

**Sampford Courtenay Parish Council**  
**NOTICE OF SAMPFORD COURTENAY PARISH MEETING**

[www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk](http://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk)

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

**Minutes of Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2017.**

- 1) **Present:- Cllrs C Coleman, J. Friend, A. Thorley, R. Bevis, M. Wilson, D. Boting-Page, & M. McIlwraith & WDBC Cllr L Watts + 2 members of the public.**
- 2) **Public Participation** – a member of the public asked for an update on the Broadband Voucher situation in the parish. Cllr Coleman summarised that most Voucher holders in the Parish had chosen to go with South West Mobile Broadband 4G solution, and we have only received positive feedback regarding the installation and service they provide. It is worth checking the [Connecting Devon and Somerset](#) website as the new phase is due to start. However current voucher holders are reminded that the deadline is 30<sup>th</sup> June.
- 3) **Apologies** - were received and accepted from Cllr J Palmer.
- 4) **Declarations of Interest** – there were no declarations of interest.
- 5) **Minutes of the Main Council Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> Apr 2017 were agreed and signed.**
- 6) **Playground Report.** (Jill Bevis) – no issues to report except that the loose capping slate on the Church boundary wall has been removed and placed between the church wall and compost compound.

**Thanks again to Jill** for her diligence in monitoring the Village Green on behalf of SCPC, and if any member of the parish would like to take on this task please contact the Clerk.

**Funding for Repairs/Renewal of Play Equipment** - The Clerk has obtained a positive offer from WDBC Community Fund to grant 50% of the cost of replacing the 2 faulty swings. SCPC are also ear marking the current year's grant from Chase Milton Wind Turbine to this project. This leaves a shortfall of approx. £800 to source elsewhere.

- 7) **WDBC – Cllr Louise Watts reported that :-**
  - a) **Devon County Council elections** – Cllr James McInnes had been re-elected. He is very proactive for our area especially in trying to obtain fair funding for our schools.
  - b) **Forthcoming General Election** – will occupy much of the Council's time for the next month. However, MP Mel Stride has been appointed to the Privy Council by the Queen.
  - c) **WDBC AGM next week** – it is going to be a tough year as far as funding is concerned with a budget gap of one million pounds over the next 2 years. WDBC are looking at various business development models to try and resolve this eg. Buying and renting property.
  - d) **WDBC Performance** – there have been certain issues especially with IT, but these are gradually being resolved.
  - e) **Cllr Lois Samuels** – has been elected as Vice Chair of the Conservative Group of WDBC, so depending on the result of the General Election could become Vice Chair of WDBC.
  - f) **Garden Waste** – Cllr Friend asked if Cllr Watts could find out when and if the Garden Waste collection is going to finish + SCPC would like WDBC to consider some reassurance of how much of our recycling is genuinely recycled and where it actually goes.
- 8) **Planning – to consider the following applications:-** there were no new applications this month.

**WDBC Decisions :-**

- a) **4112/16/TCA** - North Town Farm, Sampford Courtenay - Mr I Shepherd – **Tree works approved**
- b) **0722/17/PDM** – Barn Willey Farm – Mr Mawle – **Conditional Approval**

**SCPC Planning policy for coming year.** – Cllr Bevis is still considering the wording of this to put before the Council.

- 9) **Mr Voaden email re Berrydown Plantation** – SCPC had received an email from Mr Voaden concerning people using his access to Berrydown Plantation rather than using the designated Footpath. SCPC fully support Mr Voaden and ask that parishioners please use the designated Footpath in that area.
- 10) **Village Spring Clean report** – SCPC would like to thank all the volunteers who helped with the Spring Clean, and thank the McIlwraith family for hosting our Pasty Lunch and providing us all with a glass of cider. Over 300 kgs of rubbish was collected. Unfortunately, some of the roads cleared are already littered again. If you can litter pick any of the parish local to where you live, throughout the year, SCPC would be greatly appreciative.
- 11) **Highways** – (Cllr A Thorley) – it was felt by the meeting that the recent tar and chipping of the roads from the New Inn through the village on to Red Post and from Red Post to Thornbury Cross had been done to a high standard. Except the fact that the weeds had been scraped too early and regrowth can be seen coming through the newly laid tar. Councillors also queried how DCC prioritise roads as they felt the road from the Square to Sampford Chapple would have been their priority. Clerk to email DCC to ask and also thank them for the completed repairs.

- 12) **War Memorial** - Cllr Coleman has been in contact with Architect Jeremy Chadburn and instructed him to Project Manage completion of the project. Currently the stone is with the mason and the plaque has been completed by the foundry and paid for (see item 13 viii). Clerk to forward necessary documents to Mr Chadburn and ask him to progress the project for completion as soon as possible.

War Memorial Fund - **Balance** Total carried forward = £3,619.20 Less £1,998.00 net cost of plaque.  
Donations this month. = Apr – May = 4 weeks @ £14.40 = £57.60 (incl in above figure)

- 13) **Finance** payments as listed below were agreed and cheques signed.

i) Clerk salary & Expenses =	= £ 135.60
ii) HMRC	= £ 34.00
iii) Cll Coleman stamps =	= £ 6.60
iv) Village Hall – Chase Milton Grant 2016	= £1,250.00
v) AON Insurance =	= £ 294.41
vi) Cllr Coleman Toilet cleaning supplies =	= £ 8.39
vii) SWWA – Toilets =	= £ 25.88
viii) East Coast Castings – War Memorial plaque =	= £2,397.60
ix) The Cider Vat Ltd – Pasties for Village Spring Clean	= £ 47.60
x) <b>Total payments this month =</b>	<b>= £ 4200.08</b>
xi) Uncleared cheques & transfers from last month =	= £ 0.00
xii) <b>Balance</b> (10.x + 10.xi)	<b>= £ 4200.08</b>
xiii) <b>Income</b>	<b>= £ 3671.72 (VAT rebate, Precept 1 &amp; Tax support grant)</b>
xiv) Current Balances = Reserve Account	= £13,223.18 ( Calculated )
xv) Current Account (according to Statement –28.4.17)	= £ 7,813.78
xvi) Total Current Funds less agreed expenditure above	= <b>£ 3,613.70</b> (10.xv – Balance)
xvii) To agree transfer of <b>£ Zero To Current</b> Account from <b>Reserve</b> Account	
xviii) <b>New Pension staging date 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017 – Online declaration made on 21.4.17</b>	

- 14) **Internal Audit** – the Internal Audit has been completed by Aims Accountants and the Chairman was instructed to sign these so that they could be forwarded to the External Auditors – Grant Thornton. Cllr Coleman also presented the finalised budget with annotations to explain significant variances. This will be used to up-date 2017-18 budget at the next meeting.

- 15) **Progress Reports** for information

- a) **OkeRail Forum** – is still on going. Cllr Friend volunteered to take over as SCPC representative from Cllr Bevis.
- b) **Footpaths – Use and removal of planings from Morris’s yard** – planings have been removed from Mr Morris’s yard. SCPC thanks him for allowing us to store them there. The best planings have been used to repair the entrance of Bulland Lane down to the Village Hall. A member of the public has already commented on the great improvement it has made. The rest of the planings have been used to repair the wettest parts of Peacegate to Cliston footpath. Further work on this lane will be completed in the near future. **Cllr Bevis** asked if it was possible to contact the landowner of the footpath from the New Inn to Trecott. At the moment walkers following the path have to tread down the planted crop and SCPC feels walkers may be dissuaded from using the path for this reason.
- c) **New Website** - In April so far, we have had 236 active users, with 97 using the website regularly; the average time on the site was just over three minutes. Since the beginning of March, when I started monitoring the site, there have been over 3,200 views. **Please keep using the new website and let us know what you think. You can also access Agenda and Minutes on the Website with hyperlinks to other relevant websites.**  
**Cllr McIlwraith** – asked if SCPC Minutes could move up the menu on the website so that they are easier to access. Clerk will check.
- d) **Clerk’s Report** (anything not already covered by Agenda items)
- i) **Glebe House rebuild and inconvenience and assessment of associated risks caused by scaffolding.**  
*'Aviva Correspondence ref: 8970448. Alastair Woodford of Aviva has acknowledged receipt of helpful correspondence from SC-PC and has advised that the matter should be considered as closed.'*
- ii) **Parking in Village Square** – deferred to future meeting.

- 16) **Correspondence for information** – No further correspondence.

- 17) **Councillors’ reports and items for future agenda.**

- a) **Cllr A Thorley** – Cutting down of hedge at Highridge Farm.
- b) **Cllr D Boting – Page** – SCPC definitive position regarding BT telephone boxes.
- c) **Cllr D Boting – Page** – Review of footpaths in SC to avoid “footpaths” becoming lost.
- d) **Cllr M McIlwraith** – Littering of highways and possible provision of more Rubbish and Dog Fouling bins.

- 18) **Date of next meeting.** To confirm the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for Tues 20<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm at Sampford Courtenay Village Hall.

Signed

*M. S Pratt* Marion Pratt

Clerk to Sampford Courtenay Parish Council May 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)**

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

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

**DRAFT**