

PAWLETT PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council Meeting was held at the Village Hall, Old Main Road, Pawlett on Monday, 19th December 2016 at 7.00 pm.
(in the format to be submitted to the next meeting for approval as a correct record)

Present:

Parish Councillors R Winter (chair), A Baker, M Seabourne, C Clark, H Smith
C Morrison-Jones (clerk).
5 members of the public

Public Speaking Time: Topics raised

- *Pilgrims Way – concerns regarding the loss of privacy to the rear of some properties*

The chairman confirmed that Stonewater's boundary was to the right of the path and that the path is adopted by Somerset Highways, therefore the boundary is the property of Pilgrims Way properties. These are part owned by Sedgemoor DC who have inspected the situation – their assessment is that what is there is satisfactory. Several residents have erected their own screens. A resident has written to SDC asking that the issue be clarified as it is felt that it was originally assessed as a maintenance, rather than security, issue.

- *Footpath to the west of Springfield Close – there was a footpath to the hedge shown on the original plans. Now there is no path shown on the plan - where is it now?*

106. Welcome by the Chairman.

R Winter welcomed all present and explained that the planned Q & A session concerning the development at Springfield Close had to be postponed until January as Stonewater were unable to field a representative. All the original questions submitted would still stand and any additional questions should be submitted to the clerk no later than 1 week before the January meeting.

107. To receive any apologies for absence and disclosures of interest.

Apologies from Cllrs W Barnard and M Neale

108. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st November 2016

The Minutes were confirmed as a correct record and signed.

109. Matters Arising:

a) Springfield Close

The Chairman reported:

- He had originally been informed that the ditch running along Chapel Road would be re-instated. However, it has now been signed off by Highways and deemed not necessary due to the additional gullies installed.
- The keys had now been given to the new residents. Some parking, associated with people moving in, had been taking place on Chapel Road but the comments being posted on social media about this were not helpful and people should try and be more charitable during this period
- Hedging had been planted along the pavement and trees planted behind the houses

b) Christmas Tree on the Green

The tree was erected at the beginning of December and has received many favourable comments from residents. The new stand has proved very substantial and resistant to a vandalism attempt. The lights switch on was well attended – Chairman suggested that for next year the school was approached to design a poster advertising the switch on with the winner turning on the lights. Councillors agreed that this was a good idea

Carols were held around the tree on 17th December and attended by over 100 people

c) Any Other Matters arising not covered by agenda items below

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Signed and DatedChairman

The chairman reported mud was being left on the A38 by vehicles exiting the Virador Site

110. County and District Councillor's Reports.

None received

111. Planning Matters:

a) Consider Planning Applications

i) Consider Planning Application 41/16/00014. 23 Gaunts Road, Pawlett TA6 4SF

Erection of a two-storey detached dwelling, formation of parking and access

After clarification from the agent prior to the meeting regarding the width of the access splay councillors could see no problems with the application and resolved it had no objection to the application

ii) Re-Consider Planning Application 1/41/16/00013 in light of new information received from Somerset County Council

Construction of Waste Transfer Station with plant and machinery for bulking of waste for onward transfer, including steel portal framed building, hard standing, parking and staff facilities

The clerk had received correspondence from Somerset County that Virador had agreed, in light of the Parish Council's concerns, to amend their application to retain the opening hours already granted (7am-8pm). Taking this amendment into account, Councillors resolved to withdraw their previous objection. The clerk was also requested to question the effectiveness of the wheel cleaning mechanisms for vehicles leaving the site in light of the issue raised in item 109 c)

b) Any other planning related matters notified to Clerk in advance of the meeting.

None

112. To Receive Reports from Members of Meetings attended as representatives of the Parish Council.

None

113. Financial Matters.

a) The following payments were approved:-

- i. Clerk's salary December, chq 935, £298.47
- ii. The Post Office, Clerk's PAYE contributions, chq 936, £74.60
- iii. Clerk's expenses, chq 937, £136.60
- iv. Sedgemoor Tree Services, chq 938, £240.00 (inc £40.00 VAT),
- v. Green Energy plc, chq 939, £5.67 (inc £0.27 VAT)
- vi. R Winter, re-imbursments, chq 940, £61.58 (inc £1.00 VAT)

b) Any Other Financial Matters

None

114. Roads and Footpaths

a) Trees on the edge of the Green

The Clerk reported that Sedgemoor Tree Services had been booked to carry out the resonance testing. The chairman reported that he had planted some walnuts off the tree on the Green, which were sprouting, so if the trees did need to be felled there would be replacements available from the original stock.

b) Lippitts Lane

The chairman reported that he had spoken with the Rights of Way Officer. As a registered path, Highways are responsible for its upkeep and have spent nearly £1000 on the recent top dressing. It was hoped that walkers would use the centre of the track that had been repaired and horses and vehicles the two edges but already the repairs have been damaged and are not proving effective.

c) Fingerposts

The Chairman has looked at the post and it appears to be structurally sound. Parish Council resolved to paint the post, following the guidelines issued by Somerset CC, but to delay until better weather next year.

d) Any Other Matters relating to Roads and Footpaths in the Parish

i) Parking on newly hatched area Old Main Road / Gaunts Road

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It was noted that vehicles were regularly parked in this area, causing a hazard to other road users and pedestrians. Councillor reported that they had spoken to the individual concerned but to no effect. The Chairman offered to speak to the Police Officer responsible for Pawlett in the hope that a more official request to desist would be responded to.

115. Sundial on the Green

The chairman passed around a photograph showing an example of what was proposed which councillors agreed was most suitable. Due to the absence of W Barnard no pricing for the scheme had been presented, so the project was deferred to be concluded at the January meeting. H Smith raised her concerns that the project had run on and was not yet fully resolved so close to the required completion date

116. Consider Additional Dog Waste Bins at River Road

Currently, in addition to the official Parish Council Dog Waste Bins in the parish, there were 4 private bins that had been provided by a resident. The resident had requested that the bin at River Road be replaced by an official bin as it was often subject to large sacks of accumulated dog waste being dumped alongside it.

Councillors felt that this was beyond the 'intended spirit' of the bin and constituted fly tipping which could be reported to Sedgemoor DC to investigate if it persisted. It was felt that resources should be focused on the centre of the village. It was resolved to ask the resident to take down the bins he has kindly provided and the Parish Council will install two more official bins, one each end of 'The Drein' which runs from the Green.

117. Consider ID cards for Parish Councillors

C Clark had discovered that had been a coat of arms issued to a Baron who owned Pawlett in the past – if not subject to copyright, maybe this could be included on the card? R Winter reported he would bring samples to the next meeting for Councillors to discuss.

118. Community Land, Chapel Road

Following the decision of the Development Committee to award the land to Pawlett Parish Council, Sedgemoor DC have written to Mrs Parish, the land owner, to request that the transfer of ownership of the land, as laid out under the s106 agreement, commences.

119. Correspondence

- 1) **Somerset County Council:**
Press release regarding County Council Elections in May 2017
- 2) **Sedgemoor District Council** Christmas Card to Pawlett PC
- 3) **Somerset Waste Partnership**
 - a) November briefing
 - b) Green light for Somerset to recycle more
- 4) **Highways England** Update on roadworks M5, junc 23
- 5) **NALC / SALC** Update regarding referendum principles
- 6) **Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner** Newsletter
- 7) **Avon and Somerset Police** Rural Crime in Somerset – press release
- 8) **Ian Liddell-Granger MP**
Response to consultation on extending referendum principles

120. Topics for Future Meetings

- i) School Competition re switching on of Christmas tree lights

105. Date and Time of next meeting

Monday 16th January 2017, immediately following the Q & A session regarding the Springfield Close development which will commence at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall

Meeting closed at 7.56pm

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Signed and DatedChairman