

Sampford Courtenay Parish Council

MINUTES OF SAMPFORD COURTENAY ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

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

VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING HELD ON TUES 5TH MAY 2020

- 1) **Present :- Cllrs M Wilson, B & J Tucker, J. Friend, M. Carpenter, S. Svedang, & J. Palmer + DCC Cllr James McInnes + 3 members of the public.**
- 2) **Cllr Wilson welcomed everyone to this quite unprecedented Virtual meeting. Acknowledging that we all find ourselves in strange, difficult times but SCPC would like to try and keep things as normal as possible by going ahead with this meeting. She then explained the protocol for this Virtual meeting – that all participants would be muted until they indicated they wished to speak on an item and that the meeting was being recorded.**
- 3) **Election of Chairperson** – the Clerk then took the lead for the electing the Chair for the coming year and Cllr Michele Wilson was unanimously re-elected to stand as Chair for 2020 -21
- 4) **Signing of Acceptance of Office Form by newly elected Chairperson** – it was agreed that this should be passed to Cllr Wilson for signing and returning to the Clerk.
- 5) **Declaration of Register of Interests.** – all Councillors confirmed that they had no new or change of interests to declare.
- 6) **Minutes of AGM 2019 – held on 7th May 2019** – Minutes of last year’s AGM (already circulated) were agreed and again would be passed to Cllr Wilson for signing and returning to the Clerk.
- 7) **Election of Vice Chairperson** – Cllr Bob Tucker was unanimously re-elected as Vice Chair
- 8) **Election of Governance Committee** – it was agreed would stay the same as last year :- Cllrs Bob Tucker, Colin Coleman, Sue Svedang and Mike Carpenter
- 9) **Election of Planning Committee** – Mike Carpenter, Michele Wilson, Colin Coleman, and John Friend
- 10) **Appointment of other Council representatives** –
 - a) Footpath lengthsperson – Sue Svedang and Mike Carpenter
 - b) Monthly Playground Report – Mike Carpenter and Bob Tucker
 - c) OkeRail Representative – John Friend
 - d) Eastern Links Representative – Joy Tucker
 - e) Village Hall Representative – Mike Carpenter
- 11) **Adoption of SCPC Financial Regulations/Standing Orders** – Cllr Wilson proposed that the current Financial Regulations and Standing Orders be adopted; but that amendments regarding Virtual Meetings and Online Banking be considered at the next SCPC meeting. It was agreed that these would be passed to Cllr Wilson for signing and returning to the Clerk.
- 12) **Any other business** (not already covered in subsequent normal monthly meeting)
 - i) **Parish Priorities for 2019/20** - Overview of achievements against current priorities
(updated copy of the Parish Plan is available on the Parish website or by contacting the Parish Clerk)
<http://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/2020-04/parish-priorities-plan-copy-819078696.pdf>
Summary of Achievements 2019-20
 - a) Community Internet Access in the Village Hall which has supported Community Events
 - b) Limited success with the Road Safety Plan – but liaison with local highways team has resulted in 4 speed detection points on B3215 to collect data to be submitted to next SCARF meeting.
 - c) Improved Communication links – has really come into its own during COVID-19 Incident.
Enhancement of the Website and development of the Webmail network and Facebook page.
Facebook figures for 7th April – 4th May show Post Reach = 1,801 > 22% and Post Engagements of 2,405 > 79%

- d) Fund Raising for a Defibrillator in the Square – yet to be fitted but a great achievement and thanks also to Cllr Lois Samuel for support from the Locality Budget.
- e) Improved communication and Understanding of the Community Transport Services was supported by publicity and a Parish Outing to Tiverton Canal.
- f) Effective implementation of the Resilience plan at the inception of the Covid-19 outbreak.
- g) Securing Grant funding for purchase of a new mobile projector and screen for use at meetings and parish events. Thanks to Cllr McInnes for his support with Locality Funding.
- h) Fund raising for VE/VJ Day Celebrations and the planting of a Peace Tree in the Village Green – put on hold for the moment but plan to incorporate with Parish celebration after Lockdown.

ii) **Parish Priorities set for 2020/21** - decision on priorities for the coming year & lead Councillor.

- a) Deliver safer roads with the Parish both for local people and visitors – Cllr M Wilson
- b) Acknowledging the Counties and Borough Environmental emergency, create a plan to support local activity that raises awareness and considers actions appropriate at a Parish Level to support sustainability, and Carbon Reduction – Cllr Joy Tucker
- c) Improved communication with parishioners through increased engagement on local priorities and what matters to local people – All Councillors
- d) Provide improved public toilet facilities in the village which enhance DDA compliance – Cllr Mike Carpenter.
- e) Work to support the Village Hall Trustees in obtaining grant funding to meet renovation costs of the Roof and Windows, thereby ensuring sustainable facilities for uses by Parishioners in the future. – All Councillors.
- f) Continue to seek solutions to improve Broadband connectivity to all areas of the Parish – Cllr Mike Carpenter.

Marion Pratt
Parish Clerk.

6th May 2020