

MINUTES OF MEETING
held on Thursday, 3rd AUGUST 2017 @ 7.30pm
in the Village Hall

**Curry
Rivel
Parish
Council**



Above the levels

PRESENT: Cllrs Madelaine King-Oakley (Chairman), Andy Anderson, Robert Atkins, Mike Cousins, Paul Deacon, Tony Greenaway, Tiffany Osborne and Derek Yeomans. County Cllr Clare Aparicio Paul was also in attendance.

449). **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

450). **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence had been received from Cllr Peter Goodenough.

451). **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THE 6th July 2017**

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.

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

a). Cllr Tony Greenway raised the question of Ragwort on the new development at Stanchester which is dangerous and poisonous. There is a legal requirement to remove it. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that she understood that the contractors were just starting to move away the mound containing the ragwort. It was pointed out that there had been ragwort in Eastfield and Cllr Paul Deacon advised that it had been cleared from Eastfield and the area is examined each year.

b). **Container East Westfield**

The Clerk enquired whether it had been agreed with Simon Champion that he could store some of his equipment in the Container at a charge of £5 per month and that he should contact Cllr Mike Cousins before depositing any items. A contract would be drawn up.

c). **South Somerset Links**

A review had been completed of all Community Transport operations. The SSVCA trustees have come to the unanimous conclusion that, in view of the level of passenger revenue and age of the vehicles, it is not viable to continue providing this service. It will cease operations on the 31st October 2017. As they are registered for Vat, Links fares will be subject to standard rate output tax. As result they would have to add VAT at 20% to fares as from 1st August for the remaining duration of the service.

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley advised that Town Cllr Janet Seaton was arranging a meeting for the 14th August and she had been invited to attend. Vice-Chairman Andy Anderson would also be attending.

County Cllr Clare Aparicio Paul said that since they had removed it from the Langport Office she, together with Cllr Janet Seaton, had been working really hard with the SSVCA to retain a service. There was no point in going over why it has gone wrong. All we need to do is ensure that it is going forward. She had a meeting with Gerard and Janet at the week-end and we may have an interim period to buy some time from when they cease to operate, for perhaps a period of three to four months. Then we would be looking for a longer term solution. It was also necessary to bring it back

to a more local service. When the service first started, it was very localised and was purely for people who had a struggle to get to the doctor's surgery or a hospital appointment. They are now going off to the hospital in Shepton Mallet and then they want to do their shopping on a round trip. It rather lost the ethos of the Links transport service being a local provision for local people. Perhaps we could take it back to that and almost effectively start again. To concentrate on our local provision and see if it grows again sustainably. It is hoped that we can take it this way forward at a meeting with the Clerks and Chairs of the various parishes. Cllr Derek Yeomans said that the vehicles in use were rather valuable because they did enable people to put their wheelchairs on the back. County Cllr Clare Aparicio Paul said that the SSVCA has given an undertaking that if we take the service on, in whatever form that might take, we would get these vehicles for a nominal £1 fee.

d). **SSDC Advertising Protocol**

The Clerk had forwarded to the councillors details of SSDC's advertising protocol that has been adopted to clarify responsibility for controlling signs and advertisements administered by its Development Control and Streetscene Services.

Adjournment to Allow Public Comment

453). **PLANNING REPORT**

a). **Parish Council consultation – amended plans**

No. 17/01063/OUT

Formation of new vehicular and pedestrian access points, residential development of land of up to 1000m² floor area and provision of sustainable drainage system including attenuation pond. Land East of Linton House, Langport Road, Curry Rivel

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley proposed that as the amended plans had only been received in the post today, discussion of this application would be deferred until the September meeting and this was agreed. The Clerk would ask John Millar, the Planning Officer dealing with this application, for an extension.

b). **Applications approved with conditions**

No. 17/01717/FUL

Erection of open-fronted agricultural building for the storage of agricultural machinery, equipment and fodder in association with the agricultural use of the land, retention of hard surfacing and retention of 2 x field shelters (retrospective). Land at Westfield Lane, Curry Rivel, Langport.

No. 17/02284/FUL and 17/2285/LBC

Alterations to include enclosing of open bays (shed) to form annexe and the erection of a triple detached garage. The Dovecote, Heale Lane, Curry Rivel, Langport.

No. 17/02357/FUL

Erection of rear extension. Corinium Cottage, Wiltown, Curry Rivel, Langport.

No. 17/02467/FUL

Conversion of integral garage into a playroom to include removal of garage door and replacement window. 82A Stanchester Way, Curry Rivel, Langport.

No. 17/02418/FUL

The erection of a single storey front extension to existing porch (retrospective). The Meadows, Townsend, Curry Rivel, Langport.

No. 17/02684/FUL

The erection of fencing and installation of 2 No. gates. (retrospective). Wynnards, Dyers Road, Curry Rivel,

Langport.

c). Application refused

No. 17/01166/OUT

The erection of 1 No. dwellinghouse (Outline). Land at Former Environment Agency Depot, Back Lane, Curry Rivel, Langport.

454). FINANCE REPORT

a.i). Accounts for payment

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

Solutions Audio Visual Ltd – Samsung Display & tilt bracket	£1,099.20 incl. vat
South Somerset District Council – Play Equipment Inspection	£ 250.00
Then Media – Website	£ 363.60 incl. vat
Peter Goodenough – Britain in Bloom	£ 79.00
Active Somerset – Play Day Grant	£ 465.00
Clerk’s Salary – Month 4	£ 332.00
EDF Energy – Car Park electricity	£ 68.70 incl. vat

a.ii). Zurich Insurance

The Clerk advised that she had increased the insurance cover in respect of the new play equipment and enquired whether the new Display Screen should be included on our insurance. Following discussion, it was agreed to discuss this with Myfanwy Ashton, the Treasurer of the Village Hall Management Committee, as the Screen would be installed in the Village Hall.

a.iii). Cheque issued in respect of the new Play Equipment

The Clerk advised that Natwest had refused the cheque for £27,264.00 issued in respect of the new Play Equipment because of the signatures on the cheque. It had been signed by Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley and Cllr Derek Yeomans. Following a very long telephone call the bank apologised and admitted it was their mistake. This was followed by a letter saying that they would not be making a charge for the original cheque.

a.iv). Change of Bank

The Clerk advised that she had visited the Taunton branch of Natwest with a view to moving our accounts there when the Langport branch was closed. She would obtain new bank mandates to be signed by the councillors and apply for a credit card.

b). Quotation for repair of fence on footpath to the Car Park – Clerk to report

The Clerk had applied for three quotations and had received only one reply from Taunton Fencing Company in the sum of £965 plus vat.

A quotation had also been received from Jeff Haines who advised that only four of the panels really needed to be replaced and the entire fence to be treated with a protective finish. His quotation was £20 for labour and £185 for materials. It was proposed by Cllr Derek Yeomans and seconded by Cllr Andy Anderson that Jeff Haines quotation be accepted. A letter would be sent to Mrs Linham advising her that the necessary work would be carried out by Jeff Haines and it was necessary to give him access to her land.

c). Quotations for levelling the ground in front of the seat adjacent to the Village Green and covering with paving stones or concreted.

The Clerk said that when speaking to Jeff Haines he had offered to level the ground and cover it with slabs in front of the seat free of charge.

As agreed, Cllr Paul Deacon had asked Andy Jones for a quotation and he had said £45.00 for putting scalping down to level the ground or £250 to put blue lias down.

Cllr Derek Yeomans proposed that we accept the offer made by Jeff Haines and this was seconded by Cllr Andy Anderson. A vote taken resulted in seven in favour (Cllrs Andy Anderson, Robert Atkins, Mike Cousins, Paul Deacon, Tony Greenaway, Tiffany Osborne and Derek Yeomans) with one abstention (Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley).

d). **Quotations for repairs to existing play equipment at Westfield**

Cllr Paul Deacon had suggested that repairs to the climbing wall could be done by ourselves. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley asked if he had looked at the flooring because she felt that we needed to do a major job there. For insurance purposes, she felt that they would prefer a professional company to carry out this work. Also, when we were having new equipment put in she had asked the fitter about the floor area. They have plastic squares all around the equipment but, small gaps are appearing which are enough to trap a toe if someone trips over it. She had emailed Rob Parr and asked for the names of some companies he could recommend.

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley pointed out that we had received the sum of £2,290 from the Football Club when it closed. She drew attention to the Dug-Out on the left-hand side of the football field which is in a very dangerous condition. She is also going to ask Rob Parr if there is some sort of Dug-Out that we could replace it with, using these funds. Cllr Paul Deacon said he would also examine the Dug-Out. Cllr Mike Cousins requested that we discuss the Changing Rooms at the next meeting and ask for this to be placed on the Agenda.

455). **SSDC CONTRACTOR – update by Cllr Paul Deacon**

Cllr Paul Deacon said that last month there had been a few teething issues which have been sorted. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley drew attention to the fact that they had painted the Bus Shelter and seats which looked very nice.

456). **DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING – update by Cllr Tony Greenaway**

Cllr Tony Greenaway said that the Defibrillator Training day would take place on the 14th October in the Old School Room from 9.30 to 12.30 and sixteen people have registered with a couple of stand-bys. Those attending would be asked for a contribution of £5. There is a charge of £32 for the hire of the hall.

457). **STREET NAMING SIGNS – update**

The Clerk advised that she had received an email from Denise Wallace, giving the following information:-

So far, the list of Street Nameplates (SNPs) to be erected is:-

Brickwall Lane x 2 (Back Lane on your plan) – one at the junction with A378, one at crossroads with Drayton Lane/Back Lane

Brickwall Lane is the road name from the junction with A378 to the crossroads with Drayton Lane/Back Lane

Drayton Lane x 2 - 2 at crossroads with Brickwall Lane/Back Lane

Back Lane x 2 - 1 at crossroads with Brickwall Lane/Drayton Lane, one at junction with B3168

Wiltown x 1 – at junction with A378. Highways signage indicates B3168, see attached photos.

Holdens Way x 1 – at junction with A378

The only query so far is the name for Brickwall Lane, which we call Back Lane on our plan.

Cllr Paul Deacon asked whether a decision had been made at County level not to clean finger signs anymore. County Cllr Clare Aparicio Paul said there was a move towards Parish and Town Councils using their Precept money more wisely for whatever their community needs. If the cleaning of

'finger signs' is a top priority it is hope they would consider undertaking it. Following a lengthy and lively discussion, it was decided that Cllr Paul Deacon would see what he felt was the first priority. It might also be necessary to seek additional volunteers to assist.

The Clerk raised the question of the disputed invoice received from Taunton Deane DLO for work carried out prior year which had yet to be settled. Following discussion, it was recommended that the Clerk should ask for an amended invoice based on the figure that Cllr Paul Deacon has confirmed as being due for the work actually carried out.

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

County Cllr Clare Aparicio Paul referred to a trial Newsletter which had been sent out by County Cllr Leader David Fothergill called Effort Phase. He is hoping that we will all present a united informative front. She would continue to use the Blue Sheet and her own sheet. She referred to the road works on the A358 on Mile Hill and despite asking for very clear signage, we have various rat-runs being used and we will have to spend just as much money repairing them.

A written report had been received from County Cllr Derek Yeomans and this had been emailed to the councillors.

District Cllr Tiffany Osborne's report would feature in the Curry Rivel News.

459). **COUNCILLORS' - update**

Cllr Tony Greenaway advised that the display screen had now been installed in the Village Hall and was up and running. Information concerning events being presented by the various groups and organisation should be sent to the Website if they wished them to be displayed.

460). **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley wished to set a date for the Litter Pick next year. Cllr Paul Deacon asked if the Parish Council could purchase a couple of litter pickers and Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that if approached, Streetscene Services might give them to us. A date was set for 24th/25th March 2018.

CHAIRMAN_____ DATE_____