

MINUTES OF MEETING
held on Thursday, 7th MARCH 2018 @ 7.30pm
in the Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley (Chairman), Cllrs Andy Anderson, Robert Atkins, Mike Cousins, Paul Deacon, Tony Greenaway.

573). DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley declared an interest in respect of two of the grant applications submitted. She is a member of the Table Tennis for All group and she is also a representative on Curry Rivel in Bloom. Cllr Tony Greenaway said that he was also a member of the Table Tennis for All Group. They would not take part in the relevant discussions.

574). APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Peter Goodenough, Tiffany Osborne and Derek Yeomans.

575). MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THE 8th FEBRUARY 2018

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

576). MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA

a). Westfield Play Area

Cllr Paul Deacon advised that the closure of the Play Area at Westfield had been rescheduled and will now start on Monday the 19th March and run for five days until Friday, 23rd March.

b). St. Margaret's Hospice Care

Notification of Open Gardens 2018 Launch Event on Tuesday 27th March at St. Margaret's Hospice, Little Tarrat Lane, Yeovil.

577). GRANT APPLICATIONS

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley had prepared a schedule showing all the grants awarded by the Parish Council from the year 2011/2012 to the year 2017/2018 because she wanted to keep track of what we had approved so far in respect of grants. The schedule commenced with March 2018 with nothing yet awarded. From October 2018 we had underspent by about £1,500. She advised that the Parish Council budgets £4,000 a year on grants. We are in the current year of 2017/2018 and had not hit the new year yet. The grants awarded last October are detailed and the total requested for the March run was £2,365.00 plus the PTA application. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that we are permitted to spend £7.36 per person on the Electoral Register. The St. Andrew's Church takes out quite a large amount each year and that is going to increase. In this year we could go over budget because there is money available.

No. 1 Curry Rivel Primary School PTA – Purchase of 24 No. I-Pads

Amount granted at Council's Discretion

Emma Myhill was present to speak in respect of the grant application for the purchase of I-Pads, which are an integral part of the curriculum. She has been secretary of the PTA for the last eighteen months and has a little boy at the school. We have put in an application for the purchase of 24 I-Pads. Particularly from the parents' point of view, they do not want their children going to school using only pencil and paper. There are some schools locally where every child has the use of an I-Pad. We are nowhere near that and, at the moment, we have got six I-Pads per class. Most classes are between 28 and 32 children and so they work in fairly large groups to be able to do their work. They had spoken to the Headmaster and he had brought to their attention how short they were of I-Pads which cost about £250 each. The PTA have pledged to try and raise £6,000 to purchase 24 I-Pads which will, hopefully, bring down the group sizes and make it a bit more feasible in the classes. They strongly believed that there should be use of the I-Pads as well as books. It is quite technical stuff that they are learning in a safe environment. Money that they had been able to raise since September at the various events organised was £3,001.85 and so we are about halfway there. Various forthcoming events would be taking place to raise more funds.

Cllr Paul Deacon asked what the shortfall would be at the end of the year and was advised that it could be £500 or £1,000. It would depend on the weather for the various events. Cllr Mike Cousins questioned why they were purchasing I-Pads and not tablets which would be cheaper. He was advised that the school had I-Pads at the outset and that is what they are trying to replace. Cllr Robert Atkins said there was an educational trust that makes them available at a good price.

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that we could give money now and we have a new budget next year. She was not sure if October was too late but, they could then apply if there was a shortfall.

Cllr Robert Atkins proposed that we offer, as we did with the white boards, up to £1,100 but, limited by only covering any shortfall at the end. This was seconded by Cllr Mike Cousins and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Andy Anderson said that NISA could be approached because they support good causes in the village. They do have funds that are available.

No. 2 Active Somerset – 9th Annual Curry Rivel Kids 'Free' Event – 15th September 2018

Hire of Climbing Wall - £475

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that there had been a bit of concern about the funding and what happens. The event is run by Kaye Morgan and she has said to her what happens if something happens to you; will it still run. She had checked this and there is a lady called Gina Beauchamp who is the contact with it and she knows where the file is. If we pay up front for the wall is there the possibility of it not happening. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley had received a copy of accounts which only detailed the amounts paid out and she was going to request details of the income as well. It has become quite established but, last year it was not quite as well supported.

Cllr Paul Deacon proposed approval of a grant for £475. This was seconded by Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley and unanimously agreed.

No. 3 Curry Rivel Primary School – Purchase of 2 No. Class Laptops – Curry Rivel Primary School Grant of £750.

Peter Staddon, the Headmaster, had applied for a grant to purchase 2 No. Laptops for use in ICT

lessons, individually and small groups within the class. To support and assist children with special educational needs e.g. Dyscalculia and Dyslexia and work on a one to one basis. To provide the children access to innovative learning e.g. Google Earth and practical linking up of resources.

Cllr Mike Cousins proposed approval of a grant of £750. This was seconded by Cllr Robert Atkins and unanimously agreed.

No. 4 Table Tennis for All – Kevin Loe – Purchase of second Table Tennis Table - £405

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley and Cllr Tony Greenaway had declared an interest in this grant application and would not take part in the vote

This grant application and been submitted by Kevin Loe who advised that the increasing membership was making the use of one table unfeasible. The table could be used by other groups and has been rented out by various groups. We wish to set up a League, open to all Curry Rivel residents. The group exists to benefit the Village Hall. The Village Hall will retain possession of the second table. Table tennis is a healthy activity for seniors and juniors, promoting general community health. With a second table there is less nonplaying time and more opportunity to play competitive and non-competitive singles and doubles.

Cllr Andy Anderson proposed approval of a grant of £405. This was seconded by Cllr Paul Deacon and agreed by Cllrs Robert Atkins and Mike Cousins. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley and Cllr Tony Greenaway had left the room.

No. 5 Curry Rivel in Bloom – Permanent planting of the War Memorial – Re-working of the ‘Twinning Area’. Further planting in public places and throughout the village. - £750

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley had declared an interest in this application and would not take part in the vote.

The aim is to improve community involvement and thereby generate a better community spirit. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley felt there was a slight overlap here to do with Britain in Bloom and grants. In one budget there is £1,500 for the year. When they have asked for £750 it would be helpful if they could have this amount to do their day to day stuff. Big bills are being paid from the annual budget. She wanted the councillors to think how they were going to give the money to CRiB from the £1,500 Budget. Cllr Paul Deacon asked whether they could be given this as working capital. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said a cheque could be given to them next April in the new financial year. Cllr Robert Atkins said that he had not been involved in CRiB at all. However, he was aware of the planting plan for the War Memorial which they are doing. He understood that it had been done by a professional landscaping lady who has designed it and said what the plants should be, including the colour scheme. It is a tri-service plan with the planting in three sections for the army, navy and airforce being identified by a different colour scheme. He felt that someone has gone to a lot of trouble, with a professional person who he understood had given her time free of charge. He, therefore, suggested that this first year is going to be more expensive because they are working on the War Memorial. It would only require maintenance after that because the plants are all perennials, therefore, paid from the grant budget.

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley advised the Curry Rivel Flower Show committee had donated £200. CRiB had raised £245 from a sale of plants. It was planned to organise a village picnic to raise money and the team is working hard to raise funds. Cllr King-Oakley left the room. Cllr Robert Atkins felt it was well worth offering encouragement because they did a great job last year. He

proposed that we approve this application for £750. This was seconded by Cllr Tony Greenaway and unanimously agreed.

Adjournment to Allow Public Comment – There were no public comments.

578). **PLANNING REPORT**

a). **Applications Received**

18/00080/FUL (amended plans/additional)

The conversion of existing garage into habitable accommodation, erection of a single garage and new window to west elevation. Little Acorn, Stoney Lane, Curry Rivel, Langport.

It was proposed by Cllr Paul Deacon, seconded by Cllr Mike Cousins, that we should object to this application on the grounds of insufficient parking and over-development of the site. It was considered that there would not be enough room to turn once the garage is built and cars will be backing onto the highway when they exit.

A vote taken resulted in five councillors in favour (Cllrs Andy Anderson, Robert Atkins, Mike Cousins, Paul Deacon and Madelaine King-Oakley) with one abstention (Cllr Tony Greenaway).

18/00239/FUL

The erection of a single storey rear extension and formation of dormer windows. 38 Chatham Place, Curry Rivel, Langport.

Cllr Mike Cousins proposed that the Parish Council had no objections to raise in respect of this application. This was seconded by Cllr Andy Anderson and unanimously agreed.

18/00256/LBC

The carrying out of external alterations to front elevation of dwelling. Rest Harrow, Wiltown, Curry Rivel, Langport.

On the proposal of Cllr Mike Cousins, seconded by Cllr Robert Atkins, it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council had no objections to raise in respect of this application.

18/00287/FUL

Demolish the existing conservatory and remove pitched roof over existing rear extension. Erection of 2 No. single storey extensions to front and rear of the dwelling. Little Orchard, Stoney Lane, Curry Rivel.

On the proposal of Cllr Mike Cousins, seconded by Cllr Paul Deacon, it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council had no objections to raise in respect of this planning application.

18/00623/REM (received 7th March)

Reserved Matters application for the erection of a detached dwellinghouse and carport. Land adjoining Garland House, Townsend, Curry Rivel, Langport

This application had not been received in time to inspect the site and an extension would be sought.

PARISH COUNCIL CONSULTATION – AMENDED PLANS

17/03846/FUL

Change of use of land to residential, siting of mobile home, portacabin and formation of hardstanding. Land at Westfield, Lane, Curry Rivel, Langport.

It was noted that this application was thought to have gone to Committee.

b). **Applications approved with conditions**

17/04896/FUL

Demolition of existing side porch and erection of side/rear extension together with a remodel of existing roof structure and construction of new roof structure with improved accommodation to first floor together with internal alterations. Glenhurst, Drayton Lane, Curry Rivel, Langport.

18/00469/TPO

Application to fell 1 Beech tree included within the SSDC Tree Preservation Order (CUR1 20) 1975. Stanchester House, Currywoods Way, Curry Rivel, Langport.

579). **FINANCIAL REPORT**

a). **Accounts for payment**

The following accounts were approved for payment on the proposition of Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley, seconded by Cllr Robert Atkins subject to the invoice submitted by South Somerset District Council not including the charge for painting, which had already been paid. It was also agreed to complain about the lack of heating provided at our meeting held in the Old School Room and defer approval of payment until next month.

Kernock Park Plants for CRiB	£ 531.82 incl. vat
Jeff Haines – supply and fitting of 3 fence panels (Chq. for 2 fence panels £379.10 replaced with chq for 3 fence panels)	£ 521.84
The Sign Shed – Dog Signs	£ 71.94 incl. vat
Zurich Municipal Insurance	£1,647.16
Clerk’s Wages – Month 11	£ 332.00
Hags-SMP Ltd- NRG Amazon Basin	£2,082.60 incl. vat
South Somerset District Council – Annual Maintenance	£8,304.27 incl. vat
Curry Rivel Old School Room – Rent	£ 30.00

b). **Schedule of Income & Expenditure to the 7th March 2018**

The Clerk had prepared a spreadsheet showing a breakdown of income and expenditure to date. This showed a balance of £15,711.93 in the Reserve Account and £4,925.46 in the Current Account. The invoice from Hags-SMP Ltd had been received this afternoon and would reduce the balance in the Current Account to £2,842.86.

The Clerk took the members through the documents she had prepared showing a breakdown of the income and expenditure to date and the transfers made between the Current Account and the Reserve Account. Cllr Paul Deacon questioned how we got the figure of £94,671.31 shown as expenditure and was advised by the Clerk that this figure included expenditure for equipment purchased with grants received from South Somerset District Council. Our total income in the Current Account was £89,585.89 which included grants received and transfers from the Deposit Account. Cllr Paul Deacon found the accounts difficult to understand and he felt as councillors they needed to be

confident. The Clerk said that this format had been used ever since she had been doing the accounts and each year they had been submitted to the Internal Auditor and the External Auditor and they were quite satisfied with the way the accounts had been presented. Cllr Tony Greenaway expressed concern about the fact that we brought forward a balance of £38,430.79 at the beginning of the year and our balance at present is in the region of £17,000. The Reserve Account is nearly half of what it was last year. Is that a healthy position to be in? Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that we would follow up the concerns expressed.

580). **CURRY RIVEL PARISH PLAN – update**

Cllr Tony Greenaway said that the review document we discussed last time, with just a view minor amendments, is now on the Website and will go into the Curry Rivel News with an introduction inviting people to take part in a Survey. The Survey asks residents to say, ‘What do you like about living in Curry Rivel’ and ‘What I would like to see improved or changed’. We have also put something on the display screen in the Village Hall and we are going to attend some of the major events in the next few months; Curry Rivel Live, The Big Breakfast, the Church Fete and the CRiB Village Picnic. We are going to be canvassing people’s views. He also needs some help from his colleagues to be able to get hold of some simple boxes with a slot and a sign which says, ‘Parish Plan Survey – post your views here’. We also need a supply of A5 paper slips for people to put their comments on. He said the box needs to look reasonable and not tacky. If colleagues were actually at the various events he would appreciate their engaging with those people present to persuade them to submit their views. The first event would be the Big Breakfast in April. Curry Rivel Live would take place in June and Cllr Andy Anderson said he would be there. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley thanked Cllr Tony Greenaway for undertaking this task organising the boxes.

581). **FORMULATION OF PARISH COUNCIL’S SUBMISSION TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION**

Cllr Tony Greenaway said that it had been suggested at the last meeting that we should meet outside of the last meeting and formulate something. This had not happened and we needed to check the closing date. Cllr Andy Anderson said that it would be good to have Cllr Tiffany Osborne on board and he would try and arrange a convenient date for a meeting.

582). **IMPROVEMENTS TO PATH TO PARSONAGE PLACE FROM NEW FOOPATH INSTALLED BY SUMMERFIELD, RUNNING ALONGSIDE NEW HOUSES - update**

Cllr Paul Deacon said that he and Cllr Tony Greenaway had looked at this. He felt that there was not a lot that we could actually do. They have scalping on the existing path which will, of course, fill the vegetation other than the piece walked on. As you look down the path it is quite clear to walk down as long as people keep their hedges cut back. It was felt that there was no action to be taken.

583). **REMOVAL OF BARRIER AT PARSONAGE PLACE -update**

Cllr Paul Deacon said that the space in the barrier is 930 millimetres and it is recommended for an electric powered wheelchair that you need a minimum of 1,200 millimetres and ideally 1,500 millimetres. He felt that we really need to talk to Yarlinton Homes about either taking down one of the two components. The only reason they are there is to stop people whizzing along on a bike. They could simply re-instate that barrier which is an upside-down shape. They could move it away from its opposite partner to give a bit more room. Taking it down would be easy but it would cost to reinstate it. From what he can see, it does not conform to modern disability rules. Cllr Paul Deacon offered to write to Yarlinton Homes concerning this matter.

584). **CURRY RIVEL VILLAGE CLEAN-UP**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said this could not be undertaken last week-end due to snow and would take place this week-end. She decided not to sit in the Car Park so, she has advertised her mobile phone and asked people to text or email her and she will deliver the equipment to them for the morning or afternoon. Cllr Tony Greenaway said he could spare a couple of hours on Saturday morning and he would do Dyers Road. Cllr Roger Atkins said he would do Heale Lane. People can drop their bags off at the Car Park along the wire fence next to the bin and South Somerset District Council will arrange to collect them. Cllr Tony Greenaway said there was fly tipping which includes tractor tyres at Churchway towards Wick Hill and he had reported this. Cllr Paul Deacon said he would do Westfield and the car park down to Holdens Way. Cllr Andy Anderson would do the main road.

585). **MAINTENANCE COURSE FOR FINGER POSTS – update**

This will be held on Friday, 16th March. Cllrs Paul Deacon, Derek Yeomans, Madelaine King-Oakley and Andy Anderson would be attending the course.

586). **REPLACEMENT VILLAGE ENTRANCE SIGNS - update**

Cllr Paul Deacon said that people were going to send in their ideas. It was thought that the signs should be pale blue and should feature the Monument. He felt that we should just put CURRY RIVEL on that sign. If you wanted to add other bits we could add another sign to the existing two posts. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said it needed to be higher than it is so that we can put something across for the Twinning. Cllr Robert Atkins questioned whether it was appropriate to have it a colour. Surely, for headlights purpose, it should be white. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley referred to the sign at Somerton and said that it is actually easier to see black on a pale blue background than black on white. Cllr Paul Deacon would investigate the costs. Cllr Tony Greenaway drew attention to the fact that the sign on the approach from Taunton is on the right-hand side of the road. The sign on the approach from Langport is on the left-hand side of the road and it is regularly being hit and is rather close to the road. He wondered if another location could be found and agreed that this could be explored. It was noted that there are also two signs coming from Hambridge.

587). **PROPOSED STANDPIPE AT THE WAR MEMORIAL – update**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that when she was up at the War Memorial speaking to people who were digging, they had said why do we not make the connection this side of the road because there happens to be a water meter in the pavement. She wondered why this could not be used. She would try to speak to Wessex Water and send them a photograph and suggest that a connection on this side of the road would be much cheaper. She would also like permission to look into the possibility of installing a drinking fountain at the War Memorial. You can get a drinking fountain that is at grown-up height, with a lower one for anyone disabled and children. At the bottom there is a bowl which dogs can drink out of as any spare water drips into the bowl. She would like to price them up and show the Parish Council what is possible. Cllr Tony Greenaway said that this suggestion of a fountain had also come up after one of the Table Tennis Club meetings and it was thought this would make a lot of sense rather than having a water tap and make it a feature that would last.

588). **INSTALLATION OF SYSTEM TO REPLACE THE (SID) PROGRAMME WHICH IS TO BE TERMINATED – update**

Cllr Robert Atkins said that there was to be a meeting last Thursday which he was going to attend but, it had been cancelled. It has now been set for the 14th March. He had spoken to Robert Crowley

to see what his views might be. To purchase a unit would cost between £2,500 and £3,000. We may find that we can team up with some of the other villages around here and either share the capital cost or we would buy it and we could come to some arrangement. He was hoping at the meeting to meet up with some of the representatives from other villages to see what their ideas were. Having spoken to Robert Crowley, he favoured continuing with the Somerset County Council on their proposed scheme which is that we would lease it or loan it as we do at the moment and we are talking about £100 per installation. Previously we have had it twice a year at each end of the village and that would amount to £400 per year. We could do that for this coming year starting at April and have more time to consider the SID's and whether we could team up with other people. We would still be bound by certain regulations which Somerset County Council would impose on us. We would also have to pay for one or more people to be trained. Buying time to lease for twelve months is worth doing and it will give us more time to consider how to go ahead. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley suggested that we wait and see what they say at the meeting to be held on the 14th March. If you have to spend money you will have to come back to the Council officially.

589). **INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL DOG BIN IN LANE BY THE OLD POST OFFICE
DUE TO REGULAR DOG FOULING – update**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that she had requested an additional dog bin but, there was nothing further to report at the present time.

590) **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

There was nothing to report.

591). **CORRESPONDENCE**

a) **GDPR Compliance**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley referred to an email we had received from a company who offered help to reduce the cost of GDPR Compliance for smaller organisations. Bearing in mind our turnover is more than £25,000 annually, it was felt that we would not be considered to be a small council. The Clerk was requested to contact SALC to seek advice in this matter because the data protection act has really been tightened up. Are there new rules that we should consider putting in place?

b). **Repair of street light in the Car Park**

SSE advised that they have now repaired the street light in the Car Park. It is recommended that a new pole bracket and lantern is required. This is the last time they would be able to repair the unit as the parts are now obsolete. They would be forwarding their account. They could provide us with a quotation for the new work if required. Clerk to request a quotation.

c). **Royal British Legion Silent Soldier**

The Royal British Legion has announced it will be supporting the Silent Soldier campaign in honour of British troops who fought and died in the First World War 100 years ago. Near life-size silhouettes of a First World War 'Tommy' are available to feature in War Memorials, churchyards, etc. in remembrance of those in the armed forces who came home 'silently' from the war, as well as those who never made it home. Following discussion, it was agreed to purchase one through the Royal British Legion at a cost of £100. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said she was going to offer Curry Rivel in Bloom the opportunity to use it this year at the War Memorial and next year we could put it in a different location if we so wished.

592). **COUNCILLOR'S – update**

Cllr Robert Atkins suggested that at this time of the year when the Precept goes up, there was the opportunity to put into the Curry Rivel News details of what we have achieved with the parishioners'

money. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley suggested that this could be done by Cllr Tony Greenaway who is going to feature something about the Parish Plan. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that she would put something together quickly which he could add to. When she prepares her year-end report in May she goes through everything that has occurred during the year.

CHAIRMAN _____ **DATE** _____