite side of the road.

Notification was received of a request to fell a walnut tree, which has a Tree Preservation Order, at 19 Brimgrove Lane.

Permission has been granted for:

Replacement of existing stable with single dwelling and formation of access driveway on land north of Hill Farm House, Lambrook Road.

Varying of conditions 2 & 3 relating to change of materials at Hybanks Cottage, Shells Lane.

ACCOUNTS

A cheque was drawn for £171 for hire of the Village Hall.

PARISH PLAN

The Parish Council were sorry to hear that comments had been made in the village that the Events Team do not cater for all groups within the parish. The Councillors feel the Team do an excellent job and are very grateful to them.

Bonfire Night was a great success, raising just over £720 for village funds and a street party is planned in 2015.

It is hoped to arrange a village Christmas Tree, possibly in the front garden of the School.

With the funds raised from the Edwardian Evening, the Events Committee are considering a commemorative plaque, possibly in the form of a sundial, remembering 100 years on the men of the parish who lost their lives in World War I.

The Parish Council fully supports these ideas.

To save cost and the time involved in applying for temporary events licences, the Events Team would like to apply for their own annual licence and the Councillors felt this would be a good idea.

Cllr Rowswell had been contacted by someone who had restored a funeral bier and discovered it came from Shepton Beauchamp. He offered to sell it back to the parish but the PCC were not interested due to lack of space.

The War Memorial, which is owned by the Parish Council, is now Grade II Listed.

HIGHWAYS

It was reported that leaves are blocking the silt traps in Great Lane.

A supply of de-icing material is available from the Highways Depot. Cllr Cripps will ask the Parish Ranger if he could collect it and Cllr England will store it.

ALLOTMENTS

It was confirmed that all the rent has now been collected.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm.