

CURRY RIVEL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 4th AUGUST 2016 @ 7.30pm IN THE VILLAGE HALL

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

248). **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

249). **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Mike Cousins and Peter Goodenough.

250). **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7th JULY 2016**

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

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

a). **Meeting to discuss funding opportunities for a new station in the vicinity of Somerton and Langport.**

An email had been received from Mike O'Dowd-Jones, Strategic Commissioning Manager, Highways & Transport, SCC., advising that a meeting will be held on Friday, 14th October at 10am at SSDC Offices at Brympton Way. The meeting will not be a public meeting and will be by invitation only. If anyone wished to attend they should advise the Clerk accordingly.

b). **South Somerset District Council – Area North Team July 2016**

The Clerk had forwarded details of the members of this Team to the councillors.

c). **Road surface at the top of Stanchester Way where it meets Dyers Road**

Cllr Tony Greenaway had emailed photographs showing the badly damaged state of the road at the top of Stanchester Way. Following discussion, it was agreed that the email with photographs would be forwarded to Cllr Derek Yeomans and he would take the matter up with the appropriate authority.

d). **County Cllr Derek Yeoman's Monthly Letter**

Emails of Cllr Derek Yeoman's monthly letters were not reaching the Clerk and in future she would get them off the Community Website and forward them to the members.

e). **Rubbish behind the Bus Stop at Townsend**

The Clerk had followed up the removal of this rubbish and it was reported that it had now been removed.

f). **Work carried out by Taunton Deane DLO**

Cllr Paul Deacon said that following a meeting last month he had looked at the work carried out by Taunton Dean DLO. He had now prepared a list of all the works so that we can get Tenders next spring.

g). **Bus Shelters**

Cllr Paul Deacon advised that the bus shelter at Townsend should have two metal supports. One is missing and the other is badly rusted through and should be removed. He felt that whilst there were no longer tiles on the roof, it is just fibreglass and not the weight that there used to be, we still needed a support there. It was agreed that he should get estimates for the work to be confirmed at the September meeting.

h). **Signage**

Cllr Paul Deacon drew attention to the fact that the Scouts Group have not used Eastfield for the last three years and had no intention to do so. If they did wish to they would give at least six months' notice. Could he now take down the large 'no dogs allowed' signs? Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that the signs could be taken down but, not the posts. Following discussion, it was agreed that he should get quotations for smaller signs which advised dog owners to clear up after their dogs or be faced with a large fine.

i). **Barrier over the gate at Eastfield**

Cllr Derek Yeomans said that he was still waiting for an estimate and had sent an email to Chris Aplin.

Adjournment to Allow Public Comment

Robert Crowley said there were a couple of issues on planning. He asked if whether a Section 106 was applicable in respect of the Bell Hotel. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said there was a Section 106 but, she had not looked at the Website. Cllr Derek Yeomans said that there was a great deal of information concerning Section 106 agreement contained in the Area North Minutes published on the District Council Website.

Robert Crowley also asked whether there was any news about the development at Stanchester Way. Cllr Tony Greenaway said that he had heard unofficially that work will commence next year.

252). **TO ALLOW DOGS ON EASTFIELD**

Cllr Paul Deacon drew attention to the fact that we had not officially agreed at the July meeting to allow dogs on to Eastfield. Cllr Paul Deacon proposed that the Parish Council allow dogs on to Eastfield and that appropriate signs are erected advising that it was an offence to allow dogs to foul the area. This was seconded by Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley and unanimously agreed. Cllr Tony Greenaway referred to the provision of bins.

253). **PLANNING REPORT**

a). **Application received**

No. 16/02934/FUL

Lifeways Community Care. Change of use of part of existing care facility to provide offices. Townsend House, Townsend, Curry Rivel, Langport.

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

b). **Applications approved with conditions**

No. 15/04736/FUL & No. 15/04737/LBC

Erection of a dwelling, car port and revised alterations to existing access and driveway (GR:338917/125157). The Limes, High Street, Curry Rivel, Langport.

No. 15/03343/FUL & No. 15/03344/LBC

Amek Investments (Commercial) Ltd. Conversion of existing public house/hotel into six self-contained dwellings and one commercial unit and provision of associated landscaping and car parking area. (GR: 339184/125174). Bell Hotel, High Street, Curry Rivel, Langport.

No. 16/02052/LBC

Single storey rear extension to create storage area (part retrospective). The Olde Forge Inn, Church Street, Curry Rivel Langport.

No. 16/02279/S73A

Application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of planning approval 13/02721/FUL to allow the substitution of plans; to alter the design of the dwelling on Plot One and provide a detached garage to match that approved for Plot Two instead of an integral garage. Land adjacent to Breach Cottage, Currywoods Way, Curry Rivel, Langport.

No. 16/01999/LBC

Obtain permission for the re-opening of middle window on first floor from elevation and removal of existing porch over front door. Rest Harrow, Wiltown, Curry Rivel, Langport.

254). **FINANCE 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:-

HMRC – PAYE Months 1/3	£ 69.60
Clerk’s Wages – Month 4	£326.80
SSDC – Changing Room Rates (balance)	£114.00
SSDC – Cemetery (balance)	£186.00
Then Media - Website Upgrade (balance)	£800.00

b). **Proposal to fund up to £100 support of Local Business Training Course**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that she had spoken to Janet Seaton who is Chairman of Langport Town Parish Council. One of the things they had become aware of is that there is not enough accommodation in this area for tourists and other visitors. Patricia Marks of Somerton Business Agency sorts out all the funding for running a series of workshops in Curry Rivel, Langport and Somerton, to encourage people who have never run a business to come and seek advice and maybe let a room. For renting a room you can earn up to £7,200, tax free under the Government’s Rent a Room provision. It was suggested that we should pay for the room hire and support them with some of the refreshments as well. Langport and Somerton have agreed. She had been asked to see if Curry Rivel would agree.

Cllr Derek Yeomans said he did not disagree with it but, it would have to be well presented because on average you do not get many takers. You do not want to spend £100 when you are only going to get two people coming along out of interest. If you are going to ask people to dedicate space in their own houses there could be problems because you will need to have access to the Internet. It is going to be quite a challenge to provide that even for £7,000 a year. Cllr Tony Greenaway said that it has also got to be well marketed to get people there in the first place. There is a shortage of accommodation in the village and around. If people knew that they could earn £7,000 a year tax free by letting out a room, there would be a number of people who would take it up. Cllr Derek Yeomans pointed out that Great Bow Wharf has a hub there which is reasonably cheap to use. They have fast broadband and all the facilities there, including a café. It has been there a long time and not many people use it because it has not been marketed widely enough. Cllr Tony Greenaway had experience in providing accommodation and offered his assistance.

Cllr Derek Yeomans proposed that funding up to £100 in support of Local Business Training Course be approved and this was seconded by Cllr Tony Greenaway. It was unanimously agreed.

c). **Curry Rivel Combined Charities Year End Accounts to 31st March 2016.**

The Clerk advised that she had received a copy of this eleven-page document and it would be filed in the Minute Book. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley gave a brief history of the Combined Charities for the benefit of the new Parish Councillors. At present it is run by John Hunt and Kathleen Gardner represents the Parish Council. The Trustees approve a Christmas gift to certain elderly people in Curry Rivel and Hambridge in need of assistance. Grants can also be made for educational purposes.

255). **PARISH PLAN**

a). **Community Flood Group – update**

Cllr Paul Deacon said he had met with Joanna Uglow of FWAG and they suggest that we quote flooding data from residents. The main problem he was aware of in the parish was flooding over the last seven years due to flash flooding coming from Water Street. He has had a lot of useful conversations with residents in Water Street and he has put together a plan with FWAG's initial help. We have a very good picture of where the flooding comes from and how it flows down Water Street. The intention now was that we write to all of the residents. Cllr Derek Yeomans said that if you look at the Highways Report there are major improvements due to be done to the drainage system in Water Street at the end of this year. Cllr Paul Deacon said that every time they improve the water management in Water Street they are actually bringing more water down quickly to the area around the Primary School. He could make available copies of his conversations with FWAG and their response with the maps that we have. The next step in terms of Water Street and the Primary School is for him to invite a representative from the Parish Council and representatives from the residents to join our FWAG action group. Essentially to get out there when it is raining, take photographs etc. FWAG are going to talk to land owners. Cllr Derek Yeomans suggested that we should contact Gary Warren to establish the extent of the remedial work to be carried out.

256). **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

a). **Police UK Report**

There was no new information on the Website.

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

On the Avon and Somerset system for Area North, we have had 136 investigated crimes reported for the month of July 2016 and there were 27 arrests. There have been 20 reports of ASB for Area North.

257). **COMMUNITY WEBSITE PROMOTION – update**

The members had the opportunity to view the upgraded Website and it was agreed that Cllr Tony Greenaway and Kevin Loe had done an excellent job.

258). **CONSIDERATION OF A VILLAGE LOGO**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley said that it had been felt that we should seriously think about what logo we should use in the village. She had been unable to contact Tim Schroeder and hoped to be able to speak to him at the Flower Show on Saturday to see if he would have any objections to our using a picture of the Burton Pynsent Monument. The members were able to see the use on the Website. She felt we should be considering, like most villages around here, adopting a symbol that reflects our village. It would be lovely to see it at the entrances to the village. She had prepared a document and would forward it to the members for information and recommended that they should look at what Somerton has. She had made enquiries about how much it would cost and it is free except for producing the PDF's to do some colour work for new road signs. We can ask for those at any time. At the same time, she pointed out that the 'Britain in Bloom' group are quite keen to have something which looks attractive when entering the village with planters which they would be responsible for the planting. For three entrances we would need one license and the legal fees would be in the region of £700. However, if we planted directly into the ground it would not cost anything and would not need a license. They would need to give consent as to what was planted. She thought it would be an improvement if planters could be provided so that notices of events could be put into the front of them and this would look tidier.

259). **ROTARY CLUB'S PLANTING**

Rotary have been supporting the eradication of Polio throughout the world and there are now only two countries with Polio. Six thousand purple crocuses are being purchased to plant in the various villages in this area. Cllr Peter Goodenough has been approached to plant 300 bulbs on the piece of

land adjacent to the petrol station. Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley proposed that permission be given to plant the bulbs. This was seconded by Cllr Derek Yeomans and unanimously agreed.

260). **REPORTS FROM COUNTY DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Derek Yeomans said that he was concerned about the hiving off of what is really a major part of our Care Act over to a company that is not totally good. This is because of the over-spend that we have at the moment. This is likely to happen more and more as we out-source many of our internal services.

District Cllr Tiffany Osborne's monthly report is featured in the Curry Rivel News and on the Website.

261). **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley reported that the rubbish has been removed from behind the bus shelter. She had met with Street Scene this month and there is a new bin by the Townsend bus shelter and in Dyers Road. She would like to get a supply of the signs that you can put on the litter bins to say that that dog faeces can also go into them. She will arrange for the removal of the dog bin from Parsonage Place and install litter bin up to Heale Lane following costings approval at the next meeting.

262). **CORRESPONDENCE**

- a). Invitation to Town & Parish Councils Information Session – Housing & Employment Land Availability Assessment. 21st September at Edgar Hall, Somerset, at 8pm. An invitation for two representatives to attend. It was felt important that a representative should attend and that Cllr Mike Cousins should be approached.

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

- a). Quotations for new signs at Westfield & Eastfield to be obtained by Cllr Paul Deacon.
b). Estimates for repairs to the Bus Shelter to be obtained by Cllr Paul Deacon
c). Welcome Pack – progress report
d). Parish Plan - update

CHAIRMAN _____ DATE _____