

SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 20th September 2021 at 7.30 pm
In the Village Hall, Middle Street, Shepton Beauchamp TA19 0LQ

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

In attendance: Stella Davies (Clerk)

District/County Councillors in attendance: SCC Cllr Adam Dance (arrived at 8.10 pm, left at 8.45 pm)
SSDC Cllr Crispin Raikes (left at 8.15pm)

Cllr Dance reported that on a district level he has been given an extra position and is now in charge of environmental health, licencing, food hygiene standards and the dog shelter/warden.

Unitary council –The boundary commission has not yet decided on the new UA Wards and on the number of councillors per ward. The five existing councils have written to the new Secretary of State to request a delay of the elections from May 2022 to May 2023. If elections are in 2022, there will be a five-year term initially, and then revert to a four-year term. Staff in potential duplicated posts are beginning to leave. It is possible that the ranger service currently offered by SSDC may not continue under the unitary authority.

School reform in Crewkerne and Ilminster – the county has now been challenged and there is going to be a review in October.

He also congratulated the council on the Climate Emergency Cowleaze Event that was held as he said many larger councils were not doing anything in respect of the climate emergency.

Cllr Raikes reported that full council met last week with the major motion against treatment of women (violence and sexual harassment). They had a presentation from the new leisure company and the new Chard leisure centre will be opening soon. The new CEO has started. They still do not know what divisional arrangements will be. He mentioned that the South Petherton Clerk had written to Highways England about the safety issue at the South Petherton roundabout.

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| 570. | To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972, s85(1))
Apologies were received from Cllr Joy (personal commitment), Cllr Lillywhite (personal commitment) and Cllr Rev Wade (work commitment)
Resolved. To accept and approve the apologies given. |
| 571. | 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).
There were no declarations of interest. |
| 572. | To approve as a correct record the minutes/decisions of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 19th July 2021 (LGA 1972,sch 12, para 41(1)).
Resolved. That the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 19 th July be signed as correct. |

573. Allotments

To discuss the state of the allotments following the 28-day letter, to discuss the responses received and decide on actions to be taken.

Resolved. It was decided to send a formal letter to vacate the allotment, to the allotment holder who has not done any cultivation, after the next Extraordinary PC Meeting (see Item 574).

Action – Clerk/RFO

The remaining allotments have had some work carried out on them. One allotment holder has decided to give up one of their two allotment plots immediately, with another allotment holder giving up their allotment later in the year.

574. Allotments Committee or Working Group

To resolve whether to set up either an Allotments Committee or Working Group to deal with allotment issues on a regular basis and report to full council when necessary.

Resolved. It was decided not to set up either an Allotments Committee or Working Group, but to hold an extra-ordinary meeting to discuss the allotments. Potential dates for this would be Tuesday 12th or Wednesday 13th October and the Clerk will find out if the Village Hall is available. The allotment holders should be invited to this meeting.

Action – Clerk/RFO

We should have in place an application form, introduce a tenancy agreement, the rules need to be reviewed and the rents need to be reviewed. The Clerk will prepare these documents and circulate to councillors before the extra-ordinary meeting.

Action – Clerk/RFO

575. Climate Emergency Working Group Recommendations

To approve the recommendations dated 2nd August 2021 (previously circulated) and additionally approve a spend up to an amount of £70 in respect of the Cowleaze Climate Emergency themed event (LGA 1972, s145).

Resolved. That the recommendations be approved.

576. North Street

To consider the three points raised by a resident in North Street and resolve what actions can be taken.

Resolved. The points raised were discussed. The clerk to send a response. **Action Clerk/RFO**

577. Leaflets

To approve an amount not in excess of £60 to be spent on leaflets showing the results of the SBPC Climate Emergency Questionnaire for distribution as inserts in the Web magazine

Resolved. The amount of £60 was approved.

578. Date of next Parish Council elections

To resolve what response to send to SALC regarding moving our election date from 2023 to 2022 in order to remain in sync with Principal Authority elections moving forward.

Resolved. That our response is that our election date be moved from 2023 to 2022 in line with Principal Authority elections.

Action – Clerk/RFO

579. Outdoor Play and Youth Facilities Strategy

To resolve which councillor/s are willing to attend the on-line presentation on 4th October at 6pm and complete the survey by 8th November (email already circulated)

Resolved. Cllr Wylie Carrick will attend. Following the meeting Cllr Rowswell also offered to attend

580. DEFRA Local Nature Recovery Strategies Consultation

To resolve if the council wishes to respond to the questionnaire

Resolved. That the Climate Emergency Working Group reviews the consultation and produces recommendations at the next Parish council meeting.

581. ShopMobility Yeovil

To consider their request for a grant and resolve if the council wants to send them a Grant Application Form for completion

Resolved. It was decided not to send an application form.

582. Finance

To review the Bank Reconciliation to 31st July 2021
(previously circulated).

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(previously circulated)

To approve the schedule of payments totalling £2,747.39

Resolved. The Bank Reconciliations to 31st July and 31st August were approved and signed as correct by a non-bank signatory. The payments were approved and cheques issued.

583. The Slope

To resolve whether to let volunteers from the village create a garden in the slope area.

Resolved. It was decided to let the volunteers create a garden. Cllr Rowswell will liaise with them and they will let us have a basic plan and an idea of cost.

Action – Cllr Rowswell

584. Report from Clerk/RFO. For information only

The Clerk reported that the village hall trustees had thanked us for the £500 grant.

Towards the end of July she received an email from a resident in Buttle Lane to say their recycling was getting missed. Cllr Lillywhite also forwarded an email she had received about collections at Washcross. Adam Dance was made aware of these issues and followed them up.

There is now an Environment page on our website with an added link to the SSDC Get Sussed publications.

County Roads have contacted us to ask if we could check the contents of the road side salt bins. Cllr Rowswell offered to check them.

Action – Cllr Rowswell

The clerk to let County Roads know by 30th September.

Action – Clerk/RFO

585. Reports. For information only

Highways

Cllr Rowswell reported that potholes had been filled, white lines had been re-painted and badger setts removed again. It was noted that the SID did appear to be slowing traffic down.

Lethbridge Recreational Ground Committee

There was nothing to report.

Environment

Cllr Joy and Cllr Lillywhite were not at the meeting and so there was nothing to report.

Ranger

The Ranger is doing routine tasks and moving the SID to different locations in the village. Cllr Rowswell asked if he could spray along the road-edges where weeds were growing.

Allotments

There was nothing to report.

Cowleaze

They are planning to submit an application for grant funding to the Parish Council for maintenance costs and are also raising funds as they need to purchase a new mower. The money raised at the Cowleaze event will go towards this. They are applying for other grants.

Climate Emergency Working Group

The group have initiated a monthly piece in The Web magazine called 'Simple steps to reduce your carbon footprint' which will let people know easy things they can do.

They are considering organising an event in the village hall which would focus on solar power, heat pumps and home insulation, with commercial companies involved.

They also recommend that we get involved with the developers of the Piece Lane development at an early stage to make those houses as energy efficient as possible. It was suggested that the Clerk contact the developer to say we wanted to get involved before the plans were submitted to the planning department.

Action – Clerk/RFO

Footpaths

There was nothing to report.

586. Annex A – Deferred items register

Deferred items were noted.

587. Annex B – Official correspondence received

This was reviewed.

To resolve to exclude members of the press and public. To agree that items 588 and 589 below be dealt with after the public have been excluded as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Resolved. There were no members of the press and public at the meeting.

588. Tender for Lethbridge Recreation Field

To review the tenders received and resolve which tender (if any) to accept

Resolved. The tenders were reviewed and one was accepted unanimously.

The Clerk to write to the successful person and ask for copies of their public liability insurance and any relevant risk assessments. She also needs to liaise with the Lethbridge Committee to let them know the start date so that they can let the football club know.

Action – Clerk/RFO

589. Staffing in confidence

The annual appraisal for the clerk was started and will be completed at a later date.

Meeting closed: 9.30 pm