

CURRY RIVEL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2016 @ 7.30pm IN THE VILLAGE HALL

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

264). **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

265). **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

266). **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 4th AUGUST 2016**

The Minutes of the meeting, having been circulated to the members, were approved and signed by the Chairman on the proposition of Cllr Tiffany Osborne, seconded by Cllr Tony Greenaway. Cllrs Mike Cousins and Peter Goodenough abstained from the vote as they had not been present at the meeting.

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

a). **Rotary Club's planting/ Britain in Bloom**

Referring to Minute 259 on the September minutes, Cllr Peter Goodenough advised that with the help of Neil Combes, they have managed to rotovate an area of grass in front of the Twinning Association's tree ready to put the crocus bulbs in. It was intended to plant them in containers which could be taken out of the ground when the season is over, ready for the next planting. He requested permission to purchase the containers which would cost approximately £50. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that we have a budget of £1,000 in respect of the Britain in Bloom work. It was unanimously agreed that the containers should be purchased but, the order should be placed in the name of the Parish Council in order that the vat could be reclaimed.

Cllr Peter Goodenough said that he and his wife had met with the people who have purchased the house behind the War Memorial. They had a very constructive discussion about how he would like to see a fence provided to maintain his privacy and security in the event of the removal of some of the large established bushes. The Clerk advised that she had received an email from Mr Jeffrey expressing his concerns and this had been forwarded to the councillors for information.

Cllr Peter Goodenough said that a lot of people had indicated they would like to sponsor plants for Britain in Bloom. There is a group of people led by Julian Jewel who want to put plants into troughs on a platform going down the road from Derek Annetts. Everything was going very well.

b). **Overgrown hedging**

Cllr Robert Atkins drew attention to the overgrown hedging on Well Cottage at Townsend. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that she had visited the property but, there was no-one in at the time. She would follow this up. Cllr Robert Atkins also referred to hedging in Heale Lane which had been decimated by the resident at No. 16 Burton Close. It was understood that this was a District Council matter which was ongoing. Cllr Tiffany Osborne said the resident had not been aware that they should not have removed the hedging and have stopped ripping out any further hedging. The District Council would be contacting the residents who had complained to update them on the situation. Cllr Robert Atkins felt that it was worth recording that he had been approached by a number of residents

who were thoroughly upset about it and expect to see the hedge re-instated. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that this was a matter for the District Council to deal with.

Cllr Paul Deacon referred to the overgrown hedging from Townsend to the School. He asked whether it would be possible to write to the residents twice a year reminding them of their responsibility to keep the footpath clear because of the danger it creates when people are forced to walk out onto the road. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that a standard letter could be drawn up and despatched to the residents twice a year.

Cllr Paul Deacon had been advised by Jane Redgrove that there was a large amount of brambles growing on Eastfield that are pushing her hedge down and she would like them to be removed. She has obtained a quotation to have the remaining section of the hedge along her boundary removed together with the brambles for £150. A lengthy discussion followed, during which it was pointed out that three quotations should be obtained and this item placed on the agenda for the October meeting. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that we could state a maximum of £150 to be agreed at that meeting and attention was drawn to the fact that the Clerk could ratify expenditure of up to £200 in respect of a matter of urgency. The sum of £150 was duly ratified by the Clerk.

c). **Complaints about unsavoury human deposits around the village**

Cllr Tony Greenaway had received a complaint from Mrs Linham about unsavoury human deposits in Butts Lane and Heale Lane. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley recommended that she should contact the Environment Health Department with photographic evidence if available.

d). **Potholes in Stanchester Way**

Cllr Tony Greenaway advised that two potholes had been filled in but, he still felt the road surface was in a poor state.

e). **The Pynsent Football Club**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley had been contacted by Debbie Haines who advised that there was the sum of £2,000 remaining in the Pynsent Football Club account which they would like to give to the Parish Council as the football club was no longer operating. She had advised Debbie Haines that the money would be earmarked for anything that is needed on Westfield.

f). **Request to have a Car Boot Sale in respect of Cancer Research on Eastfield**

The Clerk had advised the applicant that Eastfield was not a suitable location for a Car Boot Sale. A contact had recommended that she should approach the Cricket Club and the event would now be held there on the Club grounds.

g). **DeafPlus**

The advisory van for DeafPlus would be available adjacent to the Village Green on Thursday, 17th November between 1.00pm and 3.00pm.

Adjournment to Allow Public Comment

Leslie Macintyre had recently moved into the village and had been unable to locate the second Playground. She had looked on the Website to try and find the directions. It mentioned the Welcome Pack you were proposing to give to newcomers to the village. Although the Curry Rivel News is brilliant, you do not get a copy of it when you first move in. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley welcomed her to the village and she was introduced to Sylvia Goodenough.

Cllr Tony Greenaway said that there were a couple of people who wanted to add to the Welcome Pack and Sylvia Goodenough said that the Welcome Pack is going out with the Curry Rivel News. Cllr Tony Greenaway said that it was a question of discovering additional ways of finding out about new people moving into Curry Rivel

268). **PLANNING REPORT**

a). **Application received**

No. 16/03546/FUL

Erection of external covered smoking area. The Olde Forge Inn, Church Street, Curry Rivel, Langport.

On the proposition of Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley, seconded by Cllr Mike Cousins, it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council had no objections to raise in respect of this application.

b). **Application approved with conditions**

No. 16/02695/FUL

Erection of a 2 storey side extension, a single storey rear extension and a porch to front elevation. 57a Stanchester Way, Curry Rivel, Langport.

c). **Application withdrawn**

No. 16/02698/OUT

Outline application for residential development. Land rear of Warwick House, Wiltown Curry Rivel, Langport.

269). **FINANCE REPORT**

a). **Accounts for payment**

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

South Somerset District Council for the supply and fitting of 2 No. Litter Bins	£719.71 incl. vat
EDF Energy – Car Park Lighting	£ 80.38 incl. vat
EDF Energy – Changing Rooms (£47.00 paid by direct debt) bal. due	£ 18.10 incl. vat
Clerk’s monthly wage – Month 5	£326.80

b). A notification had been received from Zurich Insurance plc advising that in the Spring Budget the Chancellor had announced an increase in the rate of insurance Premium Tax from 9.5% to 10% with effect from the 1st October 2016 for all new policies and policies which renew from this date.

c). **Detailed Statement of Income & Expenditure to the end of August**

A copy of this document was circulated to the members for information. It showed a balance of £5,158.31 in the current account and £43,391.78 held in the Deposit Account.

d). **Burials in the Cemetery**

Cllr Paul Deacon referred to the column detailing the income from burials and was advised that the charges could be for the purchase of a plot, the interment fee or the charge for the erection of a memorial. The Clerk advised that the income had reduced since the Churchyard was re-opened for burials and parishioners preferred to be buried in the Churchyard.

Cllr Peter Goodenough said that municipal burial places around the country were re-using grave spaces if they have been there a very long time. Unless families have purchased grave spaces in perpetuity, they are being re-used. The Clerk advised that at present burials cannot take place unless the plot is purchased and plots are not allowed to be purchased in advance. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley recommended that we should review the burial fees when setting the budget for the next financial year.

270). **PROPOSAL TO PURCHASE BENCHES FOR THE TOWNSEND BUS STOP**

Cllr Paul Deacon has circulated a report to the members and said that we could accommodate two benches in the Bus Stop but, he felt that we only needed one bench. It does not necessarily need a back on it. The cost would be £231.00 plus vat with free delivery. The Bus Shelter had been partly

glass in the front and that has been taken away. Two metal posts have been put in to support the beam above. At the Townsend shelter one of the posts is missing altogether. The other one is there but, it is completely rusted up. There is a wooden beam across there and he felt that we should have a centre prop holding it up. He has obtained a quotation for two galvanised ones that will not rust. The cost would be £245.00 for two and we would have to arrange for them to be fitted. Cllr Mike Cousins said he would fit them. On the proposal of Cllr Derek Yeomans, seconded by Cllr Mike Cousins it was unanimously agreed that a budget of £550.00 be agreed to cover the cost of the purchase of a bench, two galvanised posts and the fitting costs.

271). **PROPOSAL TO REMOVE ONE BIN AND PURCHASE A BIN FOR HEALE LANE AND 3 BINS AT EASTFIELD & WESTFIELD**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that there has been a rationalisation concerning all of the bins. She had circulated a document containing a list of where the bins are located. These are emptied by SSDC and we are allowed a certain number of bins. She took the members through the list, indicating where new bins had been installed. The bin at L4 was recently installed on the Village Green; L6 was the new one in the Car Park to encourage children to put any litter into it; a new one in Heale Lane by the footpath to the Monument, this means we have to remove the dog bin at Parsonage by the bus stop. We have discovered that we can put everything, including dog mess, into a litter bin because it all goes to the same destination. In Chatham Place there is another dog bin we could re-site.

It would appear that Taunton Deane DLO empty the bin at Westfield when they cut the grass. It was proposed that we purchase a bin that could go beside the entrance to Westfield and another one to be sited near the MUGA. If we are going to permit dogs onto Westfield, these bins could be used for dog mess as well as general litter.

On the reverse of the list Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley had given some figures. The purchase of three new bins; dog bin to be removed at Parsonage Place and replaced at Chatham Place. The total comes to £1,989. If necessary it would reduce the bins at Westfield by one. Cllr Robert Atkins suggested that we should go for the total number. Cllr Tony Greenaway expressed concern about the road from Dyers Road to Currywoods Way and it was agreed to move D2 across to Currywoods Way. Cllr Peter Goodenough said that a lot of people walk up the footpath from Church Road, up along Hellards Hill Lane and down Butts Lane. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that one of the new dog bins will be opposite Butts Lane. She said there would be two votes, one for the junction of Currywood Way and the second one for the top of Butt Lane where it joins Hellards Hill. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that she would be investigating the supply of bin stickers which indicated that you could put dog waste into the normal litter bin.

A vote taken for the location of bins including Currywoods Way resulted in six in favour (Cllrs. Tony Greenaway, Mike Cousins, Tiffany Osborne, Andy Anderson and Derek Yeomans) (Cllrs Robert Atkins and Paul Deacon) abstained and Cllr Peter Goodenough voted against.

272). **QUOTATIONS FOR SIGNS AT WESTFIELD & EASTFIELD**

Cllr Paul Deacon said that some time ago it had been decided to replace the existing signs and replace them with the standard signs which just say 'NO DOGS'. If we agreed to do this, we need to decide the type of sign we use and the prices vary enormously. If you have them like a road sign with a 3-millimetre background they could cost up to £170 each. The other recommendation was to remove all the small A4 signs put up around the village by South Somerset District Council which reminded people to pick up their dog's mess and refers to a £1,000 fine for not doing so. These to be replaced with A5 signs with the wording 'Please clean up after your dog. Maximum Penalty £1,000'. The Environment Agency fix their signs on to galvanized plates and we could rivet ours onto some aluminium plates and this would cost about £10 a sign. The estimated cost for all of the signs was £90. He suggested that he be allowed the sum of £50 to buy the vinyl signs and plates and put them together to see whether they are durable enough.

Cllr Derek Yeomans proposed approval of the £90 option. Put the signs together and see if they are alright. Do not dispose of the signs that are taken down because we may need them in the future. This was seconded by Cllr Robert Atkins and unanimously agreed.

273). **PROPOSAL TO TAKE OUT SUBSCRIPTION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF SALC**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley proposed that the Parish Council should take out membership of the Somerset Association of Local Councils. The total price, including a discount for joining halfway during the year is £347.49. They offer support and advice when it is required but, they also provide various courses which the councillors could find very useful and she had details of the courses available. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Robert Atkins on the basis that at the end of the year we review the situation rather than automatically going ahead with renewal and this was unanimously agreed.

274). **PROPOSAL TO PURCHASE NEW NOTICEBOARD FOR THE CAR PARK**

The proposal to purchase a new noticeboard for the Car Park had come up during a meeting to discuss the Parish Plan. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley had carried out a quick search on the internet to gain some idea of costs. Having looked at the various options available, the cost would appear to be between £500 and £1,000. She suggested that following this meeting, the members should visit the Car Park to see where it could be located and give some thought as to whether it was considered to be a good idea. The members were asked to consider this proposal and it would be brought back for further consideration when more detailed costings would be made available.

275). **REPORT FROM CLLR PAUL DEACON**

a). **Grounds Maintenance – Spreadsheet of proposed actions.**

A copy of this document had been circulated to the members for information. Some of the items contained in his report had been dealt with earlier in the meeting.

b). **Curry Rivel Live**

Cllr Paul Deacon referred to the email received from Simon Champion in which he gave reasons why he would not be able to change the date to later in the year i.e. Aug/Sept. The email would be passed to the members for information and this item would feature on the October agenda.

c). **Flooding & FWAG - update**

Cllr Paul Deacon said that meetings had taken place with FWAG and many of the residents in Water Street. He was due to meet with one of the land owners in Water Street next week with FWAG to talk about the possibility of holding back water on their land. Some discussions have already taken place regarding Hilly Field in terms of doing works there to increase the existing capacity and other methods of holding back water that is coming down. The only way to deal with the issue concerning the School flooding is to put a large drain around the North and West walls of the Hall to take the water into the culvert.

Cllr Derek Yeomans suggested that Cllr Paul Deacon should get in touch with Karen Harwood at the Education Department of Somerset County Council because he felt that there was going to be some major work necessary and it was the responsibility of the County Council.

276). **PARISH PLAN**

a). **Letter to St. Andrew's requesting update of a possible telephone mast on the Church**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley would be writing to Mr De-Ronde concerning this matter.

b). **Welcome Pack**

Cllr Peter Goodenough advised that Sylvia Goodenough had created a Welcome Pack which contained twenty-eight different groups of which twenty-five had provided information. It contains all their contact details, advising when they meet and about one hundred words about what they are for. That will be produced for delivery to newcomers to the village. The people who deliver the Curry Rivel News will let us know when properties change hands and they are given a Welcome

Pack. They could produce the Welcome Pack for the cost required if so wished or you could obtain expensive quotes to be printed professionally. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that the councillors need to look at it but, she thought it looked very good and thanked them for undertaking the task.

277). **PROPOSAL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION REQUESTED BY SSDC – “condemning any forms of racism, intolerance. Bigotry or xenophobia”.**

A request had been received from South Somerset District Council to adopt the following resolution.

“In the wake of the recent killing of Jo Cox MP and the less savoury rhetoric of some in the referendum campaign, this Council wishes to make it clear that we, the councillors, are proud to represent a vibrant and diverse community. We totally condemn any form of racism, intolerance, bigotry or xenophobia. Hate crimes have no place in our society and we will do all we can to prevent them. The residents of South Somerset, whatever their gender, race, creed, age, colour or sexual orientation are treated equally.

And further, that the Council wish to send a clear message stating that:

“We are proud to live in a diverse and tolerant society. Racism, xenophobia and hate crimes have no place in our country. Our council condemns racism, xenophobia and hate crimes unequivocally. We will not allow hate to become acceptable. We will work to ensure that local bodies and programmes have the support and resources they need to fight and prevent racism and xenophobia. We reassure all people living in this area that they are valued members of our community.”

Following discussion during which various opinions were expressed, it was agreed that the Parish Council noted that this is recognition of the legal position and it was duly noted.

278). **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

a). **Police UK Report – June** (this is the latest report on the Website)

On or near Giles Close	-	Vehicle Crime
On or near Stanchester Way	-	Vehicle Crime
On or near Churchway Close	-	ASBO
On or near Church Street	-	Other Theft
On or near Chatham Rise	-	Other Crime
On or near Burton Close	-	Public Order

b). **Report from PC Toni Lines**

A report was not received this month.

c). **Speed Indicator Results**

This had been emailed to the members for information.

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

County Cllr Derek Yeomans warned that significant cuts would need to be made in the coming months. The four-year plan would also have to be signed up to by the 14th October.

The report of District Cllr Tiffany Osborne featured in the Curry Rivel News and on the Website.

280). **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that the owner of the fish and chip van that operates in the Car Park on a Wednesday had contacted her because he is having problems parking, which is going to have an effect on his business. She wondered whether it would be possible to obtain some bollards that could be used to reserve a space for him because we do not want to lose him.

281). **CORRESPONDENCE** (emailed to the members)

a). **SWP Brief Paper - New Recycling Measures**

b). **Grants for War Memorials – Wolfson Foundation**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley advised that she had emailed to Greg Venn, the Conservation Officer, informing him that we will be changing the garden on the War Memorial. We were also considering the possibility of fitting handrails to make it easier for people to go up and down the steps. She also enquired what we needed to tell him if we wished to change the surface around the War Memorial. There might also be the chance to obtain a grant if we wished to deal with the paving stones.

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

- a). Curry Rivel Live
- b). Proposal for Notice Board in Car Park

CHAIRMAN _____ DATE _____