

SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 17th January 2022 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 David Bourn Cllr Andrew Rowsell
Cllr Sarah Brunt Cllr Angie Joy
Cllr Clare Lillywhite

In attendance: Stella Davies (Clerk)

Members of the public: Four applicants for the co-opted position of parish councillor

District/County Councillors in attendance: SCC Cllr Adam Dance (arrived at 8 pm)
SSDC Cllr Crispin Raikes sent his apologies

Cllr Dance reported that Crispin was still a Lib Dem member but not a Lib Dem member of the District Council anymore. He is now an independent member. Cllr Dance said he has found real concern amongst residents about the potential planning changes coming with the Unitary Authority (4 committees down to 1 committee in South Somerset). He is campaigning to get local planning committees. There has been damage to roads recently, so make sure that potholes and road damage are reported online and report to him if there is no action taken. He is challenging the process on claiming for damage to cars due to potholes etc.

Cllr Dance was asked what the latest update was concerning phosphate and planning applications. He said he would find out if he could email us with a proper written update. He was also asked what would happen to the ranger system under the Unitary Authority. At this stage they did not know what the Unitary Authority would do, but the District Council was staying until 2023 and so the ranger service would continue until at least then.

He was asked by a member of the public if the electors had any say in what services were kept. He said any concerns that an elector had, either contact the Parish Council or Cllr Dance directly and he would pass comments to the scrutiny committee.

Ser Item

- 649. To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given** (LGA 1972, s85(1))
Apologies were received by e-mail from Cllr Wakely (working)
Resolved. To accept and approve the apologies given.
- 650. 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.
- 651. To approve as a correct record the minutes/decisions of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 20th December 2021** (LGA 1972, sch 12, para 41(1)).
Resolved. That the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 20th December 2021 be signed as correct.
- 652. Casual Vacancy – co-option of new Parish Councillor**
To resolve to appoint a new Parish Councillor who should sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Clerk informed the applicants that each of them had been proposed by an existing councillor, which was a requirement in order that they could put themselves forward for co-option. They were

each given the opportunity to expand on their written application. A vote took place by a show of hands (LGA 1972, sch.12, para 13). There was no majority at the first vote and so the two applicants with the least number of votes were dropped and a further vote took place which resulted in an absolute majority.

Resolved. To co-opt Tim England as a Parish Councillor and resolve that he should sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office at this meeting.

653. General Power of Competence

To resolve that the Parish Council meets the required conditions to become an eligible parish council as set out in the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012:

a) It has a qualified Clerk

b) A minimum of two-thirds of the total number of councillors have been elected

Resolved. That Shepton Beauchamp Parish Council meets the required conditions and can now adopt the General Power of Competence.

654. Budget for Financial year 22/23 and Precept

To resolve to agree the Budget for the new FY and to set the precept

Resolved. To approve the budget circulated by the RFO, with an increase on the defibrillator line to £350 to allow for the purchase of a new battery. To set the precept at £23,500 (11p per week increase for a Band D taxpayer). This was a unanimous decision.

655. Finance

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

To approve the schedule of payments totalling £1,034.33 (previously circulated)

Resolved. The Bank Reconciliation to 31st December was approved and signed as correct by a non-cheque signatory. The payments were approved and cheques issued.

656. Incremental Pay Rise

To approve the increase in pay for the Clerk/RFO by one increment to point 22, backdated to 1st December 2021, due to obtaining the CiLCA qualification (as per contract section 9.2)

Resolved. That the Clerk/RFO 's pay be increased to point 22, backdated to 1st December 2021.

657. The Sports Pavilion at the Recreation Field *For information only*

Cllr Wylie Carrick and the Chair of the Recreation Committee met with a local Chartered Surveyor on 6th January to find out his views on the updating of the pavilion and his thoughts on developing a new Village Hall/Community Hall at that site. The Chartered Surveyor estimated that the cost of a detached single-story build was now at least £1.85K per m² and for an attached build between c.£2 to £2.5K per m². A double story detached build would be double the cost at £3.7K per m². He advised that that the pavilion should remain a detached building and not try to create a multi-use building. Refurbishment of the pavilion should be limited to essential work only rather than an extension which would be expensive and not cost effective. Looking at indicative costs; to improve the existing pavilion would be in the region of £13--£15K whereas to extend the pavilion would be c. £38.6K; to rebuild a similar sized new 'family' building, would be c. £166.5K whereas to rebuild a similar size of the current SB Village Hall would be £425.5K; Comparative costs for Barrington Village Hall would be c.£666K; Kingsbury Episcopi would be c.£1M. Before embarking on a major project, the council would need to know the views of the Village Hall Trustees and in particular the views of the parish community, necessitating a comprehensive survey to each household and an open day on any options considered. It was agreed for Cllr Wylie Carrick and Cllr Lillywhite to meet with Trustees of the Village Hall to discuss and report back to the PC. **Action – Cllr Wylie Carrick / Cllr Lillywhite**

658. Report from Clerk/RFO. *For information only*

The Clerk reported that Ken is stepping down from strimming the footpaths. She was informed that SCC undertake two cuts a year. It was suggested that she ask SSDC which footpaths the ranger strims.

Action – Parish Clerk

659. Reports. For information only

Highways

Cllr Rowswell reported that the pothole at the bottom of Great Lane had been filled and one at the top road in the village. He said he would report that there was no HGV sign on the road to Stocklinch.

Lethbridge Recreational Ground Committee

There was nothing to report.

Environment

There was nothing to report.

Ranger

Cllr Martin reported that the ranger had cleared the storm drain in Silver Street. It was mentioned that someone had put recycling bottles in the grit bin at the top of the village, plus full dog waste bags and a kitchen appliance. Cllr Martin said he would ask the ranger to take it away.

Allotments

The Clerk reported that there was another person who had asked to be added to the waiting list.

Cowleaze

Nothing to report.

Climate Emergency Working Group

Cllr Bourn mentioned that there had been a low response to the Bus Service questionnaire and asked if a reminder could go onto the village Facebook page. The group met recently and will put forward a proposal at the next council meeting.

Footpaths

Nothing to report.

660. Annex A – Deferred items register

The deferred items were updated.

661. Annex B – Official correspondence received

This was reviewed.

Meeting closed: 9.00 pm