

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Zoom on **Wednesday 2nd September 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs Greg Jones, Diane Churches, Tiffany Kearton, Stephen King (Chairman), Christopher Swain, John Rowland & Geoffrey Walker.

IN ATTENDANCE: Helen Richardson (Clerk), Dean Ruddle – Part (SCC & SSDC) and Tim Kerley (SSDC).
 There was 1 member of the general public present.

Public Participation: a resident asked the Parish Council to oppose the Planning application 20/02094/FUL: Compton Dundon School. The work has already started and the plans are misleading with regards to the size of the new classrooms.

201.1 Apologies for Absence- None

201.2 Declarations of Interest: John Rowland (201.3), Greg Jones (201.3)

201.3 It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on **Wednesday 1st July, Wednesday 8th July & Wednesday 19th August 2020** and the Clerk Signed them on behalf of the Chairman, who would sign them at the next available opportunity.

201.4 Planning

a) Notifications of district council planning determinations: None

b) Responses to planning and legal consultations:

i) 20/02094/FUL: Compton Dundon School, School Lane, Compton Dundon.
 The erection of four single storey classrooms.

The Parish Council resolved to SUPPORT the application although expressed disappointment that development had started without permission. Concern was raised regarding the scale of the drawings and whether they were a true representation of the actual size of the portacabins and would ask that this was corrected. There was also concern that part of the old playing field was being used for carparking on compacted hardcore. The clerk was asked to find out whether this had been agreed with the County Council.

c). Other planning consultation issues:

i) The Parish Council reviewed the planning application 19/03176/FUL for a hairdressers which had been refused due to the access and visibility. The hairdressers were still operating, and no improvements to the access have been made and so councillors feared there was high risk for an accident. The District Councillor would investigate before referring to enforcement.

ii) The NALC consultation on the planning for the future white paper and changes to the current planning system were postponed till next meeting.

200.5 Accounts

a) The Clerk gave the following report on bank account reconciliation.

Treasurers A/C Statement at 2/9/20			£ 1,400.36
Less - Unpresented cheques:			
HMRC	1291	£ 109.40	
			£ 109.40
Plus - Uncleared lodgements:			£ -
Treasurers A/C Adjusted Balance at 2/9/2020			£ 1,290.96
Business Instant Access A/c Balance at 2/9/2020			£ 78,235.42
Overall Bank Balance			£ 79,526.38
Overall Ledger Book Balance			£ 79,526.38
Included in Treasurer's balance as stated above are the following debits:			
(a) Direct Debit: - 17/8/2020 BT Line/Broadband - £73.57			
(b) Direct Debit: - 28/8/2020 Auto enrolment - £13.20			

b) The following payments were approved

Purpose for Expense	Chq No.	Amount	VAT	Recover
Clerk salary & Expenses CD187		570.59	0	N/A
HMRC (PAYE month 4)		109.40	0	N/A
Will Austin Garden Services (july)		255.00	0	N/A
Information Commissioner		40.00	0	N/A
Clerk Salary & Expenses CD188		364.41	0	N/A
HMRC (PAYE month 5)		87.60	0	N/A
Geoff Walker (reimburse) Electrical work at bus shelter		84.00	14	Y
Jill Champion t/a Compton Dundon PO (May - August)		320.00	0	N/A
SALC - Affiliation Fees		191.87	0	N/A
Total value of cheques		2,022.87		
Transfer from BIA to Treasurer's Account		3,000.00		

201.6 Reports

- a) The County Councillor reported that total number of Covid Cases in Somerset up to 24th August is 1373 and 203 have died. Last week there was 1 death in a care home. The R value is 1. The County Councillor also outlined some of the systems that have been put in place for the return to school. A £15 million grant for highways has been given by the government.
- b) The District Councillor reported that SSDC have progressed plans for the Stronger Somerset business plan. He is concerned about changes to the planning system announced by government and also mentioned that the green electricity storage facility was working well for the District Council.
- c) The Chairman reported that about £800 has been raised for maintenance of the Yew Tree and the collection will continue for a year. A child has broken their arm, falling off the play equipment. The Sewerage works recently uncovered that the system is full of ground water and so they are likely to return next year to try to upgrade the system.
The Chairman also noted the importance of planning enforcement in light of changes to the planning system.
The Church is opening up this month with Covid restrictions. Pre-booking is required.
- d) There was no report from the police this month.
- e) It was reported that the Rights of Way Volunteers have started meeting (socially distanced) and carried out some pruning.
- f) The Village Hall Committee will be meeting for the AGM on the 3rd September and the hall is now open with covid restrictions.

201.7 Highways Issues

- a) The Parish Council would discuss the creation of a safe cycling route to Somerton at the next meeting.
- b) It was resolved that the Parish Council would purchase a no lorry turning sign (2-sided) for the junction of Somerton Road & Drove Lane, placed on the opposite side of the road.

201.8 Correspondence and items requiring discussion/decision

- a) The Parish Council considered sites for garden allotments closer to habitation, but it appeared that none were available at present. The Parish Council would continue to look for a suitable plot of land, and the clerk would continue to establish the process & costs.
- b) The Chairman had been invited to attend a zoom discussion with Alex Parmley regarding the Stronger Somerset Business Case.
- c) It was agreed to position the hand sanitizer dispenser at the far end of the play area.
- d) The Parish Council approved expenditure up to £400 for stainless steel cuffs for the bottom of the play equipment to prevent further strimmer damage. It was agreed that the handles of the birds nest should be replaced.
- e) Further options for online banking would be discussed at the next meeting.
- f) It was agreed that the clerk would send a copy of the S106 agreement for Shepperds Close to SSDC and to Allen & Harris so that the properties are marketed in accordance with the agreement.

201.9 Report of ongoing projects/issues

- a) **Speed Indicator Device (SID) Programme** – meeting to be arranged with Somerton TC for final arrangements. CS to join Somerton TC training for Chapter 8 so that he can move device. Village ranger can also move device. Clerk to chase Highways re additional pole.
- b) **Community Tree Planting Project** – 1st Batch of trees planted- more trees from Woodland Trust in November.
- c) **Defibrillator** – Training on hold
- d) **Neighbourhood Plan**- Our next step is to apply for the grant.
- e) **Proposed new Bridleway** –Need to contact effected allotment holders
- f) **Allotments** –Discussions with solicitor continuing. Looking for alternative site.
- g) **Electric Charging points** –grants available from SCC & SSDC.
- h) **New noticeboard** – Clerk to chase
- i) **Digital Archive** – On hold

201.10 Items put forward for the next meeting: Safe cycling route to Somerton, Purchase of Video recorder & PC for the projector, update on bridleway, new sign for Drove Lane, Annual Meeting, Clarendon House Update.

201.11 The date of the next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 7th October 2020 at 7pm

There being no further business the meeting ended at 21.40pm.

Signed as a true record

Cllr. Steve King (Chairman)

Date: 7th October 2020