

carSampford Courtenay Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: M.Pratt, Higher Town, Sampford Courtenay. 01837 82285

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tues 20th June 2017

- 1) **Present Cllrs M. Wilson, J. Friend, D. Botting-Page, A Thornley & M. McIlwraith + WDBC Cllr L. Watts & 3 members of the public.**
- 2) **Public Participation** – Mrs Bevis queried why May Minutes did not mention the resignation of Cllr R. Bevis. The Clerk explained that this is recorded in Minutes of AGM which took place immediately prior to the May meeting. Traditionally the Minutes of the AGM are not signed until the AGM of the following year. However, a copy of the Minutes can be found on the Website. However, SCPC would like to express their thanks to both Cllr Robin and Mrs Jill Bevis for their hard work and dedication during their time involved with SCPC.
- 3) **Apologies were received and accepted from :- Cllr C Coleman, J. Palmer & J .Clatworthy Edwards.**
- 4) **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr McIlwraith declared his interest in item 14 b (v) below.
- 5) **Minutes of Main Council Meeting held on 16th May 2017 were agreed and signed.**

Outstanding Actions from Minutes :-

- i) We still need to find a replacement for Mrs J. Bevis to undertake monthly inspection of Village Green and Play Equipment.
 - ii) Berrydown Plantation – Clerk has emailed the owner and suggested he places notices at end of his lane stating “Restricted Access”. There has been no response to date.
 - iii) Easier access to Minutes on Website – Clerk to ask them to be moved higher up drop down list.
- 6) **Playground Report.** (Jill Bevis) – no problems to report. Cobbled path is remaining clear of weeds. (Possibly due to Cllr Coleman’s treatment with flame torch). Set aside shows no sign of the wild flowers that were planted by Jill Bevis. It was agreed to ask the contractor to mow it now and re-assess next year.
Cllr A Thorley volunteered to take over from Jill Bevis to undertake monthly inspections.

Funding for Repairs/Renewal of Play Equipment

DCC Cllr James McInnes has approved £1,500.00 funding + £1,250.00 from this year’s Chase Milton Wind Turbine grant. WDBC Community Grant have said that they will match funding.

Clerk actioned to contact Hand Made Places & TK Play to ascertain exact construction of frame for swings . SCPC would prefer galvanised stakes below ground to prolong life of the equipment.

- 7) **WDBC Report -** to include:-
 Cllr L Watts reported that at WDBC AGM Cllr Jeff Moody was elected as Chairman, with Cllr Mike Davis as Vice Chair. Cllr L. Samuels is now Deputy Leader of the council.

 Next month will be mainly concerned with trying to find ways to close the budget deficit with ideas that include merging WDBC and South Hams – to save money by sharing services; Also the possibility of borrowing money to invest in property.
 - i) **Cutting down of trees at Highridge Farm** – we have been informed by the Enforcement Officer that as this was a boundary hedge it did not require planning permission. None of the trees had a preservation order attached.
 - ii) **Garden Waste Scheme** – as from 31st July you will have to “opt in” and pay £40 a year for fortnightly collections of garden waste. You should soon receive a leaflet through your door explaining the new scheme and more details can be found at this link www.westdevon.gov.uk/gardenwaste from 26th July.
- 8) **Planning – to consider the following applications:-.**
 - a) **1095/17/HHO – Mr R Turner** – Springfield, Sampford Courtenay – Householder application for demolition of existing conservatory and replacement extension. **SCPC – Support**
 - b) **1990/17/LBC – Mr Viggers** – Paize Cottage – Listed Building Consent for domestic workshop/store. **SCPC - Support**

WDBC Decisions :-

- c) **Correction – last month should have read – 0412/17/PDM – Mr & Mrs R Board – The Barn (Part) Cricket Farm - Refusal**
- d) **0696/17/ARC – Mr & Mrs Gillespie – Discharge of conditional approved**
- e) **0961/17/PDM – Hawking, Peard & Collims – Prior approval given**
- f) **3687/16/FUL – David Cruden – Conditional approval**
- g) **0158/17/HHO – Mr & Mrs Hammans – Conditional approval**
- h) **1085/17/HHO – Mr Dave Viggers – Conditional approval**
- i) **0309/17/PHH – Mr Coldrick – Prior approval given**
- j) **1208/17/FUL – Mr & Mrs Tucker – Conditional approval**

- 9) **SCPC Planning policy for coming year.** – Cllr M Wilson asked Cllr Watts to check if WDBC had any guidelines which could help inform SCPC Planning policy statement for the next meeting.
- 10) **BT Phoneboxes – SCPC definitive position** - Cllr D Boting Page would like to reach a definitive position at the next meeting regarding the following:-
- Do SCPC/Parishioners wish to maintain the 3 BT Public Phone boxes as working phone boxes?** SCPC would then need to persuade a reluctant BT to service and maintain them.
 - Do SCPC/Parishioners wish to Adopt all 3 phone boxes and maintain as Village Landmarks as a Community Project.** (On the understanding that they have to be disconnected to do this; and BT stipulate they cannot be used for other communication eg Wifi masts.
- If you have any views on this matter please contact the Clerk or attend the next meeting.**
- 11) **Highways** – the Clerk had received several emails in response to maintenance of roads around the parish – a summary of the main points will be posted on the website & are listed below:-
- Highway Inspections** – “A” roads are inspected monthly, “B” and “C” roads are inspected 6 monthly and minor roads annually. In addition DCC responds to reports of individual defects on highways from parish councils and members of the public.
 - Preventative Maintenance** – with a limited funding available DCC strategy is based on preventative maintenance and timely intervention rather than adopting a “worst first” policy which is not cost effective.(a number of roads that are in “reasonable” condition can be patched and surface dressed for the same cost as reconstructing one road that is in poor condition.)
 - Report a problem** – It is helpful for Parishes and individuals to report potholes that meet the criteria online via the [website](#) These go straight to the contractor for repair.
 - Beware Children Playing signs** – a member of the public asked if SCPC could ask for “Beware Children” signs on roads approaching the village to try and slow down vehicles. Cllr A Thorley was actioned to investigate this.
 - Community Self Help** – DCC also provide funding and training for volunteers from the parish to become Road Wardens. If any of you are interested in becoming a SC Road Warden please contact the Clerk.
- 12) **War Memorial** - Architect Jeremy Chadburn is arranging to view the piece of granite at Merryvale Quarry and then progress some drawings for the project. Bob & Joy Tucker volunteered to meet him at the Quarry to help identify the stone if required. The Clerk was actioned to ask Mr Chadburn to please try and expedite things so that the project can be completed.
- War Memorial Fund - **Balance** Total carried forward = £1,693.20 (cost of Plaque deducted)
 Donations this month. = May - June = 5 weeks @ £14.40 = £72.00 (incl in above figure)
- 13) **Finance** – payments below were agreed.
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| i) Clerk salary & Expenses = | = £ 135.80 | |
| ii) HMRC | = £ 33.80 | |
| iii) Ashley Fewings – Footpaths = | = £1,100.00 | |
| iv) Faheys – Footpaths = | = £ 311.50 | |
| v) Marion Pratt- Stamps – Office = | = £ 10.62 | |
| vi) Aims Accountants = Audit & Software Licence | = £ 422.40 | |
| vii) Patrick Roberts – Labour work on Toilets = | = £ 68.50 | |
| viii) Patrick Roberts- 2 Toilet seats – Toilets = | = £ 57.90 | |
| ix) Total payments this month = | = £ 2140.52 | |
| x) Uncleared cheques & transfers from last month = | = £ 183.20 | |
| xi) Balance (10.vii + 10.viii) | = £ 2323.72 | |
| xii) Income | = £ 0.00 | |
| xiii) Current Balances = Reserve Account | = £ 13,223.18 (Calculated) | |
| xiv) Current Account (according to Statement –31.5.17) | = £ 3,613.70 | |
| xv) Total Current Funds less agreed expenditure above | = £ 1289.98 | (10.xiv – Balance) |
| xvi) To agree transfer of £ Zero To Current Account from Reserve Account | | |
- xvii) **2017- 18 - Updated Budget** and allocation of “unbudgeted” surplus from last year. **In the absence of Cllr Coleman this item was deferred to the next meeting.**
- xviii) **Completed Bank signatory forms from New Councillors** – new councillors were reminded to complete these forms and submit in person to Nat West Bank Okehampton.
- xix) **Completed Register of Interest forms from New Councillors** – completed forms should be emailed to the Clerk who can then forward them to the Returning Officer.
- 14) **Progress Reports** for information
- OkeRail Forum** – next meeting 29th June. Cllr Friend to attend and report at next meeting.
 - Footpaths – incl Review of parish footpaths to avoid some getting “lost”.** (Cllr D Boting Page)
 - Official Footpath maps** – Clerk had received 3 copies of official footpath maps for our parish. 1 copy was handed to Cllr D Boting Page and Clerk would like to get another framed to hang in Village Hall. Cllr Boting Page also keen to investigate “Permitted Pathways” to link up our parish to neighbouring parishes.
 - Cliston to Honeychurch – Devon Heartland Way** – Cllr Boting Page reported that this is in very bad repair and does not seem to have been used recently. It was suggested that we could hold another “Neighbouring Parishes” meeting and follow up Cllr Bevis Circular map of all neighbouring parishes.

- iii) **Footpath Walk** – it was suggested that our Annual Walk could encompass a different path each year, so that over time all our footpaths are used in rotation. Cllr Boting Page to meet with Cllr Palmer to discuss.
- iv) **SCPC authorise purchase of stone/scalplings from Faheys by John Lowe to improve gateways and styles on Footpaths across his land. £300 max spend.** – It was agreed to wait to see if the remaining scalplings stored at Morris' yard is to be used on Peacegate Lane, if not, perhaps they could be used by Mr Lowe.
- v) **Bridge & stile at Cliston Farm very muddy – is there any of the planings Mr Hanks was storing for SCPC left which could be used to rectify this.** Cllr J. Palmer reported that thanks to our DCC Footpath warden, John Baker, this stile has been replaced with a gate; a better access through the electric fence has been installed and a new gate has been put through to the next field. There are no planings left, and DCC recommend duck boarding would be best. Cllr McIlwraith said that access via Solland Farm for maintenance should not be a problem. Clerk given details to contact farm direct.
- c) **Traffic Calming** – recently while visiting Dawlish Cllr Coleman witnessed Dawlish PC & police conducting “Dawlish Community Speed Watch” - We were offered police training at the Open Meeting – but have heard nothing since. Is it worth following this up with Mark.Sloman@DevonandCornwall.PNN.Police.UK – Cllr A Thorley – said he would ask Mark Sloman at East Links meeting on Thursday.
- d) **Broadband** – Cllr Coleman is still reporting between 30 and 40 Mbps! This is faster than the national average for High-Speed broadband at 27.5 Mbps from his 4G signal. Suggests publicising in local papers for benefit of voucher holders before deadline of 30th June
- e) **Clerk's Report** (anything not already covered by Agenda items)
- Deregulation of Water Industry** – letter received from SWWA – we are now free to switch retailers if we wish.
 - Replacement Noticeboards** - clerk to email details to councillors for decision at next meeting.
- 15) **Correspondence for information**
- [Devon Community Resilience Forum](#) useful Newsletter with tips on how to stay safe this summer.
 - [Broadwoodkelly Website](#) - Cllr Wilson suggested it would be a good idea for our Website to link to neighbouring parish websites .
 - [Devon Outdoors Competition](#) – Cllr Wilson suggested this may be a project SCPC could consider for next year. If you have any suggestions please let the council know.
 - Community Contingency Plan** – Cllr Wilson asked if SCPC should consider a Parish Contingency Plan in the light of the recent Grenfell Tower disaster.
 - [Safe Haven](#) – Cllr Boting Page suggested we check with our WDBC Cllrs to see what WDBC and our neighbouring parishes are doing towards this initiative.
- 16) **Date of next meeting.** To confirm the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for Tues 18th July at 7.30pm at Sampford Courtenay Village Hall.

Signed

M. S Pratt

Marion Pratt

Clerk to Sampford Courtenay Parish Council June 2017.

Members of the Public are cordially invited to attend all Parish Council Meetings and suggest items for the Agenda. (Please contact the Clerk at least 7 days prior to scheduled meeting re Agenda items)

2017/18 Dates	Apr – 18th	May – 16 th AGM	Jun – 20th	Jul – 18th	Aug – 15th
	Sept – 19th	Oct – 17th	Annual Parish Meeting 1 -	Nov – 21st	Dec – 19th
2018	Jan – 16th	Feb – 20th	Mar – 20th	Annual Parish Meeting 2 Mar	

Eastern Links Meetings – Thurs 22nd June – Whiddon Down; Thurs 14th Sept – Throwleigh; Thurs 16th Nov – Sampford Courtenay.

Training –

David Boting Page – New Councillor's Course – Exeter – 3.7.17

Michelle Wilson – Short Chairmanship Course – South Molten – 27.6.17