

SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Wednesday 13th October 2021 at 7.30 pm
In the Village Hall, Middle Street, Shepton Beauchamp TA19 OLQ

Councillors present: Cllr Nigel Wylie Carrick (Chairman) Cllr Richard Martin (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Ed Wakely Cllr Sarah Brunt
Cllr David Bourn Cllr Andrew Rowswell
Cllr Angie Joy

In attendance: Stella Davies (Clerk)

Members of the public: 11 members of the public attended

Ser Item

590. To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972, s85(1))
Apologies were received from Cllr Lillywhite (prior engagement) and Cllr Rev Wade (prior commitment)

Resolved. To accept and approve the apologies given.

591. Declarations of interest – Members to declare any interest, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interest they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for dispensations that accord with the Localism Act s33 (b-e). (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

Cllr Joy and Cllr Brunt declared an interest in items 593, 594 and 595 and so were excluded from any voting

592. To approve as a correct record the minutes/decisions of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 20th September 2021 (LGA 1972, sch 12, para 41(1)).

Resolved. That the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 20th September be signed as correct.

OPEN SESSION

During the open session the following comments were made: -

- It was asked why the allotment holders were not present at the last inspection and why communication was through a letter rather than face to face. The Council agreed that in future the allotments holders would be informed of the inspection and could be present at that inspection.
- It was asked, if there was a waiting list, why the land relinquished a while ago due to lack of interest was not re-instated as allotment gardens. The Council said they would look at this but had to ensure that the current allotment gardens were run in accordance with the rules.
- Although it was welcome, this is the first time any interest has been shown in the allotment gardens. The Council said that allotments were discussed at many council meetings and that now there was a waiting list it became an issue as some allotments were not being kept in an acceptable state.
- The allotment holders do not see any of the rent back. The Chairman explained we do have expenses for the allotments, including the cost of the Ranger.
- Why is there no mains water to the allotments? The Council said in the past they had looked at running a water supply from the recreation ground, but the cost at that time was about £10,000. It does not mean that it cannot be looked at in the future, but the water usage would need to be paid for by the allotment holders.
- The allotment holders asked if it would be possible to put a gate in the field that leaves from the recreation field in the future. The Council said this could be considered in the future.

- It was mentioned that the signs “No Public Access” needed to be renewed and they would like one to say “Do not let dogs stray onto the allotments”. The Council agreed in principle for permanent notices to be placed at the top and bottom entrances to the allotment and would consider this in the near future.

593. Allotment Garden Tenancy Application Form

To approve the allotment tenancy application form v2

Resolved. The Allotment Garden Tenancy Application Form was approved.

594. Allotment Garden Tenancy Agreement

To approve the tenancy agreement for an allotment garden v1 and resolve if this negates the need for the previous allotment garden rules and if any additional ones need to be added to the agreement

Resolved. The Allotment Garden Tenancy Agreement was approved but item 3 on the garden rules and item 5 on the tenancy agreement should be amended to state that the size of one allotment garden is 250 square metres and that in exceptional circumstances someone can apply to the council for more than one allotment garden. The rules should be retained as a separate document and published on the website.

595. Allotment Garden Rent Review

To review the current rents paid and resolve whether to increase them and if so the effective date to implement that increase.

Resolved. That the rents are not increased, but the rent should be correctly apportioned in line with the size of the allotment garden held, to smooth over the differences between the amount allotment holders are paying.

Meeting closed: 8.45 pm