



**LONG SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL**

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# **Minutes of the Long Sutton Parish Council Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024, at Long Sutton Village Hall, 7.30pm**

## **Present:**

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

Cllr Stoddart -Stones attended remotely via Zoom.

In the chair: Cllr N Rousell.

Somerset Councillor: Cllr Stephen Page (newly elected) and Cllr Tim Kerley sent apologies.

Members of the public: 5

## **Public Observations/Question Time: Started at 7.30 pm.**

- A member of the public raised a question regarding the building works taking place at Crouds Lane, and the company that is now leading the construction work in that location.
- Concern was raised regarding the level of dog fouling on the recreation ground. There are signs up in the area, 'No dogs' in the recreation ground. This will be conveyed to the VH committee for further consideration.
- Other members of the public present would be invited to speak during the planning agenda item.

## **Somerset Councillors report.**

Councillor Stephen Page (newly elected) introduced himself and is delighted to meet all present. He will do his best to take up issues that may be occurring. Cllr Kerley sends apologies, as he is unwell. Cllr Page will be attending parish council meetings on a regular basis. His email address is currently being arranged and would like agenda and minutes to be forwarded. A question regarding the financial situation at Somerset.

**Public Observations/Question Time ended at: 7.36pm**

**The Parish Council meeting started at: 7.36pm**



### Minutes

1. To receive apologies for absence, and to note and approve reason given (LGA 1972 s85(1)). Apologies were received from Cllr Cox. It was RESOLVED to receive and approve the apologies submitted.

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

Cllr Rickards declared an interest in agenda item 5.1, planning 24/00376/FUL.

3. To receive and approve the [Minutes of the last meeting](#) held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 (LGA 1972 sch12, para 41(1)).

It was RESOLVED to receive and approve the minutes from the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 as a true and accurate record of that meeting. Cllr Rousell signed the minutes.

3.1. Matters arising: None.

4. Casual Vacancy. To consider any applications to fill the casual vacancy on the Parish Council by co-option.

One or two members of the public had expressed an interest in the vacancy, however an application had not been received.

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

5.1. New planning applications received:

**Application: 24/00376/FUL.** Erection of a swimming pool building and leisure building for use by holiday let Unit 3 and amendment to parking layout approved pursuant to planning permission reference 19/02460/FUL (granted upon appeal). Little Upton Bridge, Langport Road, Long Sutton TA10 9NJ.

The meeting closed at: 7.38pm to permit members of the public present to speak.

The planning consultant provided an overview of the planning application, which included noise attenuation, additional tree and hedge planting, and an actively enforced site curfew.

The meeting resumed at 7.42pm.

Cllr Rousell gave a short history of the application and noted that there is one objection on the Somerset Planning Portal. Councillors discussed the application, including solar panel installation.

The meeting closed briefly at 7.46pm and the applicant confirmed regarding the actively enforced curfew, and that solar panels have already been installed to power the proposed pool and hot tub, amongst other areas.

The meeting reopened at 7.47pm, when councillors proposed that there were no objections to the planning application.

It was RESOLVED that there are no objections to this planning application.



**Applications: 24/00532/HOU & 24/00533/LBC.** Erection of an oak framed covered porch. Parsons Barn, Martock Road, Long Sutton, TA10 9HT. Cllr Rousell overviewed the application. Small porch to be installed, similar to an adjacent property, to provide protection from the weather, and seems in keeping with the main property.

It was RESOLVED to approve to approve the plans as presented.

5.2. Update on other planning issues.

The following applications have been determined since the last parish council meeting:

Application 21/00137/FUL. Land adjacent to Knightlands, Knole Causeway, Long Sutton. Application withdrawn (18.03.2024).

Application 22/00873/FUL Long Sutton House Shute Lane Long Sutton: Application withdrawn (19.03.2024).

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

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. Permitted with conditions (28.03.2024).

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. Permitted with conditions (28.03.2024).

Application 24/00302/HOU: Knightlands, Knole Causeway, Long Sutton, TA10 9HX. Permitted with conditions (21.03.2024).

The following applications remain undetermined:

Application 21/00054/REM. Land South of Bineham City Cottage, Bineham 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.

Notification of an appeal submission for planning application 23/01015/HOU, has been received.

6. Capital infrastructure projects: Play Area.

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

Cllr Coombes presented the latest plans for the play area refurbishment, following a meeting last week. The plans will be on display at the Annual Parish Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> May. The design was overviewed for councillors present. An update on funding was provided. Some of the funding applications have not been successful, but further applications are to be submitted.

**7. Capital Infrastructure project: Pavilion Refurbishment.**

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

No update available.

**8. Capital Infrastructure Project: Tennis Courts**

To receive an update regarding the refurbishment of the tennis courts.

The clerk overviewed the next steps regarding the final marking of the tennis courts. This is likely to take place during early May, and the courts open fully shortly afterwards. The courts are likely to be closed for at least two weeks for the permanent marking to be completed.

**9. Village Hall and Recreation Ground**

**9.1. Matters brought forward by the committee.**

Cllr Coombes gave a short verbal update.

- A number of processes are being reviewed and there is a new robot cleaner which is helpful.
- The Safeguarding Policy needs to be reviewed.
- The projector needs to be upgraded, which would be an excellent grant funding opportunity.
- There are currently vacancies on the village hall committee, which can be promoted at the Annual Parish Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> May.

**10. Environment Plan.**

- There was an environment working group meeting earlier this evening.
- There will be a presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- There will also be a follow up event to the environment day that took place in February.
- Also being considered; a series of walks to view flowers and insects in the parish; possible plant swap (in May, but timing to be considered); an evening session with energy as the focus, possibly in September.

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

**11.1. To agree content/priorities for the May 2024 newsletter.**

The format for the Annual Parish Meeting was discussed. The suggestion is to keep the meeting to 45 minutes maximum, with the play area designs being available for viewing, and short reports from the Chairman, environment group, footpaths representative.

The e-newsletter will focus on the Annual Parish Meeting and try to include a resident with an interesting story to share.

**11.2. Actions for consideration and approval. None.**

**12. Finance.**

12.1. Approve balances and [accounts for payment in April 2024](#).

It was RESOLVED to approve the payments for April as circulated, the payments list for those payments made in late March, also circulated, and the invoices received for Somerset Web Services (.gov.uk domain name, £60) and the internal auditor (£340).

It was proposed and RESOLVED to donate £25 to reimagining the levels for the lime tree donated recently for the village agreed. An invoice is to be supplied.

**13. To review the Parish Council Insurance Policy.**

The policy was reviewed and discussed. It was proposed and RESOLVED that a reinstatement valuation for the pumphouse and the war memorial is investigated.

**14 Local Community Network:**

To receive an update as required from the last LCN meeting.

Cllr Stoddart-Stones provided a short verbal update about the last Levels and Moors LCN meeting, and how the group is progressing.

- There was a report from health and wellbeing group, and discussions about what resources are available to support loneliness and isolation.
- The role of the Village Agent was overviewed, and other support services (particularly in Langport), who in turn spread the news about what else is available.
- There will be four hybrid meetings of the LCN per year. Other LCN area meetings have had attendance from Somerset Council Planning officers, and Somerset Highways officer.
- The next meeting will receive a report from the Active Travel working group, which is working on major footpaths including Aller to Langport, and Curry Rivel to Bridgewater.

The LCN is demonstrating that they are the link between the town, parish and city councils and Somerset Council. The next meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> June. Slides from the last active travel meeting will be circulate when received.

**15. Representative reports and any other matters regarding:**

15.1. Community Safety.

- 15.1.1. Monthly crime statistics from the [Police.Uk](#) website, or a police report if received.

The Speed Indicator Device is not in the parish this month.

One incident is highlighted on police.co.uk, at Village Hall in January 2024.

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

A monthly update now appears in the parish council e- newsletter.

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

- Four more rights of way posts have been installed in Knole. Bridge slabs to be installed opposite the farm shop in Upton.
- The fingerpost sign at Hermitage Road/Vedal Drove is being fixed.
- The stone on Knole bridge has been hit again.



- Knole Pit lane, the surface has deteriorated. Drainage pipe underneath the road needs to be fixed by Somerset Council before resurfacing takes place.

There are many drains/gulleys on Martock Road, that are blocked, and not being addressed by Somerset Council. There are others that are blocked, and this needs to be conveyed to our Somerset Councillors.

**16. Other correspondence not previously distributed.**

- WI will be having a photo taken of the litter picking in the village. Cllr Pritchard reported very little litter on this occasion.
- Volunteers for Read Easily, and Joyce has applied to volunteer to support adult literacy.

**17. Date of next meeting – Annual Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024, Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

**18. Agenda items for the next meeting:**

Knole Flood Group update.

Meeting closed at 8.58pm

**END OF MINUTES**