

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

Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th Sept 2018

- 1) **Present :- Cllrs J. Clatworthy Edwards, M Wilson, C. Coleman, J. Palmer, J. Friend, H. Smith & WDBC Cllr L. Watts + 14 members of the public**
- 2) **Apologies were accepted from Cllr M McIlwraith.**
- 3) **Public Participation** – A member of the public expressed his views towards Item 13 below.
- 4) **Declarations of Interest – None**
- 5) **Minutes of Main Council Meeting held on 7th Aug 2018 were agreed and signed.**
- 6) **WDBC Report** - .WDBC Cllr Louise Watts reported that:-
 - a) **WDBC accounts had been successfully audited and are available on the [website](#).**
 - b) **WDBC are still looking at ways to save money and this may involve the closure of some public toilets or introduction of a small fee. (This will not affect this parish as SCPC are already responsible for the public toilets)**
 - c) **The Medium Term financial statement is also available on the [website](#)**
 - d) **A survey to assess the services of WDBC has been completed by 3,000 targeted WDBC residents – one of the issues identified was poor response to public complaints. Training for staff has been arranged to try and improve this area.**

A few points were put forward by parishioners for Cllr Watts to take back to WDBC:-

- e) **There seems to be a Waste Collection van with mesh around the top travelling around the parishes with nothing in it. What are they collecting?**
 - f) **Has there been an update for the Joint Local Plan? - Cllr Watts commented that the housing numbers had been approved and there were a few minor changes as far as she knew.**
 - g) **A councillor asked when there was likely to be a link road between Exeter Road and Crediton Road. It was agreed to add this to the Open Meeting agenda.**
 - h) **Another councillor repeated his enquiry that if WDBC/UK are trying to discourage use of plastics – why do WDBC insist that general waste is placed in black plastic bags rather than a dust bin. Again it was agreed to add this topic to the Open Meeting Agenda.**
- 7) **Planning** – Cllr Coleman asked Cllr Watts to report back to WDBC Planning Dept, SCPC disappointment in one of the planning officers who on several occasions has gone against SCPC Planning Decisions, without the common courtesy of informing SCPC of the reason.
- a) **2694/18/PIP - Land at Sampford Chapple - Mr & Mrs A Morris – Permission in principle for development of land for up to 3 houses. COMMENTS BY 12 Sept 18**

The applicants' agent explained that this was a "Permission in Principle" Planning Application that had come into power in July 18 – specifically to decide if a site was suitable for development. If successful/supported it would then move on to a Technical Detailed Plan (equivalent of full planning permission)

There was one Objection posted on the Website; and the Highways had put forward no objection.

Several parishioners stated that although supportive in principle for the application, they had several concerns:-

- i) The site is adjacent to a blind cross road where the speeding traffic is already a concern.
- ii) If planning is approved for 1 -3 dwellings on this ¼ of the field – will this lead to further development of the rest of the field?
- iii) The site is in an elevated position, so without dwellings being set back from the road, and/or adequate landscaping/screening being provided, houses opposite could be directly overlooked.
- iv) Current Sewerage works for the 16 dwellings at Sampford Chapple has experienced several problems, residents are concerned that this would be exacerbated with more dwellings using the same plant.
- v) While residents would support and applaud a decrease in the speed limit to 30 mph and extension of the speed limit boundary, they did not want this to include street lights.
- vi) "Permission in Principle" seems to be an immature process with little or no guidance on the WDBC Planning Portal
- vii) Several in favour of dwellings to be affordable/starter homes in a style which was in keeping with the current dwellings.

Councillors, while taking the concerns of the parishioners above, were generally in Support of the application, but while acknowledging that more detailed information was not compulsory for this type of application, emphasised SCPC desire that all Planning Applications include as much information as possible to enable SCPC to give their Support.

MAJORITY SUPPORT

- b) **2682/18/HHO – Highclere – Mr J Camiller & Ms T Brett – Householder application for extensions and alterations to existing dwelling and associated works (resubmission of 2578/17/HHO)** **COMMENTS BY 20th Sept 18**

The applicant explained the changes made to the original Planning Application (Supported by SCPC) to satisfy the issues brought up by the Conservation Officer.

SUPPORT

Planning Decisions –

- c) **APP?Q1153/W/17/3192178 re Application 2935/16/COU – Land at Beacon Cross – Change of use of land and buildings from agricultural use to Class B1 & B8 usage.** **APPEAL DISMISSED**
- 8) **Village Hall Car Park surfacing** – the entrance to the Village Hall and new disabled entrance had just been resurfaced at a cost of approx. £5,200 + VAT, therefore, Cllr Coleman asked the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee if in light of these costs and Item 15 e on SCPC Aug Meeting; would the Village Hall Committee re-consider the VAT registration option to reclaim this £1040.
- The Chairman also reminded the Village Hall Chairman that a condition of the grant towards the Meeting Room Heaters (which was partly funded by the Wind Turbine Grant for Ecological projects) was the production of a Heat Loss Calculation for the Meeting Room which is still outstanding. Mr Blakeman agreed to forward this calculation to the Clerk.
- 9) **Banking Arrangements –**
- a) **Update on new Bank Account** – the Clerk has been unable to Switch accounts from Nat West to Lloyds because of the discrepancy in signatories with Nat West Bank. SCPC will continue to bank with Nat West until this is rectified.
- b) **Up date on Compensation claim from NatWest for failure to maintain accurate signatory details – Cllr Coleman has written to the Regional Managing Director of Nat West to ask for a full list of account signatories.**
- 10) **Local Plan update** (Cllr Wilson) – Draft Questionnaire to be circulated with Autumn Chairman’s letter. – **Cllr Wilson took the opportunity to highlight her questionnaire which will be advertised with the Autumn Chairman’s letter and encouraged everyone to publicise it to all parishioners. SCPC will prefer these questionnaires be completed on line via the website page, but hard copies will be available for parishioner with no internet access.**
- 11) **Local Resilience Plan** – update – 30 Ways in 30 Days Facebook items.- Cllr Wilson is also using [SCPC Facebook page](#) to promote ways we can all be more resilient and prepared for emergency situations that might arise in the parish. Please have a look and add your own ideas. One suggestion is to become a volunteer – and SCPC still has a vacancy for another councillor, or you could volunteer as a snow warden.
- 12) **War Memorial - Cllr Coleman has agreed to contact both the Mason and Architect and discuss the way forward to ensure the project matches the agreed plans.**
- 13) **Maintenance and Repair of Cobbled paths in the parish** – the Clerk was actioned to contact the local specialists for advice which could be relayed to the public at the Open Meeting.
- 14) **Request to DCC to move 40mph Speed signs to before Cliston Lane** - the Clerk was asked to contact DCC and Highways for a definitive list of what is required for a 30 mph speed limit. This item will also be added to the Agenda for the Open Meeting.
- 15) **Facebook Enquiry re 470th Anniversary Prayer Book Rebellion** – the Clerk has enquired of the Church and Village Hall Committee, and it was agreed that perhaps the 475th Anniversary would be more appropriate.
- 16) **PLEASE NOTE - Change of date for next meeting to Tues 9th Oct**
- 17) **Autumn Open Meeting – TUES 23RD OCTOBER AT THE VILLAGE HALL**, suggestions for the Agenda include:
- a) **Speeding and change of speed limit at Sampford Chapple**
- b) **SCPC Questionnaire**
- c) **Link road between Exeter Road and Crediton Road**
- d) **Planning in Principle Guidelines**
- e) **WDBC Recycling and Sustainability Policy.**

This is an opportunity for parishioners to put forward their own suggestions for projects they would like SCPC to consider and make provisions for in next year’s budget. Please let the Clerk know if there is anything you would like included on the Agenda, and please come along to the meeting.

- 18) **Finance** – the following payments were agreed and cheques signed.

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|---|---------------------|--|
| i) Clerk salary & Expenses = | = £169.60 | |
| ii) HMRC | = £ 42.40 | |
| iii) Toilet Cleaner | = £102.64 | (4 weeks of 3 hrs @ £7.83 to 27.8.18) + Sundries |
| iv) Total payments this month = | = £ 314.64 | |
| v) Uncleared cheques & transfers from last month = | = £1118.90 | |
| vi) Balance (17iv +17v) | = £ 1433.54 | |
| vii) Income | = £ 1.86 | (Interest Reserve account + SeaMoor Lotto) |
| viii) Transfer from Current to Reserve | = £19,729.11 | |
| ix) Current Balances = Reserve Account | = £ ZERO | (Calculated) |
| x) Current Account (according to Statement – Calculated) | = £ 24,578.28 | |

xi) Total Current Funds less agreed expenditure above = **£ 24,263.64** (17x – 17iv)

19) **Budget Review – Cllr Coleman** – presented the up dated ½ year budget.

20) **Request from Village Hall Committee for funds to cover cost of paint for railings and gates at Village Hall** – the Village Hall was asked if money is available are they proposing to present an Invoice to SCPC to pay minus the VAT amount, or would they prefer SCPC to be invoiced for the paint, in which case SCPC can reclaim the VAT.

21) **Request from The Beeches for funding to help with cost of Defibrillator.** – Deferred to Open Meeting.

22) **Progress Reports** for information

- a) **Footpaths – Report from D Botting Page** – Thanks to David for completing this report.
- b) **BT Phoneboxes query from D Botting Page** – Clerk to ask BT for an update on the parish phone boxes as it appears both kiosks at Sampford Station and the Village have been repainted and are working, however, the kiosk at Sampford Chapple still remains untouched.
- c) **Highways** – Cllr Friend reported that parishioners have complained re visibility in both directions emerging at New Inn due to hedge growth.
- d) **OkeRail** – Report of Sept meeting at next SCPC meeting.
- e) **Playground Report**- Cllr Clatworthy Edwards to forward to Clerk and other councillors.

23) **Clerk’s Report** (anything not already covered by Agenda item)

- i) **Councillor Representative for Eastern Links Meetings** – Clerk would like councillors to consider filling this position before the meeting on 13th Sept.
- ii) **Lesley Smith – DALC – retirement** – Cllr Coleman will send a card on behalf of SCPC.
- iii) **SeaMoor Lotto – to support SCPC projects – you can sign up for tickets at <https://www.seamoorlotto.co.uk/support/sampford-courtenay-parish-council>** So far 7 tickets have been purchased which will raise £182 per year for SCPC.

24) **Date of next meeting.** To confirm the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for **Tues Oct 9th** at 7.30pm at Sampford Courtenay Village Hall.

Signed
M. S Pratt Marion Pratt
Clerk to Sampford Courtenay Parish Council Sept 2018

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)

| 2018/19 Dates | Apr – 3rd Sept – 4th | May – 1 st AGM Oct – 9th | Jun – 5th Annual Parish Meeting 1 - Oct 23rd | Jul – 3rd Nov – 6th | Aug – 7th Dec – 4th |
|---------------|-------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2019 | Jan – 1st | Feb – 5th | Mar – 5th | Annual Parish Meeting 2 Mar 19th | |

Eastern Links Meetings – 13th Sept, 15th Nov