



Minutes of the Long Sutton Parish Council Meeting

2nd March 2021 7:30pm

Via the virtual platform Zoom.

Present:

Councillors Mr T Brand (Chairman), Mr G R Cox (Vice Chairman), Mrs R Coombes, Mr C Dowse, Mrs G Marffy, Mr N Rousell, Mr G Stoddart-Stones, Mr M Turpin.

South Somerset District Council (SSDC) Councillor Gerard Tucker.

Somerset County Council (SCC) Councillor Dean Ruddle.

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 5 members of the public present.

The Public Session opened at 7:30pm

There were no questions from the members of the public present.

A demonstration of Parish Online followed from Cllr Stoddart-Stones. This is a cloud-based mapping system requiring only a browser and an internet connection.

SCC are working with Parish Online, and there is also a footpath layer, which has rights of way mapped out.

The usage of Parish Online is increasing, with national layers covering allotments and cemeteries. There are system links to smart phones. Photos and documents can be uploaded onto Parish Online.

A question was raised with regards to fly tipping on Batts Lane, and if it is possible to report this sort of instance using Parish Online. Unfortunately, this needs to be reported directly to SSDC or the appropriate authority. However, Parish Online can create a precise geolocation for the incident.

Public session closed at 7:40pm.

The meeting opened at 7:40pm.

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

Cllr Fell sent apologies, family commitments. It was resolved to accept apologies and the reason given.



2 Declarations of interest

Cllr Coombes declared a pecuniary interest in a planning matter in agenda item 7.

Cllr Cox declared an interest in the event that Unitary or One Somerset is discussed.

3 Minutes of the meeting 2nd February 2021

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting on 2nd February 2021 as a true and accurate record.

4 Matters arising from the minutes.

None

5 County Councillors Report

For information regarding fly tipping there are very few prosecutions.

Unitary authority consideration, there are no elections for County Council this year. Next year there will be a shadow authority, which will include all Districts or County Council, whatever that may look like.

Full Council meeting of SCC recently resulted in £10 million added to Adult Services, £8 million to Children's Services, and £400,000 for Citizen's Advice Bureau (one off grant).

A question was raised regarding the works at Mill Stream. Cllr Ruddle is facilitating the project which is refurbishing the pond area to its original state 50 years ago, and the heavy works should be finished in a week.

Parish Online demonstration was excellent.

6 District Councillors report

Cllr Tucker provided a follow up to the planning concerns raised at the last Parish Council meeting. A request for a Stop notice was directed to senior officials and is saddened that an apparent violation is circumnavigated.

There was no Area North meeting in January and February, and there is unlikely to be one in March either.

Cllr Tucker was unable to attend Scrutiny. Full Council considered the budget the previous week and approved a £5 rise in the Band D council tax.

Cllr Brand thanks Cllr Tucker for his efforts regarding the planning concerns raised at the last Parish Council meeting. The Parish Council has now done all it can to assist and will await the planning application submission.



7 Planning Applications:

7.1 New Planning Applications received:

Application 21/00054/REM: Land South of Bineham City Cottage, Bineham Lane, Long Sutton. Reserved Matters application following Outline approval of 19/02283/OUT. There is little for the Parish Council to discuss, as this is a reserved matters application. The Parish Council supports this application and has no objections.

Application 21/00137/FUL: Land adjacent to Knightlands, Knole Causeway, Long Sutton. The erection of a new dwelling, car port and vehicle access.

The meeting was closed at 7:56pm to permit comments from the members of the public attending. The applicant gave a history of the family ownership of Knightlands and reasons why the proposed property development was desired. The owners would like to downsize and to be able remain in Long Sutton. The proposed property would be constructed with materials in keeping with the adjacent properties. A member of the public commented that they neither supported or opposed the proposed development.

The meeting reopened at 7:59pm.

The Parish Council discussed the application. In planning terms, there could be an argument that this application could be infill in open countryside. Concerns were raised regarding possible commercial use of the main property once the development was complete.

It was resolved that there are no objections to this application, but the Parish Council would like to be notified should there be any possible commercial use of the main property in the future.

Planning application 21/00162/COL, 1 Rowley Cottages, Hermitage Road, Long Sutton TA10 9NP was received by the clerk after the agenda had been published. This is a certificate of lawfulness for use of a historic access to the south of the address. A gateway has been opened up for use. The Parish Council does not see the need to comment on this application.

7.2 Update on ongoing planning applications:

Batts Lane Quarry: There should have been a Regulation Committee meeting on 4th March 2021 which has been postponed due to the current phosphate issue. Outside organisations are being consulted, which is causing a delay. It could be months before the planning application is heard.

Little Upton Bridge Farm: No further information, under the appeals process.

Long Sutton House: Lobbying from local residents.



20/02850/FUL The Recreation Ground, Martock Road, Long Sutton. Replacement of the existing cricket nets. Application permitted with conditions 3rd February 2021.

20/01884/S73A & 20/02036/S19 Stuckeys House The Green, Long Sutton, TA10 9HS. Application to vary conditions 2 of 17/01479/FUL and 17/01480/LBC to install a smart heritage window system instead of crittal. Awaiting decision.

21/00069/HOU The Old Forge, Cross Lane, Long Sutton TA10 9LR. Erection of Detached Oak Framed Garage. Awaiting decision.

21/00171/HOU Westley Cottage, Langport Road, Long Sutton TA10 9NB. Single Storey Side Extension. Awaiting decision.

8 Neighbourhood/Parish Plan

There are no district or county elections in the next year or two due to the imminent Unitary authority. The village needs to be well placed for the Unitary authority being implemented and need to take responsibility for the parish. A neighbourhood or parish plan is a huge amount of work and is costly. A great example of a successful neighbourhood plan locally is Martock.

It is suggested to set up a working group of 3 to 4 councillors, who will work together to contribute to a road map of how to move forward.

9 Grant application

A grant application has been received from Long Sutton Cricket Club (LSCC) for a replacement ride on mower. LSCC provide grass cutting to the recreation ground as part of their lease. This service is provided at no cost implication to the village or the Parish Council. Contributing to the purchase of a replacement mower is advantageous to continue to benefit from their maintenance expertise.

It was resolved to contribute £1500 (one thousand five hundred pounds) towards the cost of purchasing a replacement mower.

10 Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee (VH&RGC)

10.1 Matters brought forward by the committee.

There was a meeting of the VH&RGC last night.

The solar cells on the roof of the village hall need cleaning. A local company was suggested, and since maintenance of the solar panels is the responsibility of the Parish Council, then the cost will be met by the Parish Council. The VH&RGC will arrange to have the gutters cleaned by the contractor at the same time. A quote to be obtained, but this was agreed in principle.

The play area is now open, with signage to remind parents regarding hand sanitiser and social distancing.



There has been a further grant to the Village Hall by SSDC

The emergency exit fire door needs to be replaced. The doors between the main hall and the lobby also need replacing - it would be beneficial for the doors to swing both ways rather than just into the lobby. These are being investigated.

After a consultation with the village hall Insurance provider it is advised buildings should be evaluated on a 3-year basis.

A second Parish Council as a bank account signatory, as required by the operating document, has now been arranged – Cllr Dowse.

Cllr Brand thanked the VH&RG committee for their work and contribution, and hopefully the hall will be open again soon.

10.2 Bicycle Pump track.

The bicycle pump track is the grassy piece of ground next to the school site. A proposal has been received from a local group to restore the track to allow it to be used. This was received favourably by Councillors, and it was resolved to support the regeneration of the track for use. The Parish Council will provide support for any supplies required to assist with the proposed works. It was further suggested that the local group liaise with the VH&RG to keep them updated with the progress.

11 Finance

11.1 To approve balances and accounts for payment.

Payments March 2021	Credit £	Debit £	Balance £
Balance b/fwd from February meeting			25,081.14
SSE FITS solar panel income	250.36		250.36
Balance agreed to statement 25 February 2021			25,331.50
Accounts for payment March 2021			
Clerk salary (February 2021)		333.27	
Howe Tree Surgery (CWS)		656.25	
HMRC re clerks salary (February)		83.20	
Timeback accounts payroll (February)		5.00	
Community Heartbeat Line rental Knole		72.00	
Community Heartbeat annual support for both sites		302.40	
		1452.12	1452.12
Balance after March payments			23,879.38

It was resolved to approve the payments as listed in the table.

11.2 To receive the spend to budget to 28th February 2021.

The spend to budget to 28th February 2021 was presented to councillors. It was resolved to approve the spend to budget as presented.



11.3 To Earmark

The list of earmarked reserves was suggested by the clerk, to demonstrate planning for future expenditure.

Purpose	Amount £
CIL (earmarked for play area maintenance)	1034.00
Toybox	1500.00
Village Hall	3000.00
Election	500.00
Noticeboards	500.00
Solar panels	1000.00
Play area	1000.00
Total	8534.00

It was resolved to approve the suggested levels of earmarked funds as listed above.

11.4 Review of the Parish Council Risk Management Policy

The reviewed Risk Management policy was previously circulated to Councillors. It was resolved to approve the Risk Management policy as presented.

12 Representative reports and any other matters regarding:

12.1 Community Safety

12.1.1 Monthly Crime Statistics from the Police.uk website

There were four incidents shown on the Police.uk website for January, two in Upton and two in the Long Sutton village area.

12.1.2 Defibrillator. The annual support from Community Heartbeat was renewed at the beginning of March 2021, which covers both defibrillators (village hall and Knole). This subscription covers the electricity supply, and consumables for the defibrillator unit such as replacement pads or battery when required.

12.2 Community Warden Scheme (CWS).

There were three suggested areas to direct the lengthsman hours next month: A survey of the notice boards and paint/varnish if required, assistance for the bicycle track, and to be on hand to assist with footpaths and stiles.

12.3 Highways.

The culverts at Knole have been addressed: they have been dug back which has not been conducted for 12 to 18 months. Further maintenance work is ongoing.

The Speed Indicator Device has been in place on Martock Road for the last four weeks and has now been delivered to High Ham PC.



12.4 Footpaths.

It is intended to work with landowners in the Crouds Lane/Littlefield Lane area with footpath and stile issues. Cllrs Cox and Rousell to review the area and then work with the landowner to make repairs if necessary. Cllrs Fell and Brand will do the same.

13 Other correspondence not previously distributed: None

14 Date of next meeting: Tuesday 6th April 2021 via the Zoom platform, immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting is concluded.

15 Items for the next meeting agenda.

A village event would be a great idea, perhaps in July when lockdown restrictions are eased, perhaps at the village hall or on the village green. A suggestion was made to celebrate the first anniversary of the village shop opening, in August.

The Annual Parish Meeting will also be held on the Zoom virtual platform and will commence at 7:30pm on Tuesday 6th April 2021.

The Annual Parish Council Meeting will go ahead on Tuesday 4th May via Zoom virtual platform.

Parish Council meetings for the following year will continue to be on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm, but no with meeting in August.

Meeting closed at 8:53 pm

End of minutes.