



## Minutes of the Long Sutton Parish Council Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Held in the Committee Room, Long Sutton Village Hall 7.30pm

### Present

Councillors: Mr G R Cox (Chairman), Mr N Rousell (Vice Chairman), Mrs J Pritchard, Mrs G Rickards, Mr B Wielgus.

Cllrs Stoddart-Stones and Ward attended remotely by Zoom.

Members of the public (MOP): 3

### **The Public Session started at: 7.30pm**

Members of the public to speak about planning.

### **The Public Session ended at: 7.30pm.**

The meeting opened at: 7.30pm.

#### **1 To receive apologies for absence, and to note and approve reason given (LGA 1972 s85(1)).**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Coombes.

It was RESOLVED to accept and approve the apologies as presented.

#### **2 Declarations of interest. (Localism Act 2011 s33 (b-e)).**

Cllr Pritchard declared an interest in item 14, the WI grant application.

#### **3 Minutes of the last meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 (LGA 1972 sch12, para 41(1)), and any matters arising.**

It was resolved that the minutes are a true record of the meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023.

##### **3.1 Matters arising. None.**

#### **4 Somerset Councillor's report. To receive a short verbal update from the Somerset Councillor if present. None present.**

#### **5 Casual Vacancy. To consider any applications to fill the casual vacancy on the Parish Council by co-option. None received.**

#### **6 Planning applications: Planning applications can be viewed on the [Somerset Council website](#).**

##### **6.1 New planning applications received:**

**Application: 23/02444/FUL** Littlefield Farm, Littlefield Lane, Long Sutton TA10 9NS. Proposed erection of a building to provide for farm office cider sales and visitor reception (Extension granted until 10<sup>th</sup> November for the Parish Council to respond).



Cllr Rousell overviewed the application. There are two comments online, both supporting the planning application. Somerset Council Highways have provided advice and feedback concerning water runoff and drainage. The proposed development is to provide a safer and more pleasant experience for visitors, by separating a designated visitor centre from the main site.

Meeting closed at 7.36pm to permit the Planning Agent to speak echoing Cllr Rousell's comments. The improvements are to improve the opportunity to put the visitor functions in a separate place, more comfortable and safer. In addition, there will be an improved employee working place, for 5 full time and 2 part time employees. This will free up existing buildings to facilitate storage and other functions. The build is aesthetically considered. Parking will be improved with 20 spaces, and employee parking. Highways insist on an EV point. Full ecological has been survey conducted. No view from Wessex Water currently but considers that there will be a requirement for drainage.

The meeting opened at 7.39pm. Cllr Rousell added that cycle points required, and mitigation to support wildlife. No mention of a change or restriction in vehicle movements, but visitors mainly arrive by foot or bike.

It was proposed and RESOLVED to not object to this planning application.

**Application:23/02610/FUL** Land at Martock Road, Long Sutton. The erection of a dwelling, garage and residential annexe with associated access and parking. (extension granted until 10<sup>th</sup> November for the Parish Council to respond).

Cllr Rousell overviewed the proposal, and the location of the proposed dwelling with six ensuite bedrooms over two floors.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm for the Planning Agent to speak. This property is seen as a rounding off of the development of Long Sutton, with the proposed directly opposite an agreed property (yet to be built).

Meeting opened 7.47pm

Councillors made the following comments:

- There are no objections in principle to a property at this location.
- Concerns are about the size and scale, and the design being in keeping with the surroundings. The roof height, appears at odds with the existing properties nearby and those that have been approved, and to date, are unbuilt. There is no indication of size specifically, and this would be helpful.
- The Georgian façade is at odds with the surrounding properties.
- The proposed property is vast, and the size and scale, with six ensuite bedrooms seeming to be excessive for a family type home.
- A street scene visualisation would be helpful.
- There are no environmental concessions for this new build proposal at all. Councillors would like to see for example, solar panels, ground source heat



pump, high levels of insulation, and built to a Grade A standard on an EPC certificate.

- In its present state, this application is contrary to Policy EQ2.
- The Parish Council are keen that there is to be no further encroachment into open countryside of the village past this point, which was also noted by the applicant's agent.
- If Somerset Highways are happy with access, highways safety and traffic generation then the Parish Council has no objections but is mindful that the new access further encroaches the 30mph of the village.

It was proposed and RESOLVED that the application is NOT supported as per the list of considerations detailed.

**Application: 23/02762/HOU:** 3 Tavenders Cottages, Langport Road, Long Sutton, TA10 9NE. Proposed demolition of conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension.

CLlr Rousell overviewed the application. There are no comments supportive or otherwise on the website. The proposed structure is an 'off the shelf' addition and will be environmentally sound.

It was proposed and RESOLVED to support the application.

## 6.2 Update on other planning issues.

Application: 23/01015/HOU Batts Farm, Batts Lane, Long Sutton TA10 9EQ. Proposed rebuilding of a domestic garage and store. (refused 02/11/2023).

Application 21/00054/REM. Land South of Bineham City Cottage, Bineham Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application 21/00137/FUL. Land adjacent to Knightlands, Knole Causeway, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application 21/03450/FUL: Land South of Greystones, Off Crouds Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application 22/00002/FUL. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application 22/00873/FUL Long Sutton House Shute Lane Long Sutton: Awaiting decision.

Application 22/00910/OUT: Land OS 1805 adj Ciderpress Barn, Knole, Long Sutton Langport. Awaiting decision.

Application 22/00911/FUL: Barns at Ciderpress Farm, Knole Causeway, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application 22/01197/LBC: Barns at Ciderpress Farm, Knole Causeway, Long Sutton.

Awaiting decision.

Application 22/02059/FUL: 14 Martock Road, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.



Application: 22/03261/FUL: 4 Hodgehay, Langport Road, Long Sutton. Erection of a detached self-build dwelling and 2 carports for the proposed and existing dwelling. Awaiting decision.

Application 23/00962/FUL: Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton, TA10 9LZ. Installation of solar panels on the roof of the detached potting shed, car port and stores within the curtilage of Long Sutton House. Awaiting decision.

Application 23/00963/LBC: Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton, TA10 9LZ. Installation of solar panels on the roof of the detached potting shed, car port and stores within the curtilage of Long Sutton House. Awaiting decision.

Application 23/01489/HOU: The Coach House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton TA10 9LZ. The installation of solar pv panels to the roof of the Coach House and Estate Office.

Application 23/01490/LBC: The Coach House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton TA10 9LZ. The installation of solar pv panels to the roof of the Coach House and Estate Office.

## **7 Capital infrastructure projects: Play Area.**

### **7.1 To receive an update regarding the play area refurbishment, and to consider any developments that require a formal decision.**

An application for funding has been submitted to the Rural Community Fund. Gift Aid application is being checked. The survey is ready to be distributed and will be included in the school newsletter. Well done to Cllr Rickards with the successful Tesco's grant.

Cllr Cox is to be the main contact for the Lottery Grant application.

## **8 Capital Infrastructure project: Pavilion Refurbishment.**

### **8.1 To receive an update regarding the pavilion refurbishment and consider any developments that require a formal decision.**

Cllr Cox would like to convene a meeting of interested parties to discuss a reviewed design and further fundraising. There is a member of the cricket club who is willing to support writing fundraising applications.

### **8.2 To discuss the report VAT consultant (if received and available) and discuss and decide upon next actions.**

The clerk overviewed the position and recommendation. To reinforce the recommendation last month that the charity leads the project, and the cricket club can then support with fitting out the structure once the building is constructed.

## **9 Capital Infrastructure Project: Tennis Courts**

### **9.1 To receive an update regarding the refurbishment of the tennis courts.**

The tennis courts refurbishment is in the second week, and tarmac will be laid when weather permits. The clerk raised concerns about the length of time that



Somerset Council have taken to reimburse the Parish Council with the funds paid to the contractor so far. The clerk is to request a proforma invoice for an interim payment, from the contractor, to facilitate a quicker claim for the remainder of the Somerset Council grant.

## **10 Village Hall and Recreation Ground**

**10.1 Matters brought forward by the committee.** The committee is due to meet first Monday in December, so nothing currently to report.

## **11 Environment Plan**

Meeting in the Village Hall recently was excellent, and well attended. Somerset Wildlife Trust felt that the west side of village in better state than the east side. The biodiversity hotspots are the churchyard, and outside of the school. The full report is available on the website to view, and the working group has a list of actions. Another open meeting is being planned early 2024 with the date to be confirmed. There is an opportunity for further consultation about the pavilion and the play area. The theme is terrific trees and will be more nature orientated. Rewilding the Levels have been invited to speak about tree provision, with lots of workshops planned to keep the momentum going, and to widen it out to what house holders can do. Date to be confirmed.

### **11.1 Actions for consideration and approval.**

The Environment Group would like to take back one of the Parish Council owned allotment fields to put in a pond, areas to plant, and plant trees. Allotment fields are let on a Farm Business Tenancy Agreement, and a year's notice needs to be provided to the tenant – the earliest possible date to take the field back would be March 2025. This is to be an agenda item on the December agenda to make a formal decision.

An additional field has been offered by the Quakers, which will need some support in the new year.

## **12 Communication with the Community: website and e-newsletter.**

### **12.1 To agree content/priorities for the December newsletters.**

The clerk voiced concerns about the amount of time taken to produce the newsletter. Cllr Wielgus is to support the clerk with setting up a form which will standardise the content submission, with an image. The December newsletter will be much briefer in content.

### **12.2 Actions for consideration and approval. None.**

## **13 Finance.**

### **13.1 Approve balances and accounts for payment.**

It was RESOLVED to approve the list of payments as circulated. The list can be found as an appendix to these minutes.

**14 To consider a grant application from the WI.**

A grant application for £1750 to support various events for the centenary year has been received. It was RESOLVED to grant £1000 toward the centenary year, and that the clerk will work with the Council Chairman to consider earmarking remaining grant budget for this year, and a budget provision in the 2024/25 budget to support this grant application.

**15 To consider a request for a new defibrillator in Upton.**

Two residents in Upton recently completed a first aid course, and a recommendation from that course is a defibrillator is the best resource towards first aid support. A grant could be obtained to provide the defibrillator, and Cllr Rickards has offered to host the defibrillator, providing the power and location.

It was RESOLVED to support providing a defibrillator in Upton, and that Cllr Rickards to investigate funding and providing.

**16 To review the following Parish Council policies: None.**

**17 Representative reports and any other matters regarding:**

**17.1 Community Safety.**

17.1.1 Monthly crime statistics from the [Police.Uk](https://www.police.uk) website, or a police report if received.

None. The Speed Indicator Device is back in the village on Martock Road, near the village hall.

**17.2 Lengthsman. To receive an update of work undertaken in the Parish.**

Lengthsman is now engaging in winter tasks around the parish.

**17.3 Highways and Footpaths. To receive an update on any planned or completed works.**

Two issues were raised concerning Knole. The crossroads has had the white lining repainted, and road signs have been cleaned. The issue is that the speed limit starts at the crossroads, and Somerset Council not keen to conduct a survey about the crossroads.

Knole, Pit Lane was under 6 inches of water after the recent storm. The camber of the road is pushing the water back onto the field, this has been reported.

Letter received by Chair from resident regarding the speed limits and the narrow pavements on Langport Road.

Cllr Pritchard reported about footpaths. A bridleway has not been looked at currently but will be in due course by the team of footpath maintenance. A bridge has been replaced, with a handrail. L21/8, bridge 198. There is another stile due to be fixed in due course.

**18 Other correspondence not previously distributed.**

The clerk has received correspondence about Wessex internet, and a wayleave enquiry. Cllr Cox will meet a representative of Wessex Internet on site. The wayleave correspondence is to be an agenda item on the December Parish Council meeting.

**19 Date of next meeting** – Parish Council meeting Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023 in the Village Hall.

**20 Agenda items for the next meeting:** A draft budget for 2024/25, internal auditor, lengthsman tender, Wessex Internet. Cllrs Wielgus and Rickards submitted apologies for the December meeting.

Meeting finished 9.24pm.

**END OF MINUTES**

DRAFT

## Long Sutton Parish Council PAYMENTS (AWAITING AUTHORISATION) LIST

Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
56 Payroll provider	05/09/2023	05/09/2023 15.1	Unity Bank Current	PN56	Payroll	Timeback accounts and payr	X	5.00		5.00
69 clerk salary	01/11/2023	clerk salary Oct :	Unity Bank Current	PN69	salary	Clerk Salary	X	366.53		366.53
68 Lengthsman	07/11/2023	lengthsman hou	Unity Bank Current	PN68	lengthsman services	Howe Tree Surgery	S	866.25	173.25	1,039.50
73 VH&RGC	07/11/2023	Village Hall acco	Unity Bank Current	PN73	Accounts package	Starboard Systems Ltd	S	375.00	75.00	450.00
66 Payroll provider	07/11/2023	September payr	Unity Bank Current	PN66	Payroll	Timeback accounts and payr	X	5.00		5.00
77 Parish Council administration	07/11/2023	VAT advice	Unity Bank Current	PN77	VAT advice	Parkinson Partnership	S	800.00	160.00	960.00
78 Environment Plan	07/11/2023	Walk over surve	Unity Bank Current	PN78	walk over survey	Somerset Wildlife Trust	S	541.05	108.21	649.26
71 Payroll provider	07/11/2023	payroll october	Unity Bank Current	PN71	Payroll	Timeback accounts and payr	X	5.00		5.00
72 Parish Council administration	07/11/2023	poppy wreath	Unity Bank Current	PN72	clerk expenses	Clerk expenses	X	23.98		23.98
75 training	07/11/2023	Code of Conduct	Unity Bank Current	PN75	training	Somerset Association of Loca	X	25.00		25.00
76 training	07/11/2023	councillor essent	Unity Bank Current	PN76	training	Somerset Association of Loca	X	25.00		25.00
70 Website and communications	07/11/2023	website support	Unity Bank Current	PN70	website support	Sara R Appleton Marketing	X	40.00		40.00
74 Highways and Footpaths add	07/11/2023	footpath mainte	Unity Bank Current	PN74	footpath maintenance	R Sheppard	X	65.76		65.76
67 HMRC	16/11/2023	PAYE Oct 2023	Unity Bank Current	PN67	PAYE	HMRC	X	91.80		91.80
<b>Total</b>								<b>3,235.37</b>	<b>516.46</b>	<b>3,751.83</b>