

**MINUTES OF MEETING
held on Thursday 4th July 2019
@ 7.30pm
in the Village Hall**

**Curry
Rivel
Parish
Council**



Above the levels

PRESENT:- Cllrs Andy Anderson, Robert Atkins, Peter Goodenough, Les Hood, Derek Yeomans and David Wadson.

627). CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR

Cllr Andy Anderson advised that the first item on the Agenda was the co-option of one new councillor and Simon Scarborough had come forward as a volunteer. He was invited to give a brief resume of why he would like to become a parish councillor.

Simon said that he lived in Dyers Close and whilst he was relatively new to the village, he was a long-term resident of the area. He attended school in the area and not far from here, he used to go fishing. He had moved away in the 1980's and had returned during the 1990's. He felt that he had some understanding of the challenges that villages face in this modern era. Not least of all, the issue of transport. Having retired, he has some time on his hands. Some of his hobbies and interests include getting thrashed every Tuesday at table-tennis in the village hall. He loves all sorts of ball sports and is interested in gardens as well.

He considered Curry Rivel to be a fantastic village and he was keen to contribute to the continued enjoyment and vibrancy of the village. There were always areas for improvement and that is what he hoped to make a contribution towards. He and his wife are very keen walkers and walk around the village nearly every day. He was very keen to see the footpaths maintained and, hopefully, the footpath into Langport improved. Coming to Community Safety, he had been heavily involved with management, negotiating contracts and managing these on a day to day basis. He hoped that might be put to some practical use.

Children's Play Areas – there was always the potential to improve them. Another area he was quite keen to improve is the Youth Services. At the end of his career he was involved for about five years with the Scouts. He had worked for thirty years managing budgets and finances.

There being no one else seeking co-option on to the Parish Council, Cllr Andy Anderson proposed that Simon Scarborough be co-opted on to the parish Council. This was seconded by Cllr Peter Goodenough and unanimously agreed.

628). DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

629). APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Tina Paul and Cllr Tony Greenaway.

630). **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THE 6TH JUNE 2019**

The Minutes of the meeting, having been circulated to the members, were approved and signed by the Chairman on the proposition of Cllr Derek Yeomans, seconded by Cllr Robert Atkins and unanimously agreed.

631). **ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS – Cllr Andy Anderson**

- a). Accounts – must show financial commitments within the accounts – JL – ongoing
- b). Primary School PTA grant application – ongoing
- c). MUGA – investigate repainting – Cllr Les Hood said he has been recommended a suitable paint. He would not undertake the work himself because the MUGA is very high. He has tried to contact various painters but, they had not got back to him. He had been given him the name of a company in Weston-super-Mare. He would continue trying to obtain quotations – ongoing
- d). Electrical Box – Fix electrical box by changing rooms – Cllr Derek Yeomans had carried out repair
- e). East Field grass cutting for Curry Rivel Live – Complete
- f). Westfield grass cutting - code on lock changed by CRL. SSDC could not cut grass – the lock had now been changed back and SSDC advised.
- g). Hedge 6 Chatham Place – send letter regarding hedge at 6 Chatham Place – JL – ongoing
- h). Rose Garden – check on the rose for the rose garden within Granny’s Garden – AA checked on the ability of the flowers to attract insects – came back with a positive result - he would suggest something later in the Agenda regarding this.
- i). School Grants – Assist the school in finding grants – Cllr Tina Paul has contacted the school but, has not heard anything back yet – ongoing
- j). C. R. Kid’s Day – Assist Kaye Morgan to establish Dist. Council support for this event – Cllr Peter Goodenough said that meetings had been arranged but, commitments intervened causing postponement. - ongoing
- k). Hellards Hill - Seek price for Hellards Hill – Cllr Peter Goodenough said that Somerset County Council, having not accepted our expression of interest, indicated that we could buy the land at market value, assessed at £60,000 - ongoing

632). **MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA**

a). **Planning Consultation**

Cllr Andy Anderson said that he had sent out a note to the councillors about the latest planning consultation. We had replied to the previous consultation last year and our notes have been acknowledged. They are within that consultation process. Cllr Peter Goodenough has raised a point as to whether we need to do another contribution and possibly a couple of open nights to try and get the villagers involved.

Cllr Peter Goodenough said that in the Local Plan, there are to be consultations from June – September 2019. In that consultation the status of Curry Rivel will be changed from a ‘rural settlement’ to a ‘village’. Twelve areas have been given the title of ‘village’ and between them they were going to have 1,314 houses allocated of which there are 722 left to be built. These would be divided between the 12 villages on an ad hoc basis. It changes the status of Curry Rivel from what it has been in the past and he thought it was important that we look at the employment plans scenario. In the Langport area that had been reduced for the last round. They were aiming for 4.5 hectares and in the last Local Plan they said that this will never be reached. They have only developed one hectare so far and they were proposing another 1.5 hectares, which is less than half of what was originally proposed. Curry Rivel would be a dormitory village which flies in the face of the recognition of a climate change emergency by SSDC. They are encouraging people to use vehicles and increase their carbon footprint. He felt it was important that residents understood that the village is changing its status in the preferred options and that they have their say.

Cllr Derek Yeomans advised that there would be a two-hour session held in Langport on the 16th July in the afternoon. This plan is a re-digestion of what has gone before. At one point they were looking at providing up to 45 hectares of employment land and up to 82 hectares. All of that has gone by the board. We have land with permission to build south of the Maple Road site which is to the south of the existing site, which is agricultural but, is designated as a housing and employment land area assessment. So that could be used at any time and has potential for twenty-two more houses, plus the other twenty-five going to the north of the existing site. That is going toacerbate the dormitory village concept .

Cllr Peter Goodenough said that it is important that the Parish Council makes its voice heard and that we ought to have our own policy. Cllr Andy Anderson said that we need to reply to the consultation as a Parish Council. We should try to get the views of the villagers and take their views to the consultation. He felt it was very important that we push this forward. He asked for a volunteer to take this process forward. He had led the last one forward and was willing to take this one forward but, he would not be available next week.

Cllr Derek Yeomans said that we should bear in mind that we have every possible facility which makes this village desirable. Cllr Andy Anderson agreed and said that we must try and influence the decision. If he was to take this forward, he could not do anything until the week commencing the 15th July. Cllr Peter Goodenough suggested that he could assist and this was agreed.

Adjournment to Allow Public Comment

A resident had come on behalf of the resident who had previously complained about the use of Round-up Weed Killer being used in a public place where children play. The Clerk advised that she had passed on all the information to the councillors that had been received from the resident on the 'Issue of spraying Roundup (Glyphosate) in communal areas.' It pointed out that Glastonbury has had Pesticide-Free status since June 2015 and there was no reason why the Parish Council could not liaise with the Glastonbury Town Council and Mendip District Council to see how they achieved this. She would be continuing to raise this issue with Yarlinton Housing Association and her local MP, in the hope that collectively and collaboratively we could come together to build a healthier, richer Pesticide Free community that works for everybody. Austria had passed a Bill banning all uses of the weed killer Glyphosate.

A resident said that he was concerned about the speed of traffic through the village. He was also concerned about the overgrown hedgerow between Parsonage Place and Stanchester Way. It has completely overgrown the footpath and it needs to be cut back as soon as possible. Cllr Andy Anderson said that he had sent an email to the Clerk this evening asking her to contact the residents and ask them to cut back their hedges. He understood the concerns regarding the speed of traffic through the village and whilst we have a very efficient speedwatch organisation within the village, they are recording that there is not a great deal of traffic speeding. However, that is not to say that people are aware of the speedwatch because as people go passed, they flash their lights and drivers slow down as they drive by. This is something that he would bring up in a couple of months' because he will be speaking to Highways shortly about various issues within the village; particularly speed, road markings and parking. Hopefully he would be able to put something out in the Minutes from that consultation process. He was not committing the Parish Council to this at the present time but, there might be an opportunity to have an automatic speed watch. This would record the speed of every vehicle and sends the registration plates to the local authorities that can do something about it. Cllr Andy Anderson said that the police do regularly attend in Curry Rivel and they park just off the garage. It was pointed out that the Speedwatch operates at different times.

Cllr Simon Scarborough said that Long Sutton had managed to get the mobile police 20 mph unit outside the Primary School. They caught over sixty people exceeding the 20mph speed limit.

633). **PLANNING REPORT**

a). **Applications Received**

Application No. 19/01386/HOU

Proposed store, garage and workshop for garden and woodland maintenance equipment. Stoneleigh House, Heale Lane, Curry Rivel, Langport, TA10 0PQ

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Andy Anderson that we have no objections in respect of this application. This was seconded by Cllr Derek Yeomans and unanimously agreed.

Application No. 19/01502/HOU

Erection of single storey extension to the front of the house. 7 Abbey Close, Curry Rivel, Langport, TA10 0EL

Following a lively discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Derek Yeomans that we had no objections in respect of this application. This was seconded by Cllr Robert Atkins and unanimously agreed.

634). **PARISH COUNCIL LAND – CAR PARK AND SURROUNDING AREA – update**

Cllr Andy Anderson said he had received a number of complaints about a one-stop shop that had sprung up in the car park over last week and was there for five days. He had asked Cllr Peter Goodenough, the Vice-Chairman, to go down and have a word with James Macey. They were selling stoves and other items. He had written a letter to James Macey as follows:-

“I write as I received a number of complaints concerning the stall that had been set-up in the Parish Council car park last week.

As a consequence, I had to ask the Vice-Chair to come and see you regarding the stall to check what was actually happening and, as I understand it, he had a productive conversation with you and informed you that, in future, you must seek the approval of the Parish Council before setting-up a stall of this nature. We will do our best to support local business, as we realise how important this is to the local economy, however, I have to balance this against the interests of others within the village and we need to take into account their concerns also.

We will do everything we can to accommodate but, you must ensure that you give us plenty of notice so that we can decide the best course of action and inform the local community of the event and the possible reduction in car parking places etc.

Communication is the key and provided we work together I am sure that we will be able to accommodate future events whilst ensuring that the local community are properly informed.”

Cllr Derek Yeomans said that it had been impossible to walk across because they had swings, chests, easy chairs, etc. Cllr Andy Anderson would go and see James Macey.

635). **LAND AT HELLARDS HILL LANE**

In view of the fact that Somerset County Council, had not accepted our expression of interest and indicated that we could buy the land at market value, assessed at £60,000, it was decided not to proceed with the proposed purchase. Cllr Peter Goodenough would send an email on behalf of the Parish Council advising Somerset County Council of our decision.

636). **LAND AT LINTON HOUSE – Application No. 19/01743/TPO**

The proprietor has applied to fell two chestnut trees and replace with 8-10 standard trees within the local vicinity.

637). **ROAD MARKINGS ON JUNCTION OF MAPLE ROAD EXITING ONTO STANCHESTER WAY**

Cllr Andy Anderson said that he had received a number of complaints about this junction. The road markings are worn very substantially. There have been a couple of incidences. He has asked County Cllr Clare Paul to try and arrange a meeting with Highways to try and get those road markings re-instated as soon as possible. He considered it was up to the developer to re-instate those road markings but, he needs to take this up with the Highways Department.

638). **COMPLAINTS ABOUT HGVS MAKING DELIVERIES TO CRISP CLEAN VIA CHURCH STREET WHEN CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING AT SCHOOL**

Cllr Andy Anderson said that, unfortunately, we cannot do anything about this. We have asked them to use the road going up to the village green from the crossroads passed the Barber's Shop However, if that road is blocked with parked cars, they are going to take an easier route up passed the Primary School

Cllr. Derek Yeomans drew attention to the following Temporary Closure of Church Road. An Order prohibiting all traffic from proceeding along Church Road from the junction with Dyers Road, southwards for a distance of 30 metres. Effective on 15th July 2019 and will remain in force for eighteen months. The works are expected to last for 5 days.

639). **FINANCE REPORT**

a). **Accounts for payment**

The following accounts were approved for payment on the proposal of Cllr. Peter Goodenough, seconded by Cllr Derek Yeomans.

Luke Grafton Stonemasons Ltd - War Memorial	£444.00 incl. vat
Chalmers Chartered Accountants – Internal Audit	£438.00 incl. vat
Max von Tyszka – Grass Cutting – Eastfield	£ 60.00
Paul Hart Welding Ltd – MUGA repair	£270.00 incl. vat
Then Media Ltd – Hosting & Editing Website	£363.60 incl. vat
Peter Goodenough – Tape for marking CRL car parking	£ 13.04
Clerk's Wages for Month 3	£364.20

b). **Rose Garden in Granny's Garden – donation proposed to CRIB**

The Madelaine roses are being planted in Granny's Garden in memory of Madelaine King-Oakley our former Chairman. Cllr Andy Anderson would like to propose that we give a donation of £150 to Curry Rivel in Bloom in order for them to complete the garden.

Cllr Robert Atkins said that he understood that they had planted twelve roses and that they had received a donation from the Rotary Club. He considered that twelve roses did not cost £150. The Clerk pointed out that they had also planted some Lilac bushes. Cllr Robert Atkins felt that Curry Rivel in Bloom had done a super job around the village and the War Memorial in particular. He felt that they were taking every opportunity to have another reason why they want more money. We have given them a very large sum of money already and he questioned the necessity for further funding. Cllr Derek Yeomans said he had been speaking to Gina Beauchamp today and she had said that they have had a lot of very good fund-raising events. Originally the bid had been for £100 but, it has now gone up to £150. He would have preferred it if the memorial rose garden had been contributed to by people wishing to make donations in memory of Madelaine.

Cllr Andy Anderson asked how we should proceed and Cllr Derek Yeomans said that he would be happy to support giving the £100, but not £150.

Cllr Peter Goodenough advised that the money raised by the Open Gardens was ring-fenced for St. Andrews Church, the United Reformed Church and Curry Rivel Primary School.

Cllr Andy Anderson asked if anyone had a counter proposal to his proposal for £150.

Cllr Derek Yeomans said that Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley had done a lot of work for the village and was an exceptional councillor. He was prepared to continue with his proposal that a donation of £100 should go towards the rose garden. This was seconded by Cllr Peter Goodenough. A vote taken resulted in four in favour (Cllrs. Andy Anderson, Peter Goodenough, Derek Yeomans and Les Hood). The following three councillors abstained from the vote – Cllrs Robert Atkins, David Wadson and Simon Scarborough). The sum of £100 was duly approved.

c). **Single Bank Mandate forms – some amendments to be made**

The Clerk had received a letter from NatWest concerning Section 4 of their form to be signed by Cllr Peter Goodenough and another signatory to sign Section 5. Cllr Peter Goodenough said that he had signed the form. The Clerk visited Taunton Branch to try and sort this out and was advised that she would have to speak to the Birmingham Business Telephony Centre.

d). **Westfield Barrier repair**

The Clerk had contacted Zurich Insurance again today concerning our claim and had said that we would have to consider legal action if our claim was not settled in the near future. Cllr Simon Scarborough recommended that we contact the Ombudsman.

e). **Grant Application**

i). **Curry Rivel PTA – School Playground Equipment – project £10,000**

Cllr Andy Anderson said that now we have a full complement on the Parish Council and we do not have to face a further election, he would like to propose that the £2,000 that was set aside for the election fees is given as a grant to Curry Rivel PTA for the provision of school playground equipment. On the condition that they only purchase playground equipment with this money. This was seconded by Cllr Derek Yeomans and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Simon Scarborough asked whether the school had a Forest School set-up and was advised that they did not. He suggested that they should perhaps consider this alongside. Cllr Peter Goodenough said that the previous Head Teacher did try to set one up. Cllr Simon Scarborough felt that schools were not the best procurers in the land and they would need conditions put on it. Cllr Andy Anderson said that if we show that the Parish Council is making a commitment to the school, then that will open the gates for other grant applications within the school and he thought that the school would be able to get a little bit more money. They could apply to South Somerset District Council for a grant.

Cllr Derek Yeomans referred to a problem that Barrington School had because they did not ensure that they had follow-up remedial treatment, repairs and maintenance. You have to make sure that the firm is reputable and that they give guarantees.

Cllr Peter Goodenough considered that we would have to say to the Acting Head that we want to see the Project Management Plan and would want a member of the Parish Council to sit on this committee. There would a time limit on spending the money and if it is not spent within twelve months, it would be withdrawn. We had previously approved money for the purchase of tablets and it had never been taken up.

Following further discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Andy Anderson that a grant of £2,000 be approved for the purchase of playground equipment and that Cllr Simon Scarborough should represent the Parish Council on the Project Management Plan Committee. There

would be a twelve-month time limit on spending this money, after which the offer would be withdrawn. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Derek Yeomans and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Derek Yeomans said that County Cllr Clare Paul and District Cllr Tiffany Osborne must also be involved.

j). **Annual Governance Statement 2018/2019**

The Clerk had completed the documentation for submission to the External Auditor and the Annual Governance Statement 2018/2019 was duly signed by the Chairman.

340). **CORRESPONDENCE**

a). **Valuation Office Agency**

A Request for Information on Non-Domestic Rating had been received in respect of the Car Park. This requested financial information for the past three years which was not applicable to the Car Park because we do not rent it, we do not charge any parking fees and we are not a charity. It was recommended that the Clerk should consult SALC who would be able to offer advice.

b). **Overgrown hedging between Stanchester Way and Parsonage Place**

An email had been received from a resident concerning the hedging which now encroaches across the footpath towards the road, making it harder for two people to pass without stepping into the road. Cllr Derek Yeomans said that a couple of years ago we had arranged for this hedging to be cut back and had paid for it. Cllr Peter Goodenough said there was a complication because he thought that the people that owned the properties consider that they do not own the hedge because there is a path behind it. Cllr Derek Yeomans drew attention to the fact that hedging cannot be cut back until the end of August because of birds nesting.

c). **Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA)**

An email had been received from a resident saying that the Council had recently arranged for some new brackets to be welded at each end. He had looked at the new brackets and they are fine but, there is work to be done on re-coating the metal. There is currently a coat of primer on the original and new metal but, rust is starting to appear through it. A topcoat has not been applied. The Clerk would send a copy of the email to Cllr Les Hood for his attention and he would contact Mr Cockerell. Cllr Andy Anderson proposed approval to spend up to £30 for the paint for the MUGA. This was seconded by Cllr Peter Goodenough and agreed.

d). **River Parrett Dredging Consultation**

The Clerk had forwarded the email received from the Somerset Drainage Boards Consortium to the councillors for information.

e). **Environmental Strategy – issues and opportunities**

The Clerk had forwarded this email to the councillors. South Somerset District Council had recently declared its recognition of a climate emergency and are starting to develop an environment strategy. The email detailed what the Environmental Strategy is likely to be based around and asked the Parish Council to consider each of the following five themes:-

Waste, Recycling & Resource Management - Natural Environment - Built Environment – Energy (efficiency and renewable – Travel and Transport.

Cllr Peter Goodenough said that Somerset County Council will not give us the land as a community asset. That was going to be our contribution to what was being asking for.

Cllr Derek Yeomans said that SSDC are looking very carefully at alternative uses for plastic bags and film which we cannot get rid of at the moment, except by incineration. They are now trying to find what can be done with using plastic as a road building material. It could be combined with tarmac and other substances.

- f). **Trees for Somerset: Trees for your Parish**
Event to be held at Walton Village Hall, Friday, 2nd August from 20.00 to 15.30. Broadcaster, Stephen Moss will be one of our keynote speakers.
- g). **Community Buildings Annual Workshop & CCS Annual General Meeting/Rural Conference**
Thursday, 24th October, 209 at Long Sutton Village Hall 9.30am – 4pm
- 641). **ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA**
- a). Neighbourhood Plan
 - b). Parish Plan Consultation
 - c). SSDC Environmental Strategy – Issues and Opportunities
 - d). River Parrett Dredging Consultation
 - e). Project Management Plan Committee – Curry Rivel PTA – School Playground Equipment Grant – Cllr Simon Scarborough to report
 - f). Report on discussion about the Play Day – Cllr Peter Goodenough
 - g). Land at Hellards Hill Lane

CHAIRMAN _____ **DATE** _____