

Minutes of Meeting of Long Sutton Parish Council Meeting
Held at the Hall on Tuesday 5 November 2019 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors: Mr G R Cox (Vice Chairman), Mr R Fell, Mr N Rousell, Mr G Stoddard-Stones, Mr M Turpin

District Councillor Mr G Tucker

Ali Hart from PROMISEworks
Jody Foy Vice Chair of Long Sutton Primary School Governing Body
1 member of the public

Apologies: County Councillor Mr D Ruddle

Public Session commenced at 7:30 pm

Ali Hart from PROMISEworks, a gave a short presentation about this invaluable young person mentoring service. Volunteers from a diverse background mentor young people for 2-3 hours per week for 2 – 3 years to focus on positive relationship building and spending quality time – this time commitment can be in one session or spread over two or three occasions depending upon the needs of the young person. Full training and 24/7 support provided for the mentors. Addressing the parish council to gain publicity for the project, seek new mentors and access to fundraising opportunities. Age range of young people worked with is 6 to 25 years. Each two-year relationship costs £2,000 per year, and young people are referred via social care, school, or GP. Ali left some leaflets with more information, one of which will be placed on the village hall noticeboard.

Public session closed 7:40pm
Meeting started 7:41 pm

1. To receive apologies for absence:

No apologies. Cllr Cox chaired the meeting in the absence of Cllr Brand (dispensation for resolved October 2019 meeting).

2. Declarations of interest: None

3. Minutes of meeting held on 9 October 2019:

It was resolved that the minutes are a true record of the meeting held on 9 October 2019 and duly signed by the Cllr Cox.

4. Matters arising from the minutes: None.

5. County Councillor's Report: None

6. District Councillor's Report

Cllr Tucker gave a verbal report:

'There was no Area North meeting in October, which I guess reflected on their being no planning applications to be considered. Other business and reports lined up for that meeting will be transferred to the December meeting.

District Executive are very focussed this month on the transformation programme, with a report before Scrutiny earlier today which was debated for a very long time. There are a number of anomalies, particularly around the delivery of planning. I encouraged the attendance of a parish councillor from within Turnhill Ward to raise local concerns with regards to the difficulties in engaging with the planning authority and seemingly an unwillingness to allow extensions for responding to applications. We also considered the Corporate Performance report which is also to be considered by the District Executive this month. The format is much easier to follow, yet some targets seem unbelievably low and are easily achieved without challenge. I have raised these as a concern and requested a number of KPI's that could be introduced to better assess the delivery of services within the authority.

We also spoke in length about the closure of the Gigaclear broadband programme. SSDC pulled out of this programme in 2016 as they felt their expected contribution of £640,000 was not fully accountable. Ironically, we were proved right as Gigaclear's contract was revoked in September. There is however a suggestion of a contribution to support the work of Connecting Devon and Somerset. Yet with purdah starting this evening, that decision cannot be made until after 12th December.

Long Sutton may wish to give consideration to the District Council shredding Christmas trees in early January. If you think this an idea worthy of consideration, you need to contact the Street Scene team to register your interest.'

7. Casual Vacancies:

There has been one expression of interest from Ruby Coombes regarding a casual vacancy. Cllr Cox to follow up and request the expression of interest be formalised in writing.

8 Planning Applications

8.1 New applications received.

Application 19/02655/HOU 12 Westview, Shute Lane, Long Sutton TA10 9LT Demolition and rebuilding of single storey side extension – It was resolved no objections to this application.

8.2 Updates on existing applications:

Application 19/02655/OUT land south of Bineham City Cottage, Bineham Lane, erection of a farm workers dwelling. Following this Council's support, the application has been permitted with conditions.

Application 19/02302/LBC Thatchover, Stonemead Lane Knole, listed building consent for installation of 2 tie bars. Application permitted with conditions

9. Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee (VH&RGC):

Councillor Stoddart-Stones gave an overview of difficulties experienced with an all-day booking at the village hall on 2 November. An evening party resulted in an affray with substantial vandalism and damage to areas in the hall and surrounds, which required attendance from the police. The incident was captured on CCTV, and the footage has subsequently been handed over to the police.

The police were required to attend the following day during the mass clear up operation due to an altercation regarding paying for the damages with the hiring family. Recovery of the costs could result in court action. Cllr Stoddart-Stones confirmed that no financial input was required of the parish council for the damage at this stage. It was felt that a higher deposit was required in future bookings of this nature.

The following the defibrillator was needed to treat a member of the public. The cabinet was damaged whilst retrieving the defibrillator. Cllr Turpin has been in contact with Community Heartbeat regarding having the cabinet repaired and the temporary placement in the village hall of the defibrillator until the repairs have been finalised. Emergency services are aware of the temporary location.

Whilst discussing the damage, the merits of a locked cabinet versus an unlocked cabinet were considered. It was resolved that the parish council will meet any costs to reinstate the defibrillator cabinet that are not covered by the Community Heartbeat agreement, which are as yet undetermined, and that it should remain a locked cabinet with improved signage to mitigate future damage while opening

Cllr G Tucker left at 8:10 pm.

10. Community Shop

The Long Sutton Village Shop Committee (LSVSC) met for the first time on 28 October, and Cllr Cox presented the meeting notes:

1. The interested party to be kept warm with the understanding that this will not be a quick fix. Helen Lazenby (senior partner in Clive Miller Associates) to be asked to prepare a planning application for us. Living in the village, she has offered her services pro bono. I will seek advice from her to whose name should be on the application – PC or LSVH&RG committee.
2. Consideration is being given to a contemporary-looking temporary structure at the southerly end of the car park adjacent to the hedge bordering the school.
3. There are further discussions to be had with the interested party about his contribution in cash or provision of the building.
4. We are advertising the commercial opportunity to run a shop on the site, to make sure that we are seen to be testing the market. We will need a valuation, from Robert Clark of GTH, to make sure we are getting best value for the charity
5. An official notice to all residents will be delivered to every house in the parish to get a decision on the need to amend the objects of the charity to allow retail use on part of the premises.
6. The next meeting of the group is scheduled for Tuesday 26th Nov at 7.30pm
7. The public meeting is on Wednesday 4th December at 7.30pm. We will need some clarity from Tom Bowes to the exact question to ask at the meeting and the wording of any change. We will also use this opportunity to update on other matters.

11 Policies

11.1 It was resolved to adopt the Equal Opportunities policy as presented.

12 Finance:

12.1 Balances and Accounts for Payment

It was resolved to authorise the payments listed:

Balance 01/11/2019			
Unity Trust account 22/10/2019			£24,904.67
Still to be paid in October CWS			£590.63
Projected bank balance 01/11/2019			£24,314.04
Accounts for payment November 2019			
HMRC re clerk's salary (Oct)		£75.00	
Mrs L Newby – clerk's salary for October paid SO 1 Nov 2019		£300.00	
Timeback accounts payroll Oct		£5.00	
Howe Tree Surgery		£590.63	
Hammock Drove gate		£132.00	
SID post installation cheque to Somerset County Council		£400.00	
Poppy Wreath refund to Cllr Turpin		£17.00	
		1519.63	1519.63
Balance after authorised payments			£22,794.41

13. Consideration of a budget provision for St Margaret's Hospice

A budget provision over a three-year period was proposed and resolved by Yeovil without Parish Council recently, with the request that other parish councils consider the same. This was discussed at length, and it was resolved not to support this request.

14. Consideration of a funding request from ToyBox pre school

The meeting was closed briefly at 8:25 pm to allow Jody Foy to speak regarding ToyBox pre-school. He is working with the PTFA to raise funds for the provision. Currently requiring £10k per year. Jody is requesting in the region of £1500 from the Council.

The meeting reopened at 8:30 pm. The suggestion is that the parish council should consider supporting this request in principle, and how much for how long.

It was resolved to reallocate the current £1000 budget provision 'Parish Council Admin Equipment' which has not been needed, to facilitate the request for the current financial year, and consider the request further (possibly £1500) when budget setting for the next financial year.

15. Representative reports and any other matters regarding:

15.1 Community Safety

15.1.1 Monthly Police report: No report received as the current Area Beat Manager is on three months detachment.

15.1.2 Winter Warden Scheme details were given to Cllr Fell to investigate further. Cllr Cox happy to store any deliveries of grit to replenish grit boxes in the parish.

15.2 Community Warden Scheme

The lengthsman is to address the trees at both the top and bottom of Martock Road (as previously discussed), using two persons and stop/start boards, rather than just the trees at the top of Martock Road using traffic lights. This will ensure both areas of trees are dealt with at the earliest opportunity.

15.3 Highways:

15.3.1 Notice of road closure – A notice of closure of Knole Causeway was noted, for three days at the end of November.

15.4. Environment - none

15.5 Footpaths – Cllr Cox was happy to confirm that the Hammock Drove footpath matter of longstanding is now completed and thanked all concerned for their patience and perseverance.

16. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 3 December at **7:30 pm** (please note later time). A reminder that the January meeting will be held on 14 January 2020 at 7:30pm instead of 7 January, unless urgent business requires otherwise

17. Any Other Business/Items for next meeting

A request for training to use the defibrillator, given that the defibrillator was used recently. Cllr Turpin to enquire with Community Heartbeat when liaising regarding the repair to the cabinet.

Cllr Rousell suggested basic first aid training would be an excellent consideration.

Cllr Rousell is to lay the wreath on behalf of the parish council on Remembrance Sunday.

The meeting closed at 8.52 pm

Signed:

Cllr G R Cox
Vice Chairman

3 December 2019