

Minutes of Long Sutton Parish Council Virtual Meeting via the Zoom platform 5 May 2020 7:30 pm

Present: Councillors: Mr T Brand (Chairman), Mr G R Cox, Mrs R Coombes (joined 7:40pm), Mr C Dowse (joined 7:33pm), Mr R Fell, Mrs G Marffy, Mr N Rousell, Mr G Stoddard-Stones, Mr M Turpin (joined 7:38 pm)

Apologies from County Councillor Dean Ruddell and District Councillor Gerrard Tucker

On 4th April 2020, the Government introduced The Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority meetings) (England) Regulations 2020 to allow local councils to meet remotely.

There were no members of the public present therefore Public Observations/Question Time was not required.

Meeting opened at 7:32 pm

1. To receive apologies for absence

All councillors present

2. Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Stoddart-Stones declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 5, Parish Council Insurance renewal.

3. Minutes of the meeting 7 April 2020, and matters arising:

It was resolved that the minutes are a true record of the meeting held on 7 April 2020 and will be duly signed by Cllr Brand when the Parish Council next meets in person.

4. Planning:

4.1. New Planning Applications received:

Application: 20/00395/HOU Erection of outbuilding in rear garden of dwelling house. Garth Cottage, Langport Road, Long Sutton TA10 9NQ. It was resolved that there are no objections to this application.

Application: 20/00994/HOU Installation of a velux roof window to rear of dwelling. 4 Bineham Court, Bineham Road, Knole. It was resolved that there are no objections to this application.

Application: 20/00764/FUL Change of use of land for the stationing of 1No. log cabin and 1No. shepherd hut to provide holiday accommodation. Pitts Farm, Hermitage Road, Long Sutton. It was resolved that there are no objections to this application

Application: 20/00755/FUL change of use and construction of private manege within the curtilage of the Listed Building. West Knole House, Knole Causeway, Long Sutton. The application was discussed, and observations that manege is of standard size. To date there were no comments from the conservation officer, given that Knole sits in a conservation area. It was resolved that there are no objections to this application in principle,

4.2. Update on current applications:

Application 19/02460/FUL Erection of 3 detached holiday homes. Land at Little Upton Bridge Farm, Langport Road, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision

Application 19/03433/LBC Erection of two storey rear extension. Thatch Cottage Hermitage Road. Awaiting decision

Application 20/00133/HOU Erection of double garage and workshop conversion of existing garage to ancillary accommodation, current access to be closed and utilisation of existing alternative access. Greenleaze, Littlefield Lane, Long Sutton TA10 9NS. Application refused.

Application 20/00333/FUL: Erection of a single storey extension to club building to form storage area. Long Sutton Golf Club, Somerton Road, TA10 9JU. Permitted with conditions (6 April 2020.)

Application: 20/00431/HOU Demolition of existing outbuilding. Erection of a single storey extension to side and rear of dwelling. Fosbury, Shute Lane, Long Sutton, Langport TA10 9LU. Permitted with conditions (18 April 2020).

5. Parish Council Insurance provision renewal:

The parish clerk had obtained four quotes for the renewal of the parish council insurance cover and produced a spreadsheet to compare the levels of cover provided. The current provider had levied a much higher renewal premium, but after some intervention by Cllr Stoddart-Stones, produced a much more competitive premium. It was resolved to remain with the existing provider to benefit from a three-year lower premium (£565.68) and also a free annual subscription to ParishOnLine (a mapping software tool to map parish council assets and responsibilities, worth £75).

6. Speed Indicator Device agreement:

The speed indicator device (SID) has been working well. Still awaiting contact from High Ham and Aller parish councils regarding moving the device. A shared ownership agreement was provided by the clerk and it was resolved to approve the agreement, and for the clerk to forward it to High Ham and Aller parish council for action.

7. Finance:

7.1. The following balances were received, and the payments approved.

Balance b/fwd for May 2020 Meeting			£15,520.92
Precept received	£18,616.00		,
VAT amount for clerk's expenses not quoted on payments for April meeting		£5.96	
	£18,616.00	£5.96	£18,610.04
Balance agreed to bank 28 April 2020			£34,130.96
Accounts for payment May 2020			
HMRC re clerk's salary (April 2020)		£75.00	
Clerk's salary for April paid SO 1 May 2020		£300.00	
Timeback accounts payroll April and end of year		£5.00	
Howe Tree Surgery		£656.25	
Data protection renewal – ICO – direct debit		£35.00	
Building regulation charges for Community Shop to South Somerset District Council (paid by clerk by credit card)		£179.99	
		£1,251.24	£1,251.24
Balance after authorised payments			£32,879.72

7.2. It was resolved to agree the clerk's salary increase as per the budget provision, from 1 April 2020. This involves an extra payment of £33.47 to the clerk for April, and an increased HMRC contribution of £8.20 (now £83.20 per month).

8. Any correspondence not previously circulated that requires a response:

None.

9. Date of next meeting:

The next parish council meeting is on Tuesday 2 June 2020, after the Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trustee meeting at 7:30pm, both of which will be virtual meetings held on the 'Zoom' platform.

10. Any other business/items for the next meeting:

Cllr Cox has dealt with two footpath issues since the last parish council meeting. The blocked footpath reported at the back of Shute lane towards the river, has been responded to but with no further correspondence. Cllr Cox also met with the owner of the golf club regarding a footpath on the golf course, which has now been resolved with the suggestion of improved signage. The drainage issues experience previously in the same area are due to be addressed later this year.

Cllr Fell requested a short update on the Community Shop. Planning has been approved and building regulation control is underway with the first instalment of the fees paid recently. The lease has been agreed and any further action is now in the hands of the lease holder. There is also a random bin on the village green which is becoming problematic. Cllr Brand will deal with the matter when the local refuse centre is open.

Cllr Marffy commented that since the lockdown and footpaths used by the public more frequently, there has been an increase in dog fouling. The clerk is to highlight this issue by means of the newsletter (when back in circulation), and the website and local social media.

Cllr Turpin reported that a flytipping incident in Knole recently was dealt with by District within five days. The defibrillators are checked monthly, logged on the Webnos website which feeds into the Community Heartbeat Trust. As a result of the current lockdown, it is apparent that the broadband infrastructure is appalling in Knole, and a resident has written to the local MP to highlight this. Cllr Brand to formulate a letter of further support for action from the parish council. Cllr Stoddart-Stones suggested the forming of a focus group or someone to spearhead this issue, within Knole.

The meeting closed at 8:18 pm.