



## Minutes of the Long Sutton Parish Council Meeting

4<sup>th</sup> July 2023

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

**Present:**

Councillors: Mr G R Cox (Chairman), Mrs R Coombes, Mrs A Ledger, Mrs J Pritchard, Mrs G Rickards, Mr N Rousell, Mr N Ward

There was 5 Members of the Public (MOP) present.

Cllr Tim Kerley Unitary Councillor attended with apologies received from Cllr Dean Ruddle.

Cllr G Stoddart-Stones attended remotely by Zoom.

**The Public Session** opened at 7:30pm.

A MOP spoke regarding the junction at Bineham Cross which included an overview of a request for improved safety of this crossing. There have been two serious accidents there in recent weeks. There is impaired visibility for drivers, to the west, due to overgrown hedges. Overtaking occurs on this stretch of road which is difficult, and road sign is inadequate. This has been unsuccessfully raised previously with County Highways, about 15 years ago. The hedge needs to be addressed, road markings (double white lines) require repainting and the road signage improved. This road junction falls within the parish of Somerton, and will be discussed at the next Somerton Town Council meeting. Somerset Councillor Ruddle is aware of this and has escalated the matter to Highways.

Cllr Rickards has had contact from a MOP who has lost a relative recently at this location. It is felt that the speed limit is the issue which needs to be enforced. Accidents are increasing, and the most recent has resulted with the sign being damaged.

Cllr Kerley spoke and welcomed to have this information. Signage and line painting may be achievable in the short term, but the hedge is the responsibility of the landowner. Cllr Cox posed that the members of the public involved would benefit from meeting with the SC Highways engineer to discuss improvements with them directly. The clerk is to forward details to Cllr Kerley. To revisit as an agenda item in September.

Rich Fell and Dick Sheppard, Parish Pathway Liaison Officer (12 years) provided a short verbal update regarding the footpaths in the parish. Some clearance and stile



rebuilding took place in April. Once issues are reported on Explore Somerset, the Council Officer liaises with PPLO, to target resources. New Council Officer Warden, Glynn Edwards, (clerk to email directly to prompt) still to make contact. The plan is to put in the galvanised gates – four or five sites to target for those. Gates can be purchased and stored locally. A team of volunteers goes out regularly, but more volunteers would be helpful. Cllr Cox thanked them for attending the meeting, and for their hard work.

Public session closed at 7:48pm.

The Parish Council meeting opened at 7.48pm

**1 To receive apologies for absence (LGA 1972 S85 (1))**

Cllrs Wielgus submitted apologies. It was RESOLVED to approve the apologies as received. Apologies were received from Unitary Cllr Ruddle

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

None.

**3 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and any matters arising.**

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023 as a true and accurate record. The minutes were signed by Cllr Cox.

**3.1 Matters arising.**

Cllr Rickards will progress the EV charging.

**4 Somerset Councillor report**

Cllr Kerley gave a brief verbal update.

- A short update regarding Adult and Child Services. Cllr Ruddle is now in charge of this portfolio. The area is over budget.
- The new Somerset Council is bedding in, and Cllr Kerley has concerns about the service level of Planning Function. The system now is not on par with the previous service, and with limited input of the Ward Member.
- Cllr Kerley is on Governance, and will be looking at this closely.
- Cllr Kerley is now back on Planning Committee.

**5 Planning Applications:**

**5.1 New Planning Applications received:**

The applications were discussed in the following order:

**Application 21/03450/FUL: Land South of Greystones, off Crouds Lane, Long Sutton.** Conversion of part of a dwelling to comprise 4 of one bedroom



apartments and change of use of outbuilding to a detached 2 bedroom single storey dwelling. (extension granted by Planning for response to 7<sup>th</sup> July).

The meeting was closed at 7.55pm to allow members of the public attending to comment about this planning application.

The meeting reopened at 7.59pm.

There was some discussion about the inadequate plan displayed within the planning documents on the Somerset Council planning portal. It was further recognised that the application is fundamentally unchanged from the original designs submitted, apart from the criteria of 'over 55s accommodation' now is removed. The Parish Council previously resolved to object to this planning application on a number of material planning considerations which were submitted and are available to view on the planning portal. It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council strongly objects to this planning application and to resubmit the same objections to this planning application along with the comments: this is not a householder development so Community Infrastructure Levy should be charged, and that a whole 'Estate' plan needs to be provided to show current, approved, refused and withdrawn planning applications.

**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.

**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.

These two planning applications were discussed at the same time. It was RESOLVED to support these two planning application, as Long Sutton Parish Council welcomes climate change mitigation.

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

These two planning applications were discussed at the same time. It was RESOLVED to support these two planning application, as Long Sutton Parish Council welcomes climate change mitigation, with an additional comment that no solar panels are to be placed on the north facing aspect towards the adjacent property Vale House.



**Application 22/00002/FUL: Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton TA10 9LZ.** Change of use of land (part only from agricultural to residential- Works to existing CLASS E Estate Building. Installation and erection of solar panels and erection of ancillary domestic building (part retrospective)). Revised information received (extension granted by Planning for response to 7<sup>th</sup> July).

The Parish Council made some general observations:

The building is an existing structure; conversion to Class E usage is reasonable; it is also reasonable to have an Estate Office; there are no major objections.

It was RESOLVED to submit comments only, as listed above, as the response to this planning application.

**Application 23/01456/COU: Land OS 5560 Crouds Lane, Long Sutton, TA10 9NR.** Change of use of land from agricultural to C3 residential to enlarge the residential curtilage of Long Sutton House.

After some discussion, it was RESOLVED to object to this planning application for the following reasons:

Unacceptable and incompatible use:

The size of the proposed garden including the change of use parcel is disproportional.

The location of this parcel of land in relation to Long Sutton House is geographically not a natural fit as an extension to the curtilage of Long Sutton House. The space is a vast distance away, and there are multiple buildings in between which block the natural pathway.

Document 11749295 submitted as part of the planning application 22/00002/FUL shows a proposed site plan. The land proposed as a residential garden extension will not be part of the Long Sutton House curtilage.

**Application 23/01506/HOU Jubilee Cottage, The Long Sutton House Estate, Crouds Lane, Long Sutton.** Enclosure of existing terrace of outbuilding to form a garden room/greenhouse.

It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council have no objections to this planning application.

**Update on ongoing planning applications:**

Application 23/00983/FUL: Orchard View, Crouds Lane, Long Sutton, TA10 9NR. Proposed replacement dwelling. Approved (12/06/2023).

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 23/01160/FUL: The Recreation Ground, Martock Road, Long Sutton, TA10 9NT. Proposed refurbishment and extension of sports pavilion.

## **6 Capital Infrastructure Update**

### **6.1 Tennis Courts:**

A short verbal update was received from Cllr Cox regarding the tender for the tennis court refurbishment, the outcome of which was supported by Somerset Council and the Lawn Tennis Association and councils involved. Current Cost £34000 + VAT. Does PC go ahead with project, with an investment of £17,000? It was RESOLVED to delegate to Cllrs Cox, Rousell and to the clerk to continue with negotiations with Somerset Council. It was RESOLVED to proceed with the tennis court refurbishment and that the maximum financial contribution from Long Sutton Parish Council for this project is £17,000.

### **6.2 Play Area:**

There is nothing further to report. The play area survey to go out parents and children. There is also a Tesco's Bags for Help funding application, submitted by Cllr Rickards, which is now live in the local Tesco's branch.

The Church coffee morning in aid of the play area refurbishment was very successful.



### **6.3 Pavilion:**

The outcome of the recent planning application for the pavilion refurbishment is due soon. Only 2 bat boxes will be required if/when build goes ahead. Cllrs Rickards and Cox are hoping to project manage the build, led by the Parish Council with a range of local contractors. A method of procurement to be developed to maximise the cost efficiency.

Fundraising was discussed at length.

The fund raising group are due to meet on 7<sup>th</sup> August. Grant applications can now be considered for the funding.

## **7 Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee (VH&RGC)**

### **7.1 Matters brought forward by the committee.**

- The next meeting is scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> August.
- There are two new members on the committee.
- There is a new fish and chip provider on a Tuesday evening which is excellent news.
- There will be a range of fundraising events jointly with cricket club, in next six months.

## **8 Environment Plan**

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

Actions have slowed a little. Somerset wildlife trust will act as liaison, between landowners and community mapping wildlife. There is a session planned for September, similar to the Environment plan at the village hall, date to be determined. Larger landowners in the community will be invited to attend and share what actions they are taking. Small cost implication to the PC for hosting the event. It is important that the community understands what farmers are doing for the environment.

MOP completed a bee walk in the village, increased wildlife, and will join the environment group.

There is an orchid on the village green..

## **9 Communication with the Community: website and newsletter**

### **9.1 To agree content/priorities for the August and September newsletter.**

The newsletter is excellent. Details of future events are required to make sure that they are promoted in good time in the newsletter. There are adverts for the newsletter to go onto the noticeboards in the parish.



**9.2** The website continues to improve. Consideration is required to ascertain the level of external support ongoing from September and report back to Full Council.

Cllr Ledger provided an update regarding email provision. An upgrade to Zoho is available, which will encompass an email forwarding facility, which costs 80p +VAT per user per month. The Clerk and Vice Chairman are to sign up and to see how it works.

## **10 Finance**

**10.1** To approve balances and accounts for payment.

<b>Payments June 2023</b>	<b>Credit £</b>	<b>Debit £</b>	<b>Balance £</b>
Balance b/fwd from June 2023 meeting			43318.86
Tengore Solar Ltd	1809.60		
Transfer to deposit account		30000.00	
Village shop rent	750.00		
	2559.60	30000.00	-27440.40
			15878.46
<b>Payments July 2023</b>			
Clerk salary (June 2023)		366.73	
HMRC (June 2023)		91.60	
Howe Tree Surgery		1039.50	
Timeback accounts payroll (June)		5.00	
Scribe		714.00	
Bank charges 3 <sup>rd</sup> March to 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2023		18.00	
S Appleton website ongoing support		240.00	
L Newby refund Mailerlite subscription		99.38	
		2574.21	-2574.21
<b>Balance after June 2023 payments</b>			<b>13304.25</b>

It was RESOLVED to approve the payments as listed above for payment.

**10.2** To delegate payments for August 2023 to the clerk in conjunction with the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

It was RESOLVED to delegate to the clerk with the Chairman and Vice Chairman the authorisation and payments to be made in August 2023, with reporting back to the Parish Council in September.

**11** To receive an update regarding the Local Community Network (LCN) and Somerset Council.

Cllr Cox attended the opening meeting of the Levels and Moors LCN in June 2023. The meeting was not particularly productive, and Cllr Cox has provided feedback to Somerset Council. Cllr Cox will attend the LCN next meeting.



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

**12.1 Community Safety**

**12.1.1 Monthly Crime Statistics from the Police.uk website.**

Two incidents reported.

**12.2 Lengthsman.**

To receive an update of works undertaken within the Parish in the past month.

The Lengthsman has been contacted regarding the revision of the contract. A report was received regarding the actions in the last month, which also covered the use of more environmentally sound weedkiller.

**12.3 Highways and footpaths.**

Motorbikes speeding along Langport Road excessively. To be reported to the Police.

The Speed Indicator Device is due back in the parish in August.

Contact councillor for footpaths, is now Joyce Pritchard.

**13 Other correspondence not previously distributed**

None

**14 Date of next meeting:**

The Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023, in the Village Hall Committee room.

**15 Items for the next meeting agenda.**

Update with Bineham Cross road junction as an agenda item.

Meeting closed at 9.43pm

**END OF MINUTES**