

MINUTES OF MEETING
held on Thursday, 7th DECEMBER 2017 @ 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, Tony Greenaway, Tiffany Osborne and Derek Yeomans.

512). DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Derek Yeomans declared a personal interest in the Planning Applications Nos. 17/00917/COU and 17/00918/OUT in respect of the King William Inn.

513). APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Madelaine King-Oakley and Peter Goodenough.

514). MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THE 2nd NOVEMBER 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 Tony Greenaway.

515). MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA

a). **Notice Board by the One Stop Shop**

Cllr Tiffany Osborne said that if anyone needed to put a notice in this notice board who did they contact and was advised that the Clerk has the keys in the absence of Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley. Cllr Andy Anderson advised that the old notice board that had been outside the One Stop Shop was now in the Shelter near the bus stop and he also has the keys and will put a note in advising people how they can get notices on the boards.

b). **Stanchester Way Development**

Cllr Tiffany Osborne said that the developers had enquired what the appropriate way was to go about having a public consultation concerning the next stage of the development. Cllr Mike Cousins recommended they book the village, build a model of the proposed development and explain to the residents what they plan to do. Cllr Andy Anderson recommended that they liaise with the Clerk to book a date at the Village Hall and then advertise the event on the Community Website and in the Curry Rivel News. Cllr Derek Yeomans said that such consultations normally last about two to three hours and recommended it should be between 5pm and 7pm and it needs to be well advertised.

c). **Signage Cleaning**

Cllr Tiffany Osborne asked whether we had heard back from the County Highways. Cllr Paul said that, basically, you are not able to do anything about the signs unless authorised and they have never organised a course. This applies to finger posts as well. There is a 104-page handbook on the history of them but, there is no way we can do anything about them. We need to chase up the Street Works section which covers everything. Cllr Mike Cousins that he has a supervisor's ticket. An operative's ticket is a one-day course and a supervisor's ticket is about a week. Cllr Derek Yeomans said that if we were to go down that route he suggested that we should look at obtaining a battery driven needle gun. Cllr Tony Greenaway asked if this was something that we as a Parish Council were doing ourselves.

Cllr Paul Deacon pointed out that the County Council does not have a budget for cleaning signs. Cllr Tony Greenaway wondered if there was someone in the village who might have the necessary qualifications. Following discussion, it was decided to put an item on the Community Website and in the Curry Rivel News. Cllr Tony Greenaway said that it was nice to see some new street signs that have been erected in the village.

d). **Overgrown bushes and hedging**

Cllr Tiffany Osborne reported that half way up Brickwall Lane on the left-hand side the bushes and hedging have become very overgrown and we cannot cut it because we do not know who owns the land behind it. The land behind it backs onto the children's Play Area. Cllr Derek Yeomans advised that it was South Somerset District Council land.

She also drew attention to the footpaths going from Ron Bracken's house at the edge of Curry Rivel down to Sandpits Hill, the pavements are getting very difficult to walk along now. She thought that Ron Bracken owns one of the fields. Do we know who owns the field near Sandpits Hill. We needed to establish who owns this field and ask them carry out the necessary maintenance work.

516). **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

The Chairman had brought this item forward so that PCSO Carole Brown could make her report. She advised that outbuildings were still being attacked, farm buildings mainly with very expensive equipment being taken. She repeated her earlier warning of the importance of ensuring everything is locked securely. She also drew attention to a scam in operation where someone will be either telephone or a letter will be sent which looks quite official saying that someone will be calling to give you your new card. This person comes with a card looking very legitimate and as they leave they ask for your old card and unfortunately some people have handed them over.

Adjournment to Allow Public Comment

Robert Crowley advised that on the 21st November there had been three sessions of Speedwatch at various locations at 8am., 12 noon and 3pm. Seventeen speeders had been recorded. It was worth doing but, we only catch the speeders when we are there. He considered there was still a lot of speeding going on. Cllr Andy Anderson said that he understood that we would be losing the SIDs at the end of the financial year. Cllr Derek Yeomans said that they require high maintenance and they are too expensive to replace and they will cease to be used as from March next year. We could enquire from Mr Grabham whether they can be sold on or whether they are coming to the end of their life and Cllr Derek Yeomans would make enquiries. Cllr Andy Anderson thanked Robert Crowley and the Speedwatch team for their excellent work.

Cllr Derek Yeomans advised that there was a PACE meeting on the 17th February at the Edgar Hall at 6.30pm where you can go along and talk to the Police about your concerns.

517). **PLANNING REPORT**

a). **Application received**

17/04408/FUL

The erection of 1 No. dwelling, Land adjacent to Digswell, Sandpits Hill, Curry Rivel, Langport.

The Clerk advised that she had never received the original documentation sent out in respect of this application and had only just received a duplicate the day before this meeting. Nobody had had a chance to look at the plans. It was not even on the District Council's website until late evening yesterday. The application was for a bungalow and the plans were displayed on the screen showing the location and there appeared to be some concern about the public right of way and there were several conditions that the County Highways have put on regarding the right of way which would need to be investigated. Cllr Mike Cousins said

he would be surprised if they got planning permission because The Oaks, which is a bit further had some land next to it and had applied twice for planning permission to build a bungalow and on both occasions, was turned down. As there had been insufficient time to study the plans and visit the site, the Clerk was instructed to ask for an extension.

b). Applications approved with conditions

No. 17/03817/FUL

Demolition of residential outbuildings and erection of a new 1.5 storey dwelling and three bay Carport (revised application). Hill Crest, Sandpits Hill, Langport.

No. 17/03913/FUL

The erection of an outbuilding. 45 Stancheater Way, Curry Rivel, Langport.

No. 17/03982/FUL

The erection of 1 No. dwelling (revised application). Land adjacent to The Poplars, Water Street, Curry Rivel, Langport.

c). The following planning applications will be considered by the District Council's Area Committee on Wednesday 13th December at Norton Village Hall

No. 17/00917/COU

Change of use of public house (Use Class A4) to 1 No. dwelling with associated parking. King William Inn, Langport Road, Curry Rivel, Langport.

No. 17/00918/OUT

Outline application for the erection of one detached dwelling with associated parking. King William Inn, Langport Road, Curry Rivel. Langport.

Cllr Andy Anderson said that he was unfamiliar with this committee process. Cllr Derek Yeomans said that the two applications in respect of The King William Inn were unusual because the property was subject to a community buy-out and a moratorium has been declared which lapses on the 9th December. It then ceases to be valid and after that the applications can be heard. Basically, they have to advertise for a stated period of time that the place is up for sale publicly, which they have done. The moratorium will have lapsed and there is no control over the planning applications. The applications will then be presented there and you have to find valid planning reasons why you can recommend refusal of those planning applications. Although we have recommended refusal they will require additional comments to those already made. Cllr Tiffany Osborne said that if the village want to protect the King William Inn and keep it as it is, someone needs to go to that meeting to speak on behalf of the villagers. Cllr Derek Yeomans said that he would be Chairing that meet and would not be tolerating any personal comments or anything that is not purely planning rational. Cllr. Paul Deacon said that it was a change of use that was being challenged. Cllr Derek Yeomans said you cannot challenge it because they have been advertising it for sale. At the moment he could not see any valid reason for refusal because they have a right to reply to change of use. They want to sell the public house because it is not viable. Cllr Paul Deacon said we know it is viable. Cllr Derek Yeomans said you could not say this because you are not in charge of the pub. Cllr Tiffany Osborne said that whilst we were having to make a decision here, we had questioned how could we agree to this change of use based on the fact that it is not a viable business when we are not able to view the accounts. The accounts were held as being confidential. Cllr Paul Deacon said that if they are applying for change of use because the public house is not viable, that means that they cannot get the money they want. If it is put on the open market, people will buy it but, not for the price that they want. Cllr Andy Anderson said that with the possible consultation that is in progress now, for possibly increasing the size of Curry Rivel, would that add weight to the argument for retaining the pub.

Cllr Andy Anderson asked if there was a councillor who would attend the District Council meeting on the 13th December meeting and give a three-minute presentation on why the Parish did not support the proposed change of use for the King William Inn. Comments made would have to be in addition to those already made. The officer's report would be available five days prior to the meeting. Cllr Paul Deacon offered to attend.

No. 17/03388/FUL

Proposed new single storey dwelling on land associated with Stancrest including works to an existing access. Stancrest, Currywoods Way, Curry Rivel, Langport.

The Parish Council had previously advised that it had no valid objections to the above planning application but, there had been several objections submitted by residents and the planners had refused it.

518). **FINANCE REPORT**

a). **Accounts for payment**

The following accounts were approved for payment on the proposition of Cllr Derek Yeomans, seconded by Cllr Tony Greenaway, the following accounts were approved for payment:-

Curry Rivel Village Hall – rent in respect of Curry Rivel in Bloom	£ 100.00
Somerset Association of Local Councils – renewed subscription	£ 585.75
Society of Local Council Clerks – subscription	£ 100.00
SAS Welding Services – Proforma – materials and consumables – Dug-out	£ 120.00 incl. vat
SAS Welding Services – Proforma – Labour - Dug-out	£ 324.00 incl. vat.
Peter Nyssen Ltd – bulbs and plants for Curry Rivel in Bloom	£ 123.15 incl. vat
Overt Locke – Christmas Tree Lights & fittings to secure	£ 81.22 incl. vat
Grant Thornton UK LLP – External Auditor	£ 240.00 incl. vat
EDF Energy – Changing Rooms	£ 48.00 incl. vat
EDF Energy – Car Park Lighting	£ 63.09 incl. vat
Clerk's Wages – Month 7	£ 332.00

The payment in respect of the labour element of the work to the Dug-out to be paid on completion of the work.

Cllr Andy Anderson advised that a cheque for £200 had been received from Nisa as a donation towards the Christmas Tree lights and he had written to thank them.

b). **Quotation from Hags to remove and dispose of existing slide, supply, deliver and fit new Amazon Basin Slide**

Cllr Paul Deacon said that we had discussed this item at our last meeting and we had chosen the Amazon Basin Slide which was considerably cheaper than the other suppliers with a special offer of £1,735.50 including delivery. He had also received a quote from Play U.K. (Playgrounds) Ltd., that had done previous work for us to remove the existing pedestal slide, install Hags NRG Amazon Basin, repair approximately 1 sq. metre of 'grassloc' surfacing adjacent to the zipslide launch platform and provide Heras security fencing for the duration of the works for the price of £550. Total cost £2,285.50 excluding vat. Cllr Tony Greenaway asked if there was any value in the old and was told it would be scrap value only.

Cllr Paul Deacon said that he had been asked by Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley to look at the matting below the play area at Westfield because they have shrunk slightly and gaps have appeared. He has been looking at another flooring matting system to put on top of the existing matting. There are a couple of systems for doing this and the least expensive one is £5,060 plus vat. He was not recommending this but, he had been asked to look into this. Following further discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Derek Yeomans that we defer a decision until we have officially identified that it is

unsafe. Cllr Andy Anderson said that we should look to see when the next inspection is to establish what the state is.

Cllr Paul Deacon said that he had also been asked to look at re-painting the existing play equipment, which is three different colours. If we do that he considered it would cost about £600 to re-paint all of it and touch up the MUGA. Cllr Derek Yeomans said that we could not do anything until the Spring and recommended that we leave this until April or May next year. The Clerk reminded that three quotations should be obtained if the cost is significant, otherwise she could find herself in trouble with the auditors.

Cllr Andy Anderson proposed that we accept the quotation of £2,285.50 for the installation of the new play equipment and removal of the slide. Cllr Tony Greenway seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed.

519). **QUOTATION FOR COST OF NEW MARKINGS AND SIGNS IN CAR PARK**

Cllr Paul Deacon had been asked to look at the area marked out in the Car Park to prevent cars being parked and preventing residents access to their garages. He felt that the best way to try and address it is to put up a sign at the top of the car park facing south into the car park. It would be same size as the signs for Westfield and Eastfield with a pale blue background. The wording would say:

NO PARKING
In yellow hatched areas
Access required at all times
This is a Curry Rivel Parish Council car park
Emergency Call: 999 Police Call: 101 to report a problem email: clerk@curryrivel.org.uk

He suggested that we fix a sign to a pair of galvanized angle iron posts and we could it up ourselves. He had discussed this with Mr & Mrs Harwood and they had agreed the proposal.

Sign 100 x 700mm manufactured and delivered to site, pale blue background	£190.00
Two 50 x 50 galvanized angle iron 3,000mm long, incl. delivery	£ 98.00
Installation by PD and resident	<u>£ Nil</u>
Total price excluding vat	£288.00
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Cllr Derek Yeomans felt that we could fit a moveable metal bollard in which would mean that they could come and go as they wished. Cllr Andy Anderson drew attention to the fact that it was a large hatched yellow area and would require some other bollards as well. Cllr Paul Deacon said we could delay a decision; look at the cost of putting bollards there and also at another area of the car park. Tiffany Osborne questioned if this would affect the access of a fire engine and it was felt that the parking of cars could create more of a problem.

The Clerk had been advised by Mrs Linham that when we taken away the Clothes Bin it cannot be used as a parking space. The space is there to allow her access to drive into her property. Cllr Andy Anderson said that the space was not wide enough to park a car and would remain hatched.

520). **QUOTATION FOR PROPOSED FLIP FILE DISPLAY IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

This had arisen because the Clerk had found a lot old documents and he she had some old maps from the 1930's. Roger Hampton, the Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee, considered it to be a good idea. Cllr Paul Deacon had looked at two options. He felt that a wooden one would be must better than plastic. They would be A1 size and the wooden ones were priced at £470 and the plastic ones at £275. Cllr Robert Atkins felt that we needed to ensure that we had sufficient material to make it worth while and material that is worth putting up. Cllr Derek Yeomans said that he had recently visited the Heritage Centre and they would be quite happy to provide copy documents of the village and this could be displayed. They have documents going back to the 1700's on the website.

Cllr Madelaine King-Oakley was volunteered in her absence as being responsible for collating suitable material before a decision was made to purchase and flip file displays.

521). **RENEWAL OF SOCIETY OF COUNCIL CLERKS' MEMBERSHIP FEE**

The membership fee is based on the Clerk's gross salary and would cost £100. Cllr Andy Anderson proposed approval of renewing the annual fee. This was seconded by Cllr Robert Atkins and unanimously agreed.

522). **NOTIFICATION OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR APPOINTMENT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2017/2018**

The Clerk said that it was not clear whether the External Auditor is chosen for us or whether we have the opportunity choose. Following discussion, it was proposed to leave this item in abeyance.

523). **REQUEST FROM CLLR PETER GOODENOUGH FOR APPROVAL OF A LEAVE OF ABSENCE UNTIL THE APRIL 2018 MEETING DUE TO ILL-HEALTH**

The Clerk had received a letter from Cllr Peter Goodenough requesting approval of a leave of absence for him until the April meeting due to ill health. The treatment he is receiving for his myeloma is targeting his immune system and he is very open to infection. His consultant has banned him from attending public meetings. If the Parish Council wished him to stand down so that they can elect/co-opt a more active member, he would of course do so.

Cllr Derek Yeomans felt that we had no option but to agree with his request. He wished to propose a vote of thanks to Cllr Peter Goodenough for his exemplary work with 'Britain in Bloom' and all the things he has taken on for the Parish Council. He was very sorry that he had not thought about getting him a Chairman's Prize. It was something we might like to consider.

Cllr Andy Anderson proposed that we grant Cllr Peter Goodenough a leave of absence until the April meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Derek Yeoman and unanimously agree. Cllr Tony Greenaway also wished to second the proposal made by Cllr Derek Yeomans as well.

524). **COMPLAINTS CONCERNING THE FOOTPATH ALONG CHURCHWAY BETWEEN PARSONAGE PLACE AND STANCHESTER WAY.**

Cllr Paul Deacon said that there were two hedges which overhang the footpath quite considerably and he requested that we write to No. 60 Stanchester Way requesting them to cut back the hedging.

525). **CAR PARKING AROUND THE VILLAGE GREEN AND ON THE HIGH STREET**

Cllr Andy Anderson advised that he had put his report onto the Website. He had also spoken to PCSO Carole Brown this evening. He had raised various emails with Avon & Somerset Police about the parking issues. He was having a meeting with County Cllr. Clare Aparicio Paul later on this month with a view to approaching Highways to come and have a look at our issues to see what they can do about it. Hopefully, we will get some movement on that early in the New Year. He had also written to the adjacent businesses thanking them for their considerate parking and hoping that they would continue to do so.

526). **CURRY RIVEL ONE OF THREE VILLAGES MENTIONED AS AN OPTION FOR A NEW TIER OF VILLAGE SETTLEMENT IN THE CURRENT LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION**

Cllr Andy Anderson advised that this consultation ends early in January and he felt that it was appropriate for the Parish Council to make a response to the consultation so that our views are noted and taken into consideration. He felt that rather than be a negative to the proposals, we could try and draw on the Parish Plan. Mention our Parish Plan in our submission to the consultation. Perhaps support additional residential development with the condition of trying to attract work into the village with commercial units as well. This is something that we need to consider. He was happy to draft the response to the consultation for consideration by the Parish Council prior to the next meeting in January. There are only two days between our meeting and the end of the consultation period. He would prepare our submission over the Christmas period. If the councillors had any

suggestions to submit he would appreciate it if they could email them to him so that he could integrate them into the consultation response. He would then send the proposed submission to the councillors before the January meeting in order that they could approve the submission.

Cllr Mike Cousins said that we need some sort of infrastructure because at the moment there is the Firehouse and one shop, whereas years ago there had been four or five shops and three public houses. Cllr Paul Deacon referred to the need for a larger car park and Cllr Tony Greenaway said there was the need for cycle paths and walkways. Cllr Derek Yeomans said that, unfortunately, that is not what they are considering. They are considering putting large swathes of houses possibly on the fields at the ends of the village. If we do have more houses they will have everything they need. We have a motor repair station, a petrol station, garden shop, Church, School, two grocery shops and a hardware store. We would be an ideal target because residents would be able to walk to the shops and this would not encourage the increased use of the motor car.

Cllr Andy Anderson said that what he was trying to say is perhaps giving support to the consultation on the condition that we try and attract businesses into the village. He felt that it was inevitable that we will get some substantial residential development because of the current climate with the housing shortage. If we give a considered and constructive response, rather than a negative response, it would carry more weight. Cllr Tiffany Osborne said that if we can put forward our ideas to Cllr Andy Anderson he would be able to draft a document for approval at the next meeting.

527). **CHRISTMAS TREE ERECTED WITH LIGHTS ADJACENT TO TAUNTON ROAD GARAGE – update**

Cllr Andy Anderson advised that the Christmas tree with lights had been erected.

528). **BURNING OF WASTE MATERIALS ON SITE ADJACENT TO THE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

A resident had reported the burning of waste materials and had asked who to report this to. The Clerk had made enquiries and residents were advised to contact Environmental Control at South Somerset District Council on Tel: 01935/462462 if the burning of waste is seen.

529). **APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATIVE TRUSTEE TO THE CURRY RIVEL COMBINED CHARITIES**

The Clerk advised that it does not have to be a Parish Councillor and Kath Gardner had been our previous representative but, due to ill health, she has decided to stand down. John Hunt said that they should have a good knowledge of the parish, and in particular, of elderly people and those in need within it. The duties of trusteeship are not onerous with two meetings a year. One in June/July and one in October/November. Enquiries would be made.

John Hunt also advised that he would be moving to Martock and it was necessary to appoint a Clerk to the Trustees. The appointee would be a Co-operative Trustee and would be entirely separate from the Council's Nominative Trustee. Enquiries would be made.

530). **PROPOSAL FOR A STAND PIPE AT THE WAR MEMORIAL – update**

This item would be deferred until the January meeting and Cllr Andy Anderson would make enquiries.

531). **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

An email had been received from PC Toni Lines advising that your Local Neighbourhood team is arranging a PACT meeting. (Partner and Community Together) Avon and Somerset constabulary has booked Edgar Hall in Somerton, Somerset, TA116SB to host the event on Thursday the 15th of February 2018, starting for 18.30hrs. She realised that it was short notice but would it be possible for you to attend this event. The invitation is for those who have an interest in Area North and with police actions and priorities. Invites have also been sent out to Councillors, landowners, local MP, schools and members of the public. Cllr Andy Anderson said that he would attend.

532). **CORRESPONDENCE**

a). **Deaf Plus**

A request had been received from Deaf Plus for permission to park their advisory van adjacent to the Village Green on Wednesday, 10th January from 10.30am to 12.30pm. This had previously been discussed and it had been suggested that they should put their van in the Car Park. The Clerk would contact them.

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

County Cllr Derek Yeoman's report had been emailed to the members and District Councillor Tiffany Osborne's report featured in the Curry Rivel News.

534). **COUNCILLORS' – update**

There was nothing further to report at the present time.

535). **CHAIRMAN'S – update**

The Chairman had reported updates during the course of the meeting.

Cllr Andy Anderson thanked the members for their support over this calendar year. It just remains to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He understood that the meeting in January is normally moved to the second Thursday in the month. However, he suggested that we keep it as the first Thursday in January because of the proximity of the consultation requirements.

CHAIRMAN _____ **DATE** _____