

PAWLETT PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council Meeting was held at the Village Hall, Old Main Road, Pawlett on Monday, 21st November 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), W Barnard, A Baker, M Neale, M Seabourne, C Clark, H Smith C Morrison-Jones (clerk).
Ward District Councillor John Woodman, Ward County Councillor Mark Healey.
6 members of the public

Public Speaking Time: Topics raised

- Lippitts Lane - repairs appear insufficient. Questioning true status of Lane
- Proposed path to the Pavilion - J Thorne read out letter from Sedgemoor DC confirming no further updates from Stonewater at present
- Springfield Close, concerns about new residents potentially parking in Chapel Road
- Chapel Road - one way system concerns
- Flooding due to leaves blocking drains at Gaunts Road/Old Main Road junction

90. Welcome by the Chairman.

R Winter welcomed all present

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

Apology for late arrival from J Woodman and M Healey
W Barnard disclosed an interest in Lippitts Lane (owned by his father)

92. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th October 2016

The Minutes were confirmed as a correct record and signed.

93. Matters Arising:

a) Springfield Close

The Chairman reported on several items pertaining to the Springfield Close development:

- i. Chapel Road width – the road has been measured from new curb stones to tarmac edge and is the same as the tarmac width before development. Any perceived narrowing is an optical illusion
- ii. Parking in Chapel Road by new residents in Springfield Close – each new property has two parking spaces directly outside and there is an ample visitors parking area in the development so it is not expected that vehicles will need to park in Chapel Road.
- iii. Ditch alongside Chapel Road – have been reassured that it will be re-instated before contractors leave site
- iv. 'Path to no where' – staggered metal gates have been fitted to prevent vehicle access
- v. 'Path to no where' - down lights (so not interfering with bat flight paths) have been fitted at the northern end. Lighting at southern end is under discussion between Stonewater & SDC
- vi. Rear fences to properties in Pilgrims Way – Stonewater's boundary ends on the far side of the new path. Highways will take ownership of the path. SDC are part owners of properties in Pilgrims Way – site visit planned for later this week.
- vii. Rental Properties, Springfield Close – Stonewater have reported that 16 out of the 19 properties have now been allocated, all of these allocations complying with the s106 terms. Councillors expressed concerns that the allocation process hasn't been open and transparent and this sentiment was echoed by M Healey

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Signed and DatedChairman

viii. One way system – the Parish Council is not responsible for implementing a scheme along these lines. It would have to go through Highways and the Ministry of Transport. M Healey offered to contact D Fothergill to clarify Highways position

ix. Esther Carter (Housing Project and Development Officer for Sedgemoor DC) will be attending a Q & A session, to be held immediately before the Parish Council meeting on 19th December, to answer parishioners' questions regarding the development at Springfield Close. All are welcome to attend but questions will have to be submitted to the clerk by 12th December. No questions on the night.

J Woodman arrived at the meeting at this point

b) Playground Maintenance and repairs

M Neale reported that the painting and the repairs to the 'wet-pour' surround had been completed. Replacing the gate springs on the enclosed area at the Pavilion is in hand.

c) Christmas Tree on the Green

C Clark confirmed that the tree stand had now been completed and was stored in the village hall shed. R Winter thanked C Clark for his work on this project.

A Baker is ordering the tree for collection on 1st December and it is planned that the lights will be up and ready to switch on for 6pm on Saturday 3rd.

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

None

94. County and District Councillor's Reports.

County Councillor: M Healey reported that traffic warden services, previously outsourced, have now been taken back 'in house' to save funds.

He feels that parishes need to be more pro-active as a division and is proposing regular meetings to help the division to unite and 'speak with one voice' about essential matters. This was considered an excellent idea by Councillors which they would be wholly supportive of.

Whilst supportive of the Parish Council's request to submit a small highways improvement scheme request, he warned that the scheme is not currently open and, even when opened in the future, there is still a backlog from previous funding rounds.

District Councillor: J Woodman reported that he attended the barrage meeting and felt that it was a good idea but couldn't it be combined with a generating scheme to 'add value' to the project? He feels that parishes downstream from the barrage (wherever it is finally situated) need to be vigilant when considering the effects of silting up

As chairman of the standards committee, he reminded members to ensure that their declarations of interests were up to date

J Woodman & M Healey left the meeting at this point

95. Planning Matters:

a) Consider Planning Applications

i) 41/16/00012. Mako Lodge, Vicarage Lane, Pawlett, Bridgwater, TA6 4RU

Erection of building to house swimming pool and gym, on site of former workshop/garage (to be demolished), erection of detached garage building with access and turning area

After clarification on the siting of the proposal, councillors could see no problems with the application as it is out of site and fits in well with the area. Resolved to support the application

ii) 1/41/16/00013. Walpole Landfill Site, Bristol Road, Walpole, Bridgwater, TA6 4TF

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

Whilst generally acknowledging the need for the extension to the premises and aware of the money and environmental impact that would be saved by its construction, Councillors raised

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concerns regarding the proposal to extend trading hours from the currently approved 8pm to 10pm. It was felt that this, combined with the greater number of lorries visiting the site, would offer no respite to residents. Resolved to object to the proposal on the grounds of the proposed extension of opening hours.

iii) 3/32/16/018. Hinkley Point A, Hinkley Point Power Station, Somerset, TA5 1YA (GR:320340 - 145973)

Construction of a Building for the Storage of Intermediate Level Radioactive Waste Materials (Variation of Building Design Approved by Planning Permission No. 3/32/12/030)

Resolved to pass no comment on the application

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

None

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

- i) M Neale reported that he had attended a Planning Training meeting on 18th October which was very informative.
- ii) M Neale reported that he had attended the District Planning meeting on 8th November with a view to observing the discussion on the allocation of the Community Land in Pawlett but had to leave before this agenda item came up.
- iii) C Clark reported that he had attended the SCC Chairman's Award for Volunteers with the Parish Council's nominee, Mrs M Simms, where she was presented with a certificate and small gift

1 member of the public left at this point

97. Financial Matters.

a) The following payments were approved:-

- i. Clerk's salary November, chq 928, £298.47
- ii. The Post Office, Clerk's PAYE contributions, chq 929, £74.60
- iii. Clerk's expenses, chq 930, £96.81 (inc £8.04 VAT)
- iv. Green Energy Plc, chq 933 (inc £0.28 VAT), £5.86
- v. Adam Barnett Community Maintenance, chq 931, £720.91
- vi. Sedgemoor DC, dog bin emptying, chq 932, £167.23 (inc £27.87 VAT)
- vii. R Chilcott, Christmas tree stand, chq 934, £420.00 (inc £70.00 VAT)

2 members of the public left at this point

b) Agree Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 30th October 2016

The Clerk had previously circulated a bank reconciliation statement and supporting documents as at 30th October 2016 showing a balance of £38,170.57. The statement was unanimously agreed by the council

c) Any Other Financial Matters

None

98. Roads and Footpaths

a) Trees on the edge of the Green

The Clerk reported that Sedgemoor Tree Services had carried out the tree survey as requested and identified items that needed work. Most were graded as low-medium or medium risk and therefore carried the advice that pruning of trees is best carried out in mid summer when the trees system is best able to cope with the stresses that pruning work brings. Two trees were identified as high risk and requiring resonance testing to establish the extent of decay. A cost of £200 was quoted to carry out the required further testing. It was resolved to request that the trees be tested as soon as possible.

b) Lippitts Lane

Repairs have been carried out down the middle of the track by SCC but it was not considered sufficient by councillors to last the winter. It was not clear who is responsible for the upkeep of the

track. Before pursuing this further with SCC, R Winter offered to investigate responsibility before the next meeting.

c) Fingerposts

R Winter has spoken to the house owner by the fingerpost who confirmed that no maintenance has been carried out for many years. SCC are no longer maintaining finger posts but have issued guidance on procedures and materials to be used. The hedge needs to be cut back to assess level of repair needed – R Winter offered to investigate before next meeting.

d) Winter salt / grit arrangements

R Winter reported that 28 bags of salt were stored behind the Legion for use by all when necessary W Barnard offered to do a salt bin audit and report back to the clerk if any needed refilling

e) Red Lane and Sloway Lane

The clerk reported that Highways had confirmed that they have been in discussion with Wessex Water and a joint effort to repair the damage caused to the highways will be made once their works are complete

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

i. Damaged curb stones outside 27 Pilgrims Way

Two curb stones appear to have been damaged by heavy plant from the site. This will need to be rectified before contractors leave.

ii. Road Signs in Pawlett

R Winter reported that work has started replacing / repairing the damaged road signs identified earlier in the year

iii. Coastal Path

W Barnard reported that repairs had been made to gateways and gate posts on the coastal path by SCC

99. Sundial on the Green

Quotes had been obtained for a 'traditional' pedestal mounted sundial but it was felt that a more interactive, inset paving type dial was required.

W Barnard has ordered the plans for the placement of stones to form a dial and agreed to obtain prices for materials available for the next meeting. M Neale agreed to obtain a quote for installation costs for consideration at December meeting.

1 member of the public left at this point

100. Consider Possible Erection of a Wooden Illuminated Cross on the Green for the Easter Period

This item was deferred from the April 2016 meeting.

Councillors agreed to the erection of a cross for 2017, subject to proof of liability insurance cover as this would not be covered by the Parish Council.

The Parish Council offered the use of the Christmas Tree stand as an anchor point.

It was noted that requests from other faiths that may occur in the future would have to be given equal consideration

1 member of the public left at this point

101. Consider ID cards for Parish Councillors

R Winter reported that SALC were supportive of the idea. It had been established that they could be bought for very little cost and R Winter was requested to proceed with samples.

It was noted that there would have to be a strong admin trail if cards were issued to Councillors to ensure that all cards were fully accounted for.

102. Consider moving the April 2017 meeting date from 17th to 24th April

As the 3rd Monday in April 2017 falls on a bank holiday, it was agreed to move the Parish Council meeting to April 24th

103. Correspondence

- 1) **Somerset County Council:**
 - a) Decision on Emergency Bus Funding
 - b) Sustainability Plans, Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group
- 2) **Sedgemoor District Council**
 - a) Hinkley Point C, Order 2013, J23-2
 - b) Hinkley Point C, Order 2013, J23-5
- 3) **Somerset Waste Partnership**
 - a) October briefing
 - b) Recycling & Refuse collections over Christmas Period
- 4) **Highways England: update on roadworks M5, junc 23**
- 5) **Hinkley Point C, Look Ahead**
 - a) November Monthly briefing
 - b) December Monthly briefing
- 6) **Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner: newsletter**
- 7) **Somerset Rivers Authority: The Stream newsletter, November**
- 8) **Thank you card: Mrs M Sims, re nomination for SCC Chairman's Award**

104. Topics for Future Meetings

- i) Community Land, Chapel Road
- ii) Dog Waste Bin River Road / Vicarage Lane

105. Date and Time of next meeting

Monday 19th December 2016, 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 9.02pm