

MINUTES OF SAMPFORD COURTENAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tues 1st Feb 22 7.30 pm at Sampford Courtenay Village Hall (public are invited to attend via Zoom link below or in person.)

Present:- Cllrs J Palmer, P. Collins, M. Wilson, M. Carpenter, M. Morrissey, B. Tucker, J. Friend & C. Coleman and DCC Cllr James McInness + 5 members of the public + Clerk M. Pratt

1. **Chairman** welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.
2. **Apologies** – None
3. **Public Participation** – None other than pertaining to Planning below.
4. **Declarations of Interest** –
 - Cllr. Coleman declared an interest under Items 9(a) and 9(f). He confirmed that he had updated his Register of Interest accordingly.
 - Cllr Collins declared an interest under Item 7 b.
5. **Minutes** to approve and sign the Minutes of – Hybrid Meeting held on Tues 4th Jan 22 (already published on Noticeboards and Website) Were agreed and signed by the Chair.
6. **WDBC Report** - None

DCC Report – DCC Cllr James McInness said that it was nice to be able to join the meeting in person after such a long time. He gave a comprehensive report on the difficulties facing DCC regarding the Budget, and said that he will send a full report. He also advised us all to still be cautious regarding COVID, as rates across the whole of Devon are on the increase again. He also confirmed that Climate Change is still a top priority for DCC.

7. **Planning** – to consider the following planning applications:

a) 4599/21/FUL - Erection of a building for agricultural storage Land at SX 617 103 Exbourne
EX20 3QU COMMENTS 25TH
FEB

- Cllr Collins requested that SCPC should include installation of an Owl Box on our comments. It was also commented that whether there was a necessity for such a large structure to support the acreage to be worked

Proposal to SUPPORT this application Cllr Coleman Seconded Cllr Wilson
Proposal carried 6 votes and 2 Abstentions.

b) 0010/22/PAA - Prior approval application for a proposed erection of a split ring portal timber barn for general purpose agricultural storage - Mr R Squires – Frankland Farm (263151, 102286)
INFO ONLY.

- Cllr Collins left the room for this discussion
- Applicants were present to explain their application.
- 2 members of the public explained their objections to this application + Clerk read one email from another objector.

Having heard the comments from all contributors both Cllr Morrissey and Cllr Coleman proposed that as this is an Information Only Application and as SCPC cannot make a decision on the application, SCPC's current position should be one of NO COMMENT

Proposal carried by 6 votes and 1 Abstention (Cllr Collins not in the room)

WDBC Planning Decisions: -

- c) 4133/21/CLE - Clover Hill Farm – Certificate of lawfulness (Existing) Certified
- d) 4379/21/COL – Land from Greenhill Cross to Peckington Copse – Overhead cable – No objection recommend Approval.
- e) 3895/21/FUL – Ventown Farm – Mr & Mrs Bennie - WITHDRAWN

8. **Agreement of Meeting dates for coming year** – were agreed. Clerk will book the Village Hall.

9. **Parish Priorities –**

- a) Dartmoor Line – Sampford Courtenay Station <https://www.dartmoor-railway-sa.org/>
 - **Oke Rail Meeting** – Thurs 20th Jan 22
 - Bude are currently trying to set up bus service to Okehampton for ongoing journey to Exeter.
 - Re-opening of line from Tavistock to Plymouth is going ahead with funding made available for feasibility of the project
 - There is still a strong support to then work towards the re-opening of the line between Tavistock and Okehampton, and a “sister” group to OkeRail is suggested to lobby for this reopening. Discussion was had regarding the need to “strengthen” Meldon viaduct for safe train passage as part of the re-opening.
 - Parking charges at the station car park are increased to £2 per day from 31st Jan 22. There are plans to make Mill Road Carpark a Ring and Ride to coincide with Train times.
 - Next OkeRail Meeting – 7th April.
 - SCPC Dartmoor Line Meeting – Mon 24th Jan 22 Adoption of SC Station (circulated to Councillors) This proposal has already been discussed and agreed at meetings of SCPC Dartmoor Line and SCEnSus. (Report available on Website <https://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/parish-council-minutes-agendas>)

OPTIONS AND PROPOSALS

3.1 The first proposal from the Sampford Courtenay Station working Group would be for SCPC to make the formal application through the Customer support Manager to obtain an Annual Communities Licence for Sampford Courtenay Station.

3.2 The second Proposal would be for SCEnSus to co-ordinate the activities undertaken through this Licence

3.3 The third Proposal would be for funding from the Sampford Courtenay Station Working Group EMR be used to fund the annual membership of the Community Rail Network in order that further funding to support the initiative can be applied for.

Cllr Wilson made the 3 Proposals above, Seconded Cllr Collins Agreed 7 votes to 1 Abstention.

- b) Refurbishment of the Public Toilets – Cllr Carpenter update – the work on the roof is scheduled to commence the first week in March. Further plans and costings will be considered by SCPC in the new financial year.
- c) Safer Roads – Cllr J Palmer [Community Speed Watch Update](#) – due to illness there have been no Speed Watches this month. The group is currently liaising with Police to see a copy of the letter sent out to speeding drivers identified by the Speed Watch group.

The group is still looking for more volunteers to join them. If you are interested, please get in touch with the Clerk.

- d) SCEnSus - Items from meeting 1 Feb 2022
 - Sat March 26th – Working Party to tidy Village Green and essential maintenance to Playground Equipment.
 - SCEnSus would like approval from SCPC to purchase 2 New Benches made from Recycled Plastic for the Village Green as discussed at the Open Meeting.
Proposed Cllr Palmer Seconded Cllr Carpenter Approved unanimously.
 - Jubilee Bench – also discussed at Open Meeting – Clerk would like approval to order now so that it will arrive in time for Jubilee weekend.
Proposed Cllr Wilson Seconded Cllr Carpenter Agreed by 7 votes to 1 Abstention.
 - Energy Supply for the Public Toilets – Cllr Collins would like to propose that SCPC moves to use of Hand Sanitiser and/or Recycled Paper towels rather than Electric Hand Driers. This would mean lighting could be powered possibly from Solar Panels, or connection to Street Light on top of steps (this would need to be discussed and approved by Village Hall Committee) Cllr Collins will present findings at March meeting in time to make decision on whether to renew contract with EDF for another year.
 - March Seasonal Challenges are based on purchase and disposal of clothing.
 - Project Wingspan – Devon & Cornwall Police are supporting this project looking at persecution of various wildlife in the countryside. Starting with Badger Persecution in Feb and Mar.
- e) Village Hall – Cllr P Collins
 - Village Hall have agreed to look at the possibility of families using the Village Hall if there is a renewed need for Home Schooling, enabling families with poor or no Broadband connection to use Village Hall Internet.
 - Devon Emergency Resilience Fund Grant Application – Cllr Wilson would like to apply for a grant to help fund refurbishment of Village Hall Toilets and Outside Lighting, as the Village Hall is listed as Emergency & Evacuation Centre on the Parish Plan. Cllr Collins will report back after next Village Hall meeting so that application can be made before the dead line.
- f) **Broadband/Mobile**– Cllr M Morrissey – Some properties around the New Inn area have already been connected to Fibre to the Premises by Openreach (they can then arrange a contract with their preferred Internet Service Provider)

It looks as if Openreach will be laying fibre to the South East of the Parish from North Tawton to Sampford Station – there map can be viewed here

<https://www.openreach.com/fibre-broadband/where-when-building-ultrafast-full-fibre-broadband>

Airband – are also providing Fibre to the Premise and are currently working on their final plan. If SCPC get further details we will up date you.

Once these fibre roll outs areas are established, SCPC will try and work with those in the “Black Spots” to try and get connected collectively to these fibre routes.

- g) **Footpaths/ P3** – Cllr M Carpenter – P3 forms Deadline for return 14th Feb 22- Cllrs Carpenter, Morrissey & David Boting Page have inspected all the parish footpaths and prepared the application for funding from DCC for improvements next year. This will be forwarded to Clerk to submit.

- Clerk booked on Parish OnLine Training on 9th Feb – on how to map Footpaths.

10. **Village Green Report** – Cllr J Friend (circulated to Councillors)
 a) Annual Inspection Report – (circulated to Councillors)

Cllr Coleman and Collins expressed thanks on behalf of SCPC to Bill Robertson for attending to some of the issues identified by the Annual Inspection.

Clerk to confirm who owns the Water path gate and wall.

A Working Party is planned for Sat 26th March to address the other issues and do a general tidy up of the Village Green. All volunteers welcome.

11. **Finance** – the following payments were approved.

Clerk salary & Expenses	265.00	Jan hours = 30
Toilet Cleaner	96.24	6 hrs = 53.46 + Supplies = 42.78
EDF	11.00 DD	Toilets – Electricity
Annual Playground Inspection	108.00	
Parish On Line	45.00	
Total Payments this month	525.24	
Reserve Account = EMR	£37,271.89	After these transactions & transfers
Current Account	£2,453.64	
Income	14.00 552.44	Seamoor Lotto VAT Refund
Transfers between accounts	Zero	From Reserve to Current
SWWA	103.44	Toilets Late Invoice after Agenda published.

12. **EDF Renewal – Current estimated annual cost = £100.81**
Renewal estimated annual cost = £117.31 (19.1.22)

See Item 9 d above – deferred to next meeting.

13. Devon & Cornwall Police Report - Cllr J Palmer update –

- a) New Highway Code Changes can be viewed here <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-highway-code-8-changes-you-need-to-know-from-29-january-2022>
- b) Police and Crime are currently considering their budget.
- c) **Independent Custody Visitors** <https://www.devonandcornwall-pcc.gov.uk/take-part/custody-visiting/>

Volunteers are being sought to visit police cells to provide public reassurance about the treatment of detainees in police custody.

Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs) are members of local community who visit police custody to check detainees’ rights, entitlements and conditions of detention.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner are currently maintaining a register of interest for people who would like to become an ICV. If you are interested, contact the office on 01392 225555 or opcc@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

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

- a) Report of 2 car collision at Sampford Chapple crossroads on 19.1.22.
- b) Jubilee Mugs advert (circulated to councillors) – SCPC will be purchasing Commemorative Jubilee Mugs which will be available free of charge for any parishioner 16 and under; or for £6 per mug for others. Please see Advertising and get in touch with the Clerk if you would like to order.
- c) Road Closure Fullaford Bridge to Beacon Cross 7th – 18th Feb 22 <https://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/road-closures>
- d) New contracts for Toilet Cleaner and Clerk counter-signed by Chair Cllr Wilson.
- e) Okehampton Town Council Civic Dinner – Fri 4th Mar – 7.30pm Charter Hall invitation for Cllr Michele Wilson and guest (£37 per head) – Cllr Wilson would like to attend on behalf of SCPC, Mr Andy Wilson will accompany her but pay for his own ticket. Approved
- f) Cllr Coleman’s suggestion re Dog Fouling around Village Triangle – Cllr Coleman has volunteered, in an endeavour to make the popular local walk around the “Village Triangle” more pleasurable for parishioners and visitors alike. It was agreed that Cllr Coleman should report to a future SCPC meeting any suggestions of further actions by SCPC.

15. Councillors’ reports and items for future agenda. - None

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

Signed M. S Pratt Marion Pratt, Clerk to Sampford Courtenay Parish Council Feb 2022

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)

2022						
------	--	--	--	--	--	--

		Feb 1st	Mar 1 st + Finance Meeting 22 nd Mar			
. April 5 th April 19 th Open Meeting.	May 3rd AGM & Normal Monthly meeting	June 7th	July 5th	Aug 2nd	Sept 6th	Oct 4th
Oct 18 th Open Meeting	Nov 8th	Dec 6th	2023	Jan 3rd	Feb 7th	Mar 7 th Mar 21st