

MINUTES OF SAMPFORD COURTENAY PARISH MEETING

Date and Venue – Tues 4th May 7.30 pm – Virtual Zoom Meeting

Present:- Cllrs M Carpenter, J. Palmer, C. Coleman, J. Friend, B. Tucker & M. Wilson & Clerk M. Pratt

6 members of the Public – VM, JT, MM, BA, PC & BR

1. **Chairman's welcome** – the meeting continued directly after the AGM

2. **Apologies** – None

3. **Public Participation**

a) **Bags of Dog Faeces thrown over hedge into fields.**

the Clerk has received several notifications of landowners finding bagged dog faeces which had been thrown over the hedge into their fields which surround the Village Triangle walk. Not only is this irresponsible but extremely dangerous to livestock. Dog owners or Licensed Dog Walkers who use this route are respectfully reminded that there is a Dual-Purpose Litter Bin next to the Public Toilets in which bagged dog faeces can be deposited.

While most dog owners are caring, responsible individuals, there are still some people who do not clean up after their pets.

Anyone who fails to clear up after their dog can be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £100. If the case goes to court this could cost the owner or person in charge of the animal up to £1,000.

The law states that being unaware a dog has fouled or not having a suitable bag is not a reasonable excuse.

SCPC asks that dog owners in the parish act responsibly, and report anyone they see not clearing up after their dog or who continues to throw bagged faeces over the hedges.

A Member of the public also reported incidents of cat litter being dumped into the drainage channels in Honeychurch. Again, if anyone witnesses this being done, please report to the Environmental Agency. <https://www.gov.uk/report-an-environmental-incident>

4. **Declarations of Interest** – None

5. **Minutes** to approve and sign the Minutes of – Virtual Meeting held on Tues 6th April 21 (already published on Noticeboards and Website) Unanimously approved

b) **Minutes** of Extraordinary meeting held on 26th April 21 – Unanimously approved.

6. **WDBC Report** - None

7. **Planning** – this month's applications are for information only.

a) 1169/21/AGR – Land adjacent to A30 – Mr M.Clinch – Lean to extension to existing barn.

- b) 1314/21/COM – Paize Farm – Communications application
INFO ONLY

WDBC Planning Decisions: -

- c) 0722/21/FUL – Furze Down Farm – Extension to existing livestock building. Mr Francis
CONDITIONAL APPROVAL
- d) 0110/21/PDM - Barn at Gilmoor – Mr P Allin PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIRED AND
GIVEN
- e) 0633/21/FUL - Willey Farm – Mr Mawle – Barn – CONDITIONAL APPROVAL
- f) 1169/21/AGR – Land adjacent A30 – Mr Clinch – Lean to to existing barn – AGR
DETERMINATION DETAILS NOT REQUIRED

8. Matters Arising from Annual Parish Meeting.

- a) Sampford Courtenay Station - <https://www.dartmoor-railway-sa.org/> - Cllr Wilson reported that there had been a good, informative discussion and presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting and further communications since. Whilst it is disappointing that plans do not involve the opening of SC Station in the first phase, SCPC and particularly the SCEnSus Group have agreed to work with many neighbouring parishes and councils regarding better bus services to coordinate with train timetable in Okehampton and hopefully, Sampford Courtenay Station in the future.
A member of the public had taken photos of work on the railway at Sampford Station Bridge. It was suggested that a scrap book be started to show before and after photos. Cllr Coleman said that through one of his company's he was allowed access to areas on the railway that members of the public could not access, and offered to take photos too.
- b) Village Green Poll – had been well received by parishioners, with the Clerk receiving 35 responses. These have given focus to future planning by SCEnSus.
- c) Siting of Defibrillator in the square – up-date on Solar Panel option – since the meeting Cllr Wilson and Friend have researched the idea of using Solar Panels and have discovered that they would cost in the region of £3,000. Plus, the supplier of the Defibrillator confirmed that independent solar units were not a power source they recommended. At the Parish Annual Meeting members of the public were in favour of adopting the Phone Box to house the Defibrillator, and asking neighbouring properties if they would mind their address being listed in the phone box as alternative locations to make emergency calls.
Cllr Coleman – suggested SCPC should keep the adoption of the phone box as a leverage to try and ensure Openreach provide better Internet and Mobile provision to the Village.
- d) Registering New Inn as a Community Asset – up-date on new Tenant/Manager – It has recently been announced on the New Inn Face Book page that the New Inn has new tenants, Debbie and Jason, who hope to re-open the pub on 8th June.
Following the Parish Meeting the Clerk will look into registering the New Inn as a Community Asset and report back.

9. Question & Answer meetings

| Date and Time | Topic |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Tues May 18 th 7pm | Past Present & Future for Sampford Courtenay |

Andy Wilson is currently co-ordinating this group, and several parishioners have written brief histories of their own properties. Others have been doing their own investigations via the Face Book page. Also at this Q & A meeting, Cllr Carpenter will be asking local opinion and support for re-instating some of the “Lost Footpaths” within the parish.

Cllr Friend also added that he holds the deeds of all the properties in the Square, if any property owners are interested in looking at them.

10. **Repairs to Noticeboard in the Square & Refurbishment of pinboards at both Bus Shelters – update** a big “Thank you” to Dave Viggers for refurbishing the Noticeboard in the square as a Contribution in Kind which enabled the costs to be minimised to £60.26. Also to Cllr B Ratcliffe for supporting the Localities Grant Application to support refurbishment of all the notice boards.

Proposal for new boards in the Bus Shelters – Cllr Carpenter and Dave Viggers now plan to add additional boards to the sides of the two bus shelters and refurbish the existing boards in those locations. New signs will also be signposting people to the information available.

11. **Election** – Clerk reminded the meeting that special Covid regulations were being observed for the Election on Thursday 6th May which had been published on the Website and Facebook. Parishioners were encouraged to use their vote.
12. **2021/22 Parish Priorities** – Cllr Wilson gave an overview of the current position of the last year’s Parish Priorities and suggested additions for this year. - Namely, Re-opening of SC Station, Development of the Village Green, and Cllr Carpenter requested that Housing the Defibrillator in the Square be made a priority so that the unit can be available as soon as possible. Full details can be found on the Website.
13. **Parish Priorities** –
- a) Dartmoor Line – Sampford Courtenay Station <https://www.dartmoor-railway-sa.org/> See Item 8 a above.
 - b) Refurbishment of the Public Toilets – Cllr Carpenter update including Phase 2 - Cllr Carpenter reported that he had today spoken to the CEO of Disability Right’s UK who was fully supportive of the 2 Phase approach to repairs/refurbishment of the Toilets and also added that he would put SCPC in touch with the Cabinet Office regarding possible funding for Phase 2. Cllr Carpenter to maintain contact and update him on future progress.
 - c) Safer Roads – Cllr J Palmer said there had been no progress regarding the Community Speed Watch Training. Cllr Wilson asked if a letter from SCPC would help get them moving again.
 - d) Parish Climate Emergency plan - Joy Tucker (Minutes & reports already circulated)

Proposal - That SCPC collaborates with SCEnSus to invite Dave Sexton (Environmental Health Officer, WDBC) to talk to a meeting about funding available for improving energy efficiency of homes etc.

JT reported that there have been recent changes to the laws re home improvements for Listed Buildings and also the grants available, and was suggesting another Parish Meeting in the future to be led by Dave Sexton to explain these changes.

Cllr Palmer said that she had looked into available grants and many of them are Income/Benefits dependent.

It was agreed to defer back to SCEnSus to decide the best time to arrange a meeting.

Proposal

To approve Action Plan for Village Green, resulting from Poll Consultation with parishioners

An Action plan and map of proposals had been formulated by VM and will be published on the Website and forwarded to those who said they would like to be involved with the development of the Village Green.

Clerk will contact Contractor re new cutting arrangements.

Cllr Coleman said VM should be “thanked” for a very thorough and detailed plan of action. JT seconded this.

Cllr Wilson explained that SCEnSus as a sub committee were able to carry out any action on the plan, and only needed to report back proposals to SCPC any action that had either a financial impact or physical impact on neighbouring properties or parishioners or something for which they required support.

- e) Village Hall – Cllr M Carpenter – reported that the recent Chilli Take Away had raised approx. £640. Donations are still coming in slowly. A video has been made to accompany the Lottery Grant Application.
- f) Broadband/Mobile Coverage Survey – Cllr Wilson and Carpenter have been in touch with DCC and are awaiting a Face to Face meeting with Openreach and Airband regarding the contractual obligations to provide Fibre to House to the parish.
- g) Moving of Telephone Kiosk from Sampford Station to Sampford Chapple. – Clerk currently negotiating with contractors.

14. **Footpaths/ P3** – Cllr M Carpenter – currently awaiting any P3 funds for extra maintenance this financial year.

15. **Village Green Report** – Cllr M Carpenter apologised that he had not circulated monthly report yet. But there were no issues to report.

16. **BHIB Insurance for coming year.** – schedule had been circulated to all Councillors and was approved.

17. Internal Auditor Report – not received yet. Deferred to June meeting.

18. Finance – following payments were approved.

| | | |
|---|------------------|--|
| Clerk salary & Expenses | 265.00 | April hours (62 hrs) |
| HMRC | Zero | Due to new tax code for Clerk |
| Tracy Mombeyarara – Toilets | 71.28 | New pay scale from 1 st April - £8.91 ph |
| NALC & DALC Membership | 142.26 | |
| Gold Coast Media – “Read More” links | 120.00 | |
| N Power | 14.52 DD | Final payment to NPower |
| EDF | 8.00 DD | |
| BHIB - Insurance | 255.76 | |
| M. Carpenter – Sundeala Board The Square | 60.26 | Repairs to Noticeboard in the Square EMR Enhancement |
| SWWA | 35.45 | |
| M. Pratt Office Sundries | 23.70 | Paper & Memory Stick |
| Total Payments this month | 996.23 | |
| Reserve Account = EMR | 26,654.39 | After these transactions & transfers |
| Current Account | 4,544.29 | |
| Income | 12.50 5248.5 | Seamoor Lotto Precept 1/2 |
| Transfers between accounts | 132.61 | .From Reserve to equal EMR |
| Dave Viggers – Noticeboards for Bus Shelters | 71.17 | EMR – SCENSUS Locality Grant |

19. Devon & Cornwall Police Report - Cllr J Palmer update -

a) Ebay Tractor Scam – warnings circulated on Face book and Website Details of how to report various Scams can be found on the CAB website.

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams/reporting-a-scam/>

b) G7 Community Newsletter – details of how G7 summit may effect residents and visitors to Cornwall, circulated on Facebook and Website

20. Clerk’s Report (anything not already covered by Agenda item)

a) High Court judgement on virtual meeting provision was dismissed. So councillors will have to attend June meeting in person at the Village Hall. SCPC will publish a safety briefing for members of the public who wish to attend meetings Face to Face. It is however, hoped that we will be able to operate a hybrid meeting with councillors present in person and members of the public still able to attend via Zoom.

b) Up-date on Clerk training – The Power of Local Councils & Community Business Partnerships.

c) **SeaMoor Lotto** – to support SCPC projects – you can sign up for tickets <https://www.seamoorlotto.co.uk/support/sampford-courtenay-parish-council> Funds raised to date £630.50

d) Social Media over the past month.

| Facebook | | Website | |
|------------------|-------|-------------------|--|
| New Likes | 3 | Users | 569 |
| Page Reach | 3,726 | Sessions | 868 |
| Post Engagements | 1,070 | Pages most viewed | SCPC Agenda – 126 Calendar – 52 Extraordinary Meeting – 52 Scensus - 42 |
| | | Website emails | Delivered – 5412 Opened – 2811 Clicks - 144 |

21. PRIOR NOTICE ROAD WORKS – 29th April – 21st May 1900 – 0700 hours A3072 – Sampford Courtenay, Greenhill to De Bathe Cross. More details can be found on the Noticeboards and Website.

22. Date of next meeting. To confirm the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for Tues June 1st at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall and via Zoom.

Signed M. S Pratt Marion Pratt, Clerk to Sampford Courtenay Parish Council May 2021