

MINUTES OF MEETING
held on Thursday, 2nd February 2017 @ 7.30pm
in the Village Hall

**Curry
Rivel
Parish
Council** 
Above the levels

PRESENT: Cllrs Madelaine King-Oakley (Chairman), Andy Anderson, Mike Cousins, Peter Goodenough and Tiffany Osborne.

351). DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

As a member of the Village Hall Management Committee, Cllr Madelaine King Oakley declared an interest in Item 7(e) on the Agenda in respect of a proposal to purchase 80 plastic chairs from the Village Hall at a cost of £2 each and would leave the room during discussion of this item. Due to the absence of Cllr Derek Yeomans, the Vice-Chairman, it was necessary to appoint a Deputy Chairman for this item.

It was agreed that Cllr Andy Anderson should act as Deputy Chairman for this item on the proposal of Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley, seconded by Cllr Mike Cousins.

352). APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Robert Atkins, Paul Deacon, Tony Greenaway and Derek Yeomans.

353). MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 12th JANUARY 2017

On the proposition of Cllr Andy Anderson, seconded by Cllr Mike Cousins, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 12th January were approved and signed by the Chairman.

340). MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA

a). Gate erected on property on main road

Cllr Tiffany Osborne referred to a gate which had been erected without permission on the main road leading out of the village. It was understood that a retrospective planning application will be submitted to gain permission to retain it and that the field had been purchased.

b). Westfield Lane

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley advised that she had received an email from a resident expressing her concern because she understood that the lane was going to be dug up again for water pipes and electricity. Cllr Tiffany Osborne said that the owner of the field seems determined that he wants to put something there such as a caravan etc. He has been in touch with Western Power and has said that he is willing to pay them to carry out the necessary work. South Somerset District Council planners had contacted him to establish what he was doing and had been advised that it was for agricultural purposes. A temporary stop notice has been placed on it and the police have been informed. SSDC have done what they can but, it is a question of what happens after twenty-eight days because more hardcore has been delivered.

Adjournment to Allow Public Comment

Mr John de Ronde drew attention to the fact that the street lighting units in Stanchester Way now had white lighting and Cllr Mike Cousins said that it was LED lighting which was much cheaper to run.

341). **CONSULTATION IN RESPECT OF POSSIBLE PLANNING APPLICATION FOR A NEW DWELLING AT HOME FARM, WILTOWN.**

Henry Lang, the applicant, said that it would be tied to the land and could not be sold separately. The proposal was for a bungalow which looks in keeping with agricultural buildings. It is for a relative to live in who will run the farm. It would have a Biogest water system which would be placed where the land falls slightly and would not be very visible from the road. Following discussion, on the proposal of Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley and seconded by Cllr Mike Cousins, it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council had no objections to raise in respect of the proposed bungalow, the Parish Council was in favour because it would be occupied by someone employed in the area.

342). **PLANNING REPORT**

a). **Planning application consultation**

Application No. 17/00229/FUL

Proposal: Conversion of existing barn into a 3 bedroom dwelling (Revised application). Location: Oath Hill Barn, Wickmoor, Oath, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 0JP
Parish – **ALLER**

Although this application it is not in our Parish, it is adjacent to it and our comments were requested..
It was agreed that, as we had insufficient information, we offered no comment.

b). **Application received**

No. 17/00040/FUL

Single storey rear extension, removal of existing flat roof to garage to allow for new dual pitched roof and removal of existing flat roof to front dormer to allow new pitched roof element. April Cottage, Furlong Lane, Curry Rivel, Langport.

Following discussion, it was agreed, on the proposition of Cllr Andy Anderson, seconded by Cllr Tiffany Osborne, that the we had no objections to raise in respect of this application.

343). **FINANCE REPORT**

a). **Accounts for payment**

The following accounts were approved for payment on the proposition of Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley, seconded by Cllr Tiffany Osborne.

SSDC – 3 No. Waste Bins	£1,260.94 incl. vat
Then Media – Website Hosting	£ 226.80 incl. vat
Zurich Municipal Insurance Premium	£1,494.99
Clerk's Wages – Month 10	£ 326.80
Society of Local Council Clerks – subscription	£ 93.00
Cllr Peter Goodenough – Portfolio & plants for B.I.B.	£ 34.95

Cllr Peter Goodenough said that as we were meeting the Judges of the 'Britain in Bloom' event in the Village Hall, it should be decorated. It was suggested that, along the walls in the hall and on the railings outside we should have mangers with flowers and a wheelbarrow with flowers in it. The cost for this would be £76.16 plus vat and on the proposition of Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley, seconded by Cllr Tiffany Osborne, it was agreed that an order should be placed.

b). **Donations received**

The Clerk advised that she had paid in a cheque for £400 received from Nisa (Making a Difference Locally Ltd) and a donation for £100 received from Julia Jewel in respect of B.I.B.

c). **Proposal to place order for new village entrance road signs**

They would be supplied at no cost to the Parish Council and we would order them from Somerset County Council. The signs have a curve at the top and she recommended that we put our new logo

there with Curry Rivel and that it does not include reference to the Twinning Association. This could be on a separate sign which would probably have to be paid for by the Parish Council because, if the association was to close, the signs would have to be replaced. A detailed discussion followed on the background colour of the signs and the appropriate wording to be used. On the proposition of Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley, seconded by Cllr Andy Anderson, it was unanimously agreed that an order should be placed and suggestions were requested from the members for the actual wording to appear on the signs before finalising the order. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that Curry Rivel Britain in Bloom will be planting flowers below the signs.

- d). **Discussion of a request received from St. Andrew's Church to alter the grass cutting grant.**
Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that a grant had been approved last October for grass cutting in the Churchyard and John de Ronde has requested to alter the terms of that grant. There were two grass cuttings outstanding from the grant approved in 2016. He asked if the money in respect of the outstanding grass cutting could be used for tree surgery work necessary in the Churchyard. This was unanimously agreed on the proposition of Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley, seconded by Cllr Mike Cousins. We should ensure that only six cuts are invoiced by Taunton Deane DLO for the year 2016/2017 and that the invoice for the tree surgery work is issued in the name of the Parish Council in order that any vat could be reclaimed.
- e). **Review of Allotment Association's annual rent.**
The annual rent had been increased from £50 to £60 for the current year and Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley recommended that it should remain at £60. This was seconded by Cllr Mike Cousins and unanimously agreed.
- f). **Proposal to purchase 80 plastic chairs from the Village Hall Committee at a cost of £2 each. To be stored in our container for hire and use for outside events.**
Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley explained the proposal to the members and left the room whilst this item was discussed.

Cllr Andy Anderson took the Chair for this item. Cllr Peter Goodenough said he felt that £2 per chair was rather high when you can buy them on Ebay for 99p each. Cllr Andy Anderson asked if the members offered £1 each for the chairs would that be more realistic. Cllr Mike Cousins said that this was not a case of purchasing the chairs just to save money. We are putting something back into the Village Hall. Cllr Andy Anderson proposed that the Parish Council purchases 80 plastic chairs at £2 each from the Village Hall to be stored in the container at Westfield for use by the community. This was seconded by Cllr Mike Cousins and unanimously agreed. The question of dampness was raised and it was pointed out that this could be controlled in the container.

John de Ronde questioned whether the chair stackers for moving the plastic chairs would be made available and was advised that they would be. The new chairs would be provided with their own stackers. He enquired whether the plastic chairs would be available for hire and was advised that they would be.

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley resumed the Chair and was asked the amount of the grant received by the Village Hall for the purchase of the new chairs, trollies, dollies and tables. She advised that it was £7,532.

- g). **Quotations from Taunton Deane DLO for grounds maintenance & handyman duties.**
Cllr Paul Deacon had emailed the quotations received from Taunton Deane DLO in the sum of £6,950.90 plus vat, in respect of the Bus Shelters, War Memorial, Car Park, Village Seats, Cemetery and grass cutting in Westfield. He advised that their price had not changed from 2016/17. There may be a need to cut a path on Eastfield once or twice after June at a cost of £52.45 per cut all within the original £650.00 quoted.

Cllr Paul Deacon said he planned to cut half of Eastfield, to be used by CR Live, up to June and had received a quotation of £290.00 from Max von Tyska, who understands the management of the meadow. The area would then be allowed to grow and we would cut all of Eastfield in August for Hay. This work would probably be FOC.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley and seconded by Cllr Andy Anderson, that the above quotations be accepted and this was unanimously agreed.

344). **PARISH PLAN**

a). **Britain in Bloom - update**

Cllr Peter Goodenough said that, as reported in the January minutes, Shaun Cregan had visited the group and he had confirmed that we had entered the Cox Cup. He would walk the route on the 10th February and mentor our progress. The Primary School is enthusiastic to be involved with the Pitt Pageant on the Village Green. The Village Hall will be decorated with mangers on a wall of flowers and a wheelbarrow containing flowers. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that she had spoken to Sue Rendall and she will prepare a floral display for the foyer. Cllr Peter Goodenough pointed out that the judging could take place between the 5th and 15th July and we would have to check this nearer the date. Coates Willow have agreed to fence the War Memorial garden with a 4ft fence for £900 as agreed. Travis Perkins are sponsoring some of the hard landscaping around the War Memorial garden and have supplied over £100's worth of materials. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley suggested that a letter of thanks should be sent to Ian Ilot, the Manager of Travis Perkins in Langport.

Cllr Mike Cousins asked if any help was required. Cllr Peter Goodenough said that there were seven 4x4 posts 3 metres high for which holes have been dug but, they need to go a bit further through the rock and the holes finished to the whole depth. Offers of equipment, including a generator were made to carry out this work.

b). **Welcome Pack – update**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley felt this item needed further discussion because two different views had been put forward at the January meeting. One view was that it should be delivered to the door and the other view was to advertise it well and leave it to the person moving in to try and obtain it. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that she had been contacted by two ladies who said that they would be willing to deliver them to houses and welcome the new residents. There may be other volunteers to deliver the Welcome Pack. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley proposed that we trial the delivery of Welcome Packs by individuals to new residents, with packs available in appropriate places. This was seconded by Cllr Peter Goodenough and unanimously agreed.

345). **THE FENCE ON THE FOOTPATH LEADING TO THE CAR PARK – update**

Cllr Mike Cousins said that he and Cllr Derek Yeomans had been told that the footpath should be a minimum of five feet wide. They had measured the whole path and in some places it was only 4ft. There had also been complains about the width of the steps at the bottom of the footpath. Taking into account everything that had been said, it would appear that the only thing they were concerned about was a new fence. There was nothing wrong with the existing fence except the damage caused when the son was seen to kick the fence. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that as there would appear to be nothing wrong with the fence we could offer to apply a coat of preservative.

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that Cllr Robert Atkins has been speaking to the people who are responsible for registering footpaths at Somerset County Council. He has produced a form which has all the questions for residents to answer for submission to Somerset County Council with a request to register it as a footpath. She had run off twenty copies which will be handed out to people who have lived in the village for a long time, to complete. He has offered to collect the completed forms and take them into Somerset County Council. Because ours is a reasonably simple case, it might be possible to get it dealt with a bit earlier.

A lengthy discussion took place concerning the registering of ownership of the footpath and the Clerk would make the necessary enquiries.

Cllr Andy Anderson advised that the light in the corner of the footpath was not working and the Clerk was asked to arrange for it to be repaired.

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

- a). A written report had been received from County Cllr Derek Yeomans and had been circulated to the members for information.
- b). District Cllr Tiffany Osborne's report featured in the current issue of the Curry Rivel News

347). **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that she hoped that some of the councillors would join her at the Area North Parish Meeting at Compton Dundon on the 9th February.

She advised that she had met with Hags, the play equipment manufacturers and it has been decided where the Section 106 money will be spent on Westfield. There will be a Zip Wire, benches, seats, roundabout and a big tub swing. If we get the order in by next week, there is a good chance that we can have it completed by Easter weekend. We were still waiting for Section 106 money from the Heale Lane development. It would appear that, if the contractors are already on site then you do not have to put on any extra cost and you can buy some equipment at cost which they could install at the same time. She distributed some information which illustrated various items that could be considered and the decision was left to Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley.

348). **CORRESPONDENCE (emailed to members)**

- a). SSDC Area North Parish Meeting, 5.30pm 9th February at Compton Dundon Village Hall
- b). Regional Conference for all South West Town & Parish Councils, 9.30am 16th March at Taunton Rugby Club at a cost of £60. Cllr Andy Anderson said he would be interested in attending.
- c). Help Shut the Gate on Rural Crime – New Text No. 81819

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

- a). Community Grants
- b). Defibrillator – update
- c). Village Clean-up – 3rd/5th March – volunteers required

CHAIRMAN _____ **DATE** _____