

**MINUTES OF MEETING
held on Thursday, 8th November 2018 @ 7.30pm
in the Village Hall**

**Curry
Rivel
Parish
Council**



Above the levels

PRESENT:- Cllr Andy Anderson (Chairman), Cllrs Robert Atkins, Mike Cousins, Paul Deacon, Peter Goodenough, Tony Greenaway, Tiffany Osborne and Derek Yeomans.

The Chairman wished to make an amendment to the Agenda. Westfield Maintenance – Item 9 will feature between the Curry Rivel & District Twinning Association grant application – Item 5 and the Planning Report – Item 6.

494). **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Andy Anderson declared an interest in respect of the Curry Rivel & District Twinning Association's grant application for French lessons as he was a member of the Association and he would sit out for the vote. He would like to remain whilst the team make their presentation to the committee. Cllr Derek Yeomans agreed to Chair the meeting during the discussion of this item. Cllr Paul Deacon also declared an interest as he was a member of the Twinning Association.

495). **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies had been received.

496). **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 4TH OCTOBER 2018**

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.

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

a). **Curry Rivel traffic/pedestrian issues**

Cllr Andy Anderson said that he had been contacted by Robert Crowley in reference to the Traffic Meeting that had taken place at the end of March 2018. Cllr Andy Anderson said that he would like to have a discussion with County Cllr Clare Aparicio Paul and hopefully prepare a feed-back for the December meeting.

b). **Remembrance Day Sunday 11th November**

As a member of the Royal British Legion, Cllr Andy Anderson advised that tickets were available for lunch being served in the Village Hall following the laying of wreaths at the War Memorial.

Adjournment to Allow Public Comment

John de Ronde said he was looking on the Website for the details of last week's meeting and this week's meeting in the usual place and there was nothing there. Was there any reason for that? Cllr Tony Greenaway said he would look into this.

498). **CURRY RIVEL & DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION – Grant for French Lessons**

Cllr Derek Yeomans would take the Chair for his item. Cllrs Andy Anderson and Paul Deacon would remain but, would not take part in the discussion. Cllr Derek Yeomans said that at the previous meeting we had approved a grant in principle, subject to a presentation by the lady who

would be undertaking the lessons. We wished to be advised of the number of lessons, their duration and the aspect of the lessons, bearing in mind that we are allocating public money.

Barbara Hamlin was in attendance to speak on behalf of the Twinning Association. She was an experienced teacher of languages and said that the Twinning Association had requested a grant of £450 for continuing the teaching of French to Years 5 and 6 pupils at Curry Rivel Primary School for this academic year to July 2019. Each lesson received approximately 40 minutes tuition once a fortnight = 80 minutes teaching time plus 40 minutes preparation time. Thus, two hours work by the teacher of French. The preparation time includes liaising with the class teachers; preparing the lesson materials; planning and writing schemes of work; reporting on progress at the end of each term; liaising with the teacher of English in Chevilly and sending off the pupils' letters to France. Tuition is charged at the rate of £15 per hour. The school has asked for the sessions to be once a fortnight, i.e. 3 sessions in a half term - £90. There remain five half terms in this school year so, a grant of £450 was requested. If all the money has not been used at the end of the school year, it is carried over to the next academic year. If not, the money would be returned to the Parish Council. So far, the school has always asked for the lessons to continue.

David Cameron, Vice-Chairman of the Chair of Governors, was also in attendance and, speaking on behalf of the governors, he said that they would like to endorse the request for funding that has been made. The lessons have made an enormous difference to the pupils. Modern language teachers are quite hard to find. Teaching children from 9 to 11 is not a national curriculum requirement but, it is an expectation that these children will have modern languages. It is up to the schools to find the right people and in Curry Rivel we feel that we have been extremely fortunate to have a teacher of such high calibre. He has been in to see the lessons and can guarantee the high quality of the lessons that Curry Rivel children get. They enjoy the lessons and are fully stretched. The lessons are seriously planned and executed. We are very concerned that when our pupils go up to Huish Episcopi, as most of them do, that they are not at a disadvantage as far as modern languages are concerned.

Cllr Robert Atkins asked for the number of pupils that are being taught and was advised that there are 20 pupils in year 5 and 19 in year 6. He felt that it would not be a vast amount of money if the parents made a contribution. David Cameron said that parents could not be asked to make a contribution for lessons during school periods. Cllr Robert Atkins said that it was also irregular for the Parish Council to fund education. Cllr Derek Yeomans said that it was permitted in as much as we are allowed to give grants for various activities. In his opinion, he felt that this was a worthy cause. Barbara Hamlin said that she was the main source of their French. They have games, sing songs and have various activities which children actively participate in. They also do the register in French and write to the children in Chevilly about once a month.

Cllr Tony Greenaway felt that it was excellent. He had some concerns about whether this should be a voluntary activity because a lot of people do things in the community on a voluntary basis. Having heard what has been said, he felt that we should be supporting it. The only question he did have was, in the Budget the Chancellor announced a large amount of money for the 'little extras' for schools and he wondered what the 'little extras' might be for Curry Rivel in the future. David Cameron said that the financial situation at the School is such that we need every penny we can get at the moment. Cllr Derek Yeomans asked if the School was at full capacity and was advised that it was. The School has a good acting Head Teacher at the present time.

Cllr Peter Goodenough said that the Parish Council is legally constrained from giving money to individuals and you were talking as if the money was going to Barbara Hamlin. When writing or speaking to a third party we must always make it clear that the money is going to the Twinning Association. We do have people that watch these things very carefully and if it was thought that the money was going on a regular basis to an individual, they could write to SSDC. Cllr Tiffany

Osborne asked if the backing of the Head Teacher was required to provide these lessons. She was aware that we had given a grant for the nature garden and she was sad to see that this was not being used at the moment. She wanted to check the continuity of the French lessons if the new Head Teacher appointed says that they cannot continue any more. Would they have more control over what is taught? David Cameron understood that the Head had written to the Parish Council in support.

Cllr Derek Yeomans having considered the various questions raised and answered, he suggested that a vote should now be taken. Cllrs Andy Anderson and Paul Deacon left the room during the vote. Approval of a grant of £450 requested by the Curry Rivel & District Twinning Association was proposed by Cllr Derek Yeomans and seconded by Cllr Tony Greenaway. The proposal was approved by a vote of five in favour (Cllrs. Peter Goodenough, Tony Greenaway, Derek Yeomans, Tiffany Osborne and Mike Cousins) and Cllr Robert Atkins against.

499). **WESTFIELD MAINTENANCE** – Cllr Paul Deacon to report

A Westfield resident was present in connection with her complaint about problems being experienced adjacent to the Dug-Out in Westfield that had been discussed at our October meeting. She had brought photographs to illustrate the problems experienced. She had lived there for five years now and when they started spraying graffiti, it became very annoying. On top of that, when she saw what had been written, she did not want her child to read it.

Cllr Andy Anderson said that, based on the information you have passed to him by email, he had invited our local Beat Bobby along to the meeting on the 1st November. Unfortunately, they could not make that date but, four of them had come to his home on the 29th October. He had a long discussion with the Police to see what we could do. They will increase the number of patrols that they do around the area, bearing in mind the budget available. They have also asked that if the residents noted any untoward activity, that they go onto the Police Website to report the activity as it is happening. They would then be able to take further action if required. Equally, if there is any other information that you might be privy to that could be put on their Website; they would be most interested in that as well. From the perspective of moving the Dug-Out, they informed him that the Parish Council was under no obligation to do so. They felt that, as it was a community asset, they would be inclined to keep the Dug-Out where it is unless, of course, there is further evidence of more drug use. That is a different matter altogether which we would need to be investigate further.

Cllr Paul Deacon said that the Dug-Out is often used in the evenings. Young children are over there with bikes, etc. and it is a nice spot in the summer because it gets the sun. He agreed that the graffiti was extremely annoying. He had been over there and painted out the graffiti last weekend and will continue to do so. Drug use is obviously very concerning but, he did not think they were using drugs because there is a Dug-Out. He goes over there to tidy up once a fortnight and if it was not there, they would still smoke drugs. He has never found any needles or syringes over there. He had found limited evidence of cannabis being smoked there. He had noted what was suspicious activity at the bottom of the Car Park. If people use the Westfield recreation facilities, they park near to the gate and walk in. However, there are often a couple of cars down the bottom and he makes every effort to make a note of the registration numbers and report them to the police because he wondered whether there was some dealing going on down at the bottom of the Car Park.

Cllr Paul Deacon said that Westfield was somewhere for the children to hang out. There is nothing wrong in that and that is why it is a community asset. The resident said that you can see their cigarettes being lit up at night and she felt that the easiest way to solve this problem is to just remove the Dug-Out. Cllr Andy Anderson said that you will merely move the problem elsewhere and it could move nearer to your property. Cllr Derek Yeomans said given that cannabis is now very prevalent and the police are not following it up very much. With all the other drugs that are now coming in, he could not see the situation improving until we have a much stronger police force. We

presently have two police women who are covering a vast area in this district and the PCSO's do not have the power of arrest. He felt that the only thing we could do was to watch it and make sure that, if anything totally untoward happens it is reported. The resident asked what the difference would be if hard drugs were involved and Cllr Derek Yeomans said that you would get a much better police presence. Cllr Peter Goodenough felt that we should be putting up some deterrent notices indicating that the area was being watched for the use of drugs. Cllr Tiffany Osborne asked if the problem was the noise being experienced or the graffiti and the resident said that the situation was intimidating as it was right outside her house. Cllr Tiffany Osborne suggested that residents should post any concerns they have onto the Website. Cllr Andy Anderson said that the police would act on the information, particularly if it confirms the evidence that they already have. When he had emailed the police requesting a meeting, they had responded within twenty-four hours.

Cllr Andy Anderson was sorry that the situation was as it is at the present time. He did not think that the Parish Council could do any more other than what we have discussed about education and maintaining the reports to those who can do something about it. He did not think there was much else that we could do at this stage.

Cllr Andy Anderson said that we are looking at starting-up a Youth Club in the new year. There is quite a considerable amount of work to be undertaken and an item on the formation of a Youth Club features later in the Agenda. A resident said that she was in the fortunate position of being able to speak to a lot of parents in the area and would like to help. Cllr Andy Anderson said we have to ascertain the need and whether there are sufficient people going to attend the Youth Club because it is going to cost us a significant amount to set it up in the first place, plus the annual cost. He felt that it would not be an issue if there were sufficient interesting activities to keep them coming to the Youth Club. County Cllr Clare Aparicio Paul was asked if any other parishes had the same problems and she advised that it was not uncommon. It was incumbent upon anyone who spots anything untoward to report it. She drew attention to the fact that funding could be attracted for an established Youth Club.

500). **PLANNING REPORT**

a). **Application Received**

Planning Application No. 18/02819/HOU

Erection of a rear extension and replacement outbuilding. Wiltown Lodge, Wiltown, Curry Rivel, Langport.

On the proposition of Cllr. Mike Cousins, seconded by Cllr Derek Yeomans, it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council had no objections to raise in respect of the above planning application.

501). **FINANCE REPORT**

a). The following accounts were approved for payment on the proposal of Cllr Derek Yeomans, seconded by Cllr Paul Deacon.

Clerk's Wages – Mth7	£333.40
HM Revenue & Customs PAYE	£ 99.00
Curry Rivel Village Hall Rent	£ 60.00
S.L.C.C. – ILCA Course	£118.80 incl. vat
Seagate 1 TB Expansion USB 2.5in external hard drive	£ 81.36 incl. vat
Northwing Nurseries Ltd – CRIB plants	£115.50 incl. vat
EDF Energy – Changing Room (paid by DDR)	£ 30.00 incl. vat

b). **Comparison of expenditure against Budget 2018/2019 – to 1st November 2018**

NB: All sums exclusive of VAT	Precept 2018/2019	Expenditure to 1st November	Accruals	Balance remaining	Notes
SSDC Maintenance	£ 6,500.00		£ 5,847.87	£ 652.13	
Legal & Planning Fees	£ 500.00			£ 500.00	
Westfield/Eastfield Maintenance	£ 750.00	£ 578.36		£ 171.64	Dug out repairs, Eastfield grass
Playground Inspections	£ 400.00		£ 379.19	£ 20.81	
Changing Room Costs/Container	£ 440.00	£ 352.30		£ 87.70	
Cemetery Costs (Rates £367.00)	£ 1,000.00	£ 367.33		£ 632.67	
War Memorial /land opposite Brit in B	£ 1,500.00	£ 100.00		£ 1,400.00	This is probably a duplicate of CRIB £1500?
Seats, verges, signs, etc footpaths	£ 1,500.00			£ 1,500.00	Gates in Eastfield and Batties Piece £490
Car Park Lighting	£ 300.00	£ 168.11		£ 131.89	
Administration				£ -	
Clerk's Gross Pay (incl. PAYE)	£ 4,200.00	£ 2,450.00	£ 1,750.00	£ -	
Clerk's Expenses 2017/2018	£ 1,200.00		£ 1,200.00	£ -	Clerk invoices annually
Miscellaneous Expenses	£ 200.00			£ 200.00	
Insurance	£ 1,600.00		£ 1,600.00	£ -	
Audit & Accountancy	£ 550.00	£ 650.00		-£ 100.00	
Bank Charges	£ -			£ -	
Subscriptions	£ 700.00		£ 598.45	£ 101.55	
Hire of room for meetings	£ 400.00	£ 120.00	£ 280.00	£ -	
Training Fees	£ 240.00	£ 50.00	£ 30.00	£ 160.00	
Section 137 Grants				£ -	
March 2018 Community Website	£ 1,000.00	£ 606.00	£ 303.00	£ 91.00	Annual hosting fee £606. We were late paying Jan 18 so £909 this yr
March 2018 School iPad			£ 400.00		
March 2018 Climbing wall		£ 465.00			
March 2018 School laptops - Delete?					No longer applicable?
Churchyard Grass Cutting etc.			£ 1,200.00		This should be under Grants
Twinning association			£ 450.00		Subject to approval?
Defibrillator financial (Top-up required)			£ 608.00		£1660 less money collected = 608.00
March 2018 Table tennis table			£ 405.00		
Summary of Grants	£ 4,000.00	£ 465.00	£ 3,063.00	£ 472.00	
Curry Rivel in Bloom	£ 1,500.00	£ 68.46	£ 1,250.00	£ 181.54	750 + 500=1250
Capital Projects				£ -	
Westfield Play Equipment etc.	£ 2,300.00	£ 550.00		£ 1,750.00	To fit Amazon basin. HAGS paid in March 2018
Litter & Dog Litter Bins/Dog Signs	£ 500.00			£ 500.00	
Signage - Cemetery Green Wash Sign		£ 43.00		-£ 43.00	
Noticeboard				£ -	
Samsung Display in Village Hall				£ -	
Wessex Water Standpipe- War Memorial		£ 1,981.62		-£ 1,981.62	
Contingencies				£ -	
Remembrance Ceremony - Wreath				£ -	
Totals (excl vat)	£ 20.00			£ 20.00	
	£ 31,300.00	£ 9,015.18	£ 16,301.51	£ 6,448.31	

Cllr Paul Deacon wished to make clear two items in the above schedule. In the budget this year we have War Memorial/land opposite BiB £1,500 and another £1,500 under CRiB. Is it safe to assume that there would be only one £1,500 for CRiB and the second heading should not be there? Following discussion, it was agreed to take the second entry out. He was not sure how much money the Parish Council was being asked for to top-up the balance required to meet the cost of the defibrillator. He understood that the shortfall was about £600. The Clerk advised that there was another small amount due to come in. Cllr Tony Greenway said that apart from the £1,660 for the defibrillator and cabinet, there were the electrician's fee and the cost of signage which he was going to raise this evening. He would get the figures together for Cllr Paul Deacon.

Cllr Peter Goodenough raised a question about the grant for the Primary School iPads. Cllr Paul Deacon said that we have not yet paid it.

502). **LAND AT HELLARD'S HILL**

Cllr Paul Deacon said there was nothing to report at the present time. We have had responses from adjacent land owners and they are not against what we are proposing to do. One chap would like to take the hay from the meadow but, there is no objection. We are now waiting to hear from Somerset County Council.

503). **UPDATE ON THE PURCHASE OF THE DEFIBRILLATOR**

Cllr Tony Greenaway advised that all the equipment had now been purchased and we are now waiting for the installation. About twenty people have indicated an interest in doing CPR training. He raised the question of signage around the village to indicate where the defibrillators are located. He had obtained a quotation for £58 + vat for ten signs of which six would be suitable for outside and four inside. The purchase of the signs was proposed by Cllr Tony Greenaway, seconded by Cllr Mike Cousins and unanimously agreed. It was pointed out that once a defibrillator is registered and 999 is rung, they will tell you the location of the nearest defibrillator.

504). **FAULTY LIGHT IN THE PASSAGEWAY**

The Clerk had endeavoured to find out who would be responsible for the repair of this light as it is not on the highway and, therefore, not covered by the County Council. Cllr Peter Goodenough pointed out that, as it was on our land, we were responsible for the maintenance of this light which had been established in 2012. The Clerk to identify an electrician qualified to carry out this work.

505). **BACK-UP OF CLERK'S PC DATA**

The Clerk said that as she was using her computer for this evening's meeting until she left for the meeting and was unable to update the Seagate USB before leaving. She would let the Chairman have the updated USB as soon as possible.

506). **FORMATION OF A YOUTH CLUB – UPDATE**

Cllr Andy Anderson said that he had attended a meeting in Street on the 2nd November, run by the councillors that look after the youth provision and the community provision within Somerset. They are going to be made redundant early in February 2019. What he is trying to do now is to utilise their experience to look over certain proposals that were made by the two youth workers that came and made a presentation in September. They were a little concerned about the set-up costs. They indicated that there was a hybrid of two scenarios there. Ordinarily you can invite somebody in like the YMCA to run the Youth Club and you would only be liable for the staffing costs and the venue costs. If the Parish Council runs the Youth Club, we are then involved in everything. The governance, the insurance, the staffing costs, PAYE, etc. He thought that their proposal had been a mixture of the two. He was still seeking advice from the people that are dealing with it from County and looking at a way forward. He felt that it was a good idea to start something up for the youth in the village but, as he had said earlier, it was important to establish the need first, because if there is no need there is no point in spending the money. He is going to re-engage with Issy and suggested that we put on a couple of meetings in the Village Hall. We should encourage young people and their parents to come along to give us some idea of how many people will attend and what they would like to do. From the wider point of view, some of the County stuff is staying. For example, they are maintaining loan equipment that you can borrow, especially for children that want to go away and do Duke of Edinburgh Award schemes but, there is still a lot of work to do. That is the only update he has at this time. Cllr Tony Greenaway asked what age group we were talking about and was advised that it was 10 to 14 years of age. Cllr Andy Anderson said that the two youth workers were actively involved in Youth Clubs so, why are we paying for the DBS checks if they have them already? It has proved useful to go to that meeting on the 2nd because they have highlighted some discrepancies. Cllr. Paul Deacon said that Ginny Smith knows a lot about Youth

Clubs and we could speak to her. Cllr Andy Anderson said that when he was speaking to the resident who had concerns about the Dug-Out she had said that she was very keen to help us fundraise if we set up a Youth Club. At the Village Fete Madelaine King-Oakley was speaking to a young chap and he was coming up with a whole host of ideas. Things like a Junior Parish Council so that they could get involved in the community and actually make decisions that affect their rights. Cllr Tony Greenaway said that a few years ago we had tried this with the Youth Club and a couple of the members came to the Parish Council meetings.

507). **WW1 COMMEMORATION – update**

Cllr Andy Anderson advised that the Commemoration Service will take place on Sunday 11th November at St. Andrew's Church at 10.53am. It will then continue at the War Memorial and for those that wish there is a Royal British Legion lunch in the Village Hall. He advised that the remaining eight Perspex silhouettes had now been received, which will bring the total up to twenty-one, representing those lost in the First World War, and he will be placing them in the Church tomorrow morning. They will have a name plaque below them.

508). **NO PARKING SIGNS FOR THE CAR PARK ADJACENT TO THE AIR AMBULANCE BIN**

Cllr Andy Anderson said that he had obtained two photographs from the neighbour who has access to her drive in the Car Park. Someone had parked right next to the Ambulance Bin and had consequently blocked the resident from her drive and exit. She has asked if we can purchase some signs to be placed in the Car Park to alert people to the fact that they should not be parking in yellow hatched areas. As we have already done that for one of her neighbours, he felt that we could not refuse her request. Cllr Paul Deacon said that a sign similar to the one erected at the top of the Car Park would cost in the region of £350 but, he felt that it might be less. He would carry out a survey to identify a suitable site. On the proposal of Cllr Andy Anderson, second by Cllr Derek Yeomans, it was unanimously agreed that a sign up to the cost of £350 be ordered for erection adjacent to the Air Ambulance Bin, stating that the parking of cars on the yellow hatched area was forbidden. Cllr Tony Greenaway enquired who had supplied the previous sign and advised that it was a company called Lamart. He pointed out that the signs for the defibrillator had been supplied by a company called Tor Signs and it might be worth approaching them as well.

509). **REPORTS FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

County Cllr Clare Aparicio Paul's report had been forwarded to the councillors for information. District Cllr Tiffany Osborne's report would feature in the Curry Rivel News.

510). **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr Andy Anderson referring to the Precept Budget to be set at the January meeting said he would like to establish a financial sub-committee to meet at the end of November or beginning of December to discuss the possible budget for the following year. Taking into account such things that we might need to budget for, such as elections which will be coming up next year. The Clerk would need to be there and he was happy to be on the committee as would Cllr Paul Deacon, the Vice-Chairman. The following councillors also volunteered to serve on the sub-committee:- Cllrs Derek Yeomans, Tony Greenaway and Robert Atkins. The idea would be to go through the Budget so that we can propose a Precept in the January meeting to be endorsed by a full Council at that meeting.

Cllr Andy Anderson advised that the funeral of Madelaine King-Oakley would take place next Monday at 11am at St. Andrew's Church.

511). **Councillors Reports**

a). Cllr Tony Greenaway said he had received a telephone call from a gentleman from CCS at Somerset County Council to do with Neighbourhood Planning. He felt it was quite encouraging because there were very positive terms about a slimming down process. There is money available for consultancy

work and he is quite keen to come along and address the Parish Council at a future meeting. He would give him the dates of our future meeting and he would get in touch with us.

- b). Cllr Tony Greenaway said that he had gone to the Planning Seminar organised by SALC last Thursday only to find that it had been cancelled and he had not been advised. They said that all the Clerks had been advised. The Clerk had checked back through her emails and could find no record of one being received.

512). **ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA**

- a). Proposal from Cllr Paul Deacon for a couple of footpath gates at Eastfield.

CHAIRMAN_____ **DATE**_____