



# Minutes of the Long Sutton Parish Council Meeting

## 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Held in the Main Hall, Long Sutton Village Hall, 7:30pm

### **Present:**

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

Somerset County Council (SCC) Councillor Dean Ruddle.

South Somerset District Council (SSDC) Councillor Gerard Tucker

There were 6 members of the public present.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

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

Members of the public (MOP) in attendance who wished to comment on any of the planning applications to be discussed this evening were invited to comment during that agenda item. The meeting would be suspended in order for them to do so.

MOP raised an issue with visibility from Crouds Lane and Shute Lane due to parked cars. SCC will be measuring and marking up to address the subsidence caused by the recent diversion for emergency works by Western Power on Langport Road. A MOP raised the question of why Crouds Lane was not closed, the traffic during this time was dreadful. SCC are addressing the main highway, but if there was encroachment on private land then this needs to be reported to Highways to ensure issues are addressed.

Public session closed at 7:34pm.

The Parish Council meeting opened at 7:34pm.

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

All Councillors present.

### **2 Declarations of interest**

Cllr Coombes declared a non-pecuniary interest in the planning applications 21/03598/FUL (is a neighbour).

### **3 Minutes of the meeting 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and any matters arising.**

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 as a true and accurate record. The minutes were signed by Cllr Cox.



The clerk updated regarding the marking out of the village hall car park. A contractor has been contacted and will arrange to meet the clerk to discuss possible layout options and respective quotes.

#### **4 County Councillors report**

Cllr Ruddle gave a short verbal report. An appeal has been lodged regarding the Batts Lane Quarry planning application which was refused by SCC last year.

The traffic diversion in place before Christmas when emergency gas works took place, resulting in a major road closure, has been addressed with Highways. Cllr Ruddle will continue to follow this up.

#### **5 District Councillors Report**

Cllr Tucker gave a short verbal report. Following on from the traffic diversion previously mentioned, the SSDC Scrutiny Committee are to look at how traffic diversions are implemented. Diversions are required to be on the same class of road, but local knowledge often makes smaller routes available.

SSDC Scrutiny Committee are to undertake a flooding review due to flash floods occurring locally.

SSDC also continue to support the Citizens Advice Bureau

#### **6 Planning Applications:**

##### **6.1 New Planning Applications received:**

The meeting was suspended at 7:40pm to allow members of the public to speak on the next planning application.

A MOP stated that their objection was already lodged on the Planning Portal of the SSDC website.

The meeting reopened at 7:41pm.

**Application 21/03185/HOU and 21/03186/LBC:** Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Both applications to be dealt with together.

There is no demonstrable need for such a large summerhouse when there are a number of other such structures within the curtilage of Long Sutton House.

The size and scale of the proposed structure is an over domestication of the outlying garden areas of Long Sutton House.



The retrospective element of the application could be deemed acceptable in its own right as it is considered to be of a size and scale that is in keeping with its surrounds and that of the Listed Building.

It was proposed and resolved that the Parish Council objects to these planning applications for the reasons stated.

**Application 21/3452/COL:** Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton.

This planning application was discussed at length. There is no conclusive evidence that the single storey ground floor building and basement root cellar has been, is or will be used for agricultural purposes. No evidence has been supplied that the structure has ever been used for agricultural purposes. The internal layout of the building on the plans provided suggest that the building could not be used for any contemporary agricultural use – a change of use application would be more appropriate.

It was proposed, and resolved, that the Parish Council objects to this planning application for the reasons stated.

**Application 21/03453/COL:** Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton.

the meeting was suspended briefly at 7:54pm to permit a MOP to speak, who stated that there had not been an entrance to this field previously, and never a road, track or bridle path. The only access was to offload cattle. The MOP has not objected via the SSDC Planning Portal.

The meeting reopened at 7:55pm. This planning application was discussed. It was proposed, and resolved, that there are no objections to this planning application.

**Application: 21/03598/FUL:** Land OS 5122 Bineham Farm, Bineham Lane, Long Sutton.

The meeting was suspended at 7:57pm to permit the Planning Agent to speak briefly. The previous temporary provision was based on a business plan which has now been fully achieved and exceeded, hence the dwelling following from the planning permission. The dwelling will fall within the size of a permitted farm building.

The meeting reopend at 7:58pm. This application was discussed. It was proposed, and resolved, that the Parish Council has no objections to this planning application.

## **6.2 Update on ongoing planning applications:**

Application 21/00054/REM. Land South of Bineham City Cottage, Bineham Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application 21/00069/HOU. The Old Forge, Cross Lane, Long Sutton TA10 9LR. Awaiting decision.



Application 21/00137/FUL. Land adjacent to Knightlands, Knole Causeway, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application: 21/02868/DPO. The Coach House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton TA10 9LZ. Awaiting decision.

Application: 21/02880/HOU. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application: 21/03130/HOU. Long Sutton Farm Cottage, Martock Road, Long Sutton. Permitted with conditions (20/12/2021).

Application: 21/03173/COL. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application: 21/03174/COL. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application: 21/03175/COL. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application: 21/03382/PAMB. Long Sutton House, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

Application: 21/03385/FUL. Long Sutton Golf Club. Awaiting decision.

Application: 21/03416/HOU. Greystones, Shute Lane, Long Sutton. Awaiting decision.

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

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

There has been no VH&RGC meeting since before Christmas. 'Plan B' Covid measures are now in place.

## **8 Parish Council Website**

There is an ongoing need to upgrade the current website. What is the requirement for the village? What is the best mechanism for sharing information? Social media appears to be a go to platform for up to date local knowledge. A website as a signposting tool, with Parish Council information is to be explored further, perhaps with basic community information available.



## 9 Finance

### 9.1 To approve balances and accounts for payment.

| <b>Payments January 2022</b>                                     | <b>Credit £</b> | <b>Debit £</b> | <b>Balance £</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Balance b/fwd from December 2021 meeting                         |                 |                | 27,827.92        |
| Village shop rent                                                | 750.00          |                | 750.00           |
| Balance agreed to statement dated 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2021 |                 |                | 28,577.92        |
| <b>Payments January 2022</b>                                     |                 |                |                  |
| Clerk salary (Dec 2021)                                          |                 | 333.27         |                  |
| Howe Tree Surgery (CWS)                                          |                 | 892.50         |                  |
| HMRC re clerk's salary (Dec)                                     |                 | 83.20          |                  |
| Timeback accounts payroll (Dec)                                  |                 | 5.00           |                  |
| G Marffy refund poppy wreath                                     |                 | 21.98          |                  |
| LSPCC parish newsletter                                          |                 | 260.00         |                  |
| LSPCC Christmas tree and lights                                  |                 | 250.00         |                  |
| Bank charges Sept 2021 to Dec 2021                               |                 | 18.00          |                  |
|                                                                  |                 | 1863.95        | -1863.95         |
| <b>Balance after January 2022 payments</b>                       |                 |                | <b>26,713.97</b> |

It was resolved to approve the payments as listed above.

### 9.2 Approval of the Parish Council budget for 2022/23.

The budget proposal and breakdown for 2022/23 had been previously circulated. It was resolved to agree the budget at £29,110.00 for the year.

### 9.3 To set the precept for 2022/23

| <b>Precept consideration 2022/23</b>           | <b>Option 1</b> | <b>Option 2</b> | <b>Option 3</b> |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Budget 2022/23                                 | £29,110.00      | £29,110.00      | £29,110.00      |
| Proposed reserve release to balance the budget | £1,130.00       | £565.00         | £0.00           |
| Proposed precept request                       | £18,450.00      | £19,015.00      | £19,580.00      |
| Equivalent Band D Charge                       | £47.11          | £48.56          | £50.00          |
| Increase/decrease in £                         | £0.01           | £1.44           | £2.88           |
| Increase/decrease in %                         | 0.01%           | 3.05%           | 6.11%           |

It was resolved to set the precept at option 1 of £18,450.00, with no increase to the parishioner, and a release from reserves of £1130.00 to balance the budget.

## 10 Representative reports and any other matters regarding:

### 10.1 Community Safety

#### 10.1.1 Monthly Crime Statistics from the Police.uk website

The PCSO for Long Sutton had been in contact before Christmas to arrange at time to meet with Councillors. A Zoom meeting was suggested, but no response to date. The issue of the contractor being bitten by a dog is still ongoing.



The Police.uk website shows 1 incident for December 2021.

### **10.2 Community Warden Scheme (CWS).**

The works on the tree in Peace Lane are subject to Western Power sanctioning works. A tree survey needs to be conducted, and the clerk is to contact local tree surgeons to obtain further advice. There is a tree on Martock Road that needs to be felled, and will require traffic lights to control traffic.

### **10.3 Highways and footpaths.**

#### **10.3.1 Update from Councillors regarding footpaths.**

Cllr Fell and the lengthsman met with a local landowner to discuss gates and stiles on the footpaths that are the current target area for repair or replacement. Further stiles were discussed in Knole and Bineham to be addressed. The footbridge over the river Yeo to Long Load was noted as still shut.

### **11 Other correspondence not previously distributed:**

The Chairman & Vice-Chairman updated the Council on the on-going complaint against the Council.

The Clerk had taken advice from Somerset Association of Local Councils and the Council's insurer's legal advice service which recommends that the Council takes the following action.

1. Inform the insurance company formally of the complaint and provide them with all information in this regard.
2. In thanking the complainant for their correspondence, inform them that all further correspondence should be directed to our insurers and any future correspondence from the complainant would not be considered by the Council.
3. Encourage the complainant to refer his complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman whose role it is to investigate such complaints made against Councils  
This course of action was agreed unanimously by the Council

### **12 Date of next meeting:**

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 at 7:30pm in the committee room at the village hall.

### **13 Items for the next meeting agenda.**

Green charter update.

Road marking on Knole Causeway.

**Meeting closed at 8:53pm.**

**END OF MINUTES**