

SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 21st March 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 Andrew Rowswell Cllr Sarah Brunt
Cllr Clare Lillywhite

In attendance: Cllr Martin appointed as temporary Clerk

Members of the public: Recreation Ground Committee Chairman

District/County Councillors in attendance: SCC Cllr Adam Dance
SSDC Cllr Crispin Raikes

Cllr Raikes reported that the council had met and set the budget and the increase in council tax (£5 on Band D) They discussed the recent flash floods and it was thought that future planning developments have proper flood drainage systems in place. The House of Commons and the House of Lords have now put through a structural change order and the elections will go ahead in May for the shadow unitary authority. He is not standing for the Unitary authority. SSDC will continue for another year.

Cllr Dance brought along the Liberal Democrat candidate who was standing with him for the unitary authority. He reported that the council was concentrating on support for Ukraine at the moment. Highways are not looking at anything until the new financial year. South Petherton has had a 20mph limit put in for part of the village. Adam thanked the Parish Council for the work that they have done.

In the unavoidable absence of the Clerk/RFO, Cllr Martin was proposed as temporary clerk and agreed by the council.

Ser Item

- 682. To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given** (LGA 1972, s85(1))
Apologies were received from Cllr Joy (unwell), Cllr England (unwell), Cllr Bourn (away), Cllr Wakely (working).
Resolved. To accept and approve the apologies given.
- 683. 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.
- 684. To approve as a correct record the minutes/decisions of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 21st February 2022** (LGA 1972, sch 12, para 41(1)).
Resolved. That the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 21st February 2022 be signed as correct.
- 685. Emergency Contact**
To resolve to appoint a councillor who will be the emergency contact for the village in the event of adverse conditions.
Resolved. That Cllr Martin be appointed as the emergency contact and that the clerk finalises the list of emergency contacts and makes that available at the next council meeting. The list to be made available on the Notice Board, the Parish Council website and the Shepton Beauchamp website.
Action – Parish Clerk
- 686. Insurance**
To discuss the recent communication from the insurance company concerning the events team.

The insurance company had communicated with the council to say that events should be run by a committee or working group in order to be covered by our insurance. The Events Team and Cowleaze Committee were originally conceived to be Committees of the Council but under current rules neither are established as Committees of the Council. It was acknowledged that the events team and Cowleaze Committee do a valuable job and the council needs to ensure that all events are covered by our insurance.

Unresolved. This will be discussed further with the events team and brought to the next council meeting.

687. Gas Fuelled Jubilee Beacon

To discuss the logistics of getting the required propane gas cylinders to the church tower and to resolve if the Parish Council should go ahead with the purchase.

It was discussed that whilst a Beacon could be lit on the land above Piece Lane overlooking the levels as an alternative to the church tower, it would not be seen within the community. St Michael's church tower was the preferred location using the smaller beacon using 2 x 13kg propane gas cylinders.

Resolved. That the council should purchase the Platinum Jubilee gas-fuelled beacon which uses the 2 x 13kg propane gas cylinders and is to be lit on 2nd June at 9.45 pm and that a risk assessment be carried out. The Parish Council to arrange for volunteers to assist.

Unresolved. The additional cost of the cylinders and other items required will need to be approved at the next Parish Council meeting. The preferred location to be confirmed in the April meeting.

688. Local Heritage List

To resolve whether to add some of our assets to the Local Heritage List and which ones to add.

Unresolved. As some councillors were absent it was decided to add this to the April agenda.

689. Dog Fouling

To resolve what action should be taken to prevent dog fouling in the village and on the footpaths. Cllr Dance said that the Clerk should contact the SSDC dog warden who would put signage up in the area, patrol and fine anyone she saw.¹

Resolved. That an article be put in the Web magazine outlining where the dog poo bins were, asking dog walkers to make use of them and to inform all that the SSDC Dog Warden was tasked to patrol the affected areas regularly.

Action – Parish Clerk

690. National Pay Award – backdated to 1st April 2021

To approve the National Pay Award for the Clerk/RFO backdated to 1st April 2021.

Resolved. That the national pay award be approved.

691. Finance

To review the Bank Reconciliation to 28 February 2022 (previously circulated).

To approve the schedule of payments totalling £2,097.21 (previously circulated)

Resolved. The Bank Reconciliation to 28th February was approved and signed as correct by a non-cheque signatory. The payments were approved and cheques issued.

692. Parish Council Newsletter

To approve the second Parish Council Newsletter to be printed for distribution with the April 2022 issue of The Web at a maximum cost of £59 for 375 copies.

Resolved. That the Parish Council Newsletter for printing at a maximum cost of £59 be approved.

693. Report from Clerk/RFO.

The Clerk's report will be carried forward to the next meeting.

¹ The Clerk has already done this in December 2021, notices have been put up and patrols have been carried out

694. Reports. For information only

Highways

Cllr Rowswell has reported the road by the crossroads going up to Hurcott and highlighted the landslip.

Lethbridge Recreational Ground Committee

The chairman of the Recreation Ground Committee mentioned that due to Covid, Committee meetings had not been held, however all mandatory annual checks of playground equipment had been carried out. The Recreation Committee comprised, the Chair, the Treasurer and a couple of volunteers but both the Chair and Treasurer were planning to stand down. Due to Covid, the Lottery grant of £10K for the refurbishment of the Pavilion had not been spent. One quote for the Pavilion refurbishment had been received but more quotes were required. It was agreed that:

- The Future of the Lethbridge Committee was to be discussed the next April Meeting.
- The Recreational Committee would put an article in the May issue of Web magazine to highlight the requirement for new members of the Recreation Committee.
- The Chair of the Recreation Committee would give the Council a list of items that need to be discussed, including the repainting of the MUGA white lines.

Environment

Nothing to report.

Ranger

The Ranger is carrying out the normal tasks. He has tidied the hedge at the bottom of Piece Lane.

Allotments

Nothing to report. It was noted that there was a lot of activity at the allotments at the moment and there was a huge improvement in the allotment area.

Cowleaze

Nothing to report.

Climate Emergency Working Group

Nothing to report

Footpaths

Nothing to report. Cllr Rowswell mentioned the broken stile at the back of Buttle Lane, which he had asked the Clerk to report.

Action – Parish Clerk

695. SID data. For information only

This was reviewed. It was thought that the data provided in number format gave more detailed information but that the graph format was easier for publication in the web magazine.

696. The Grievance Policy v1

To approve and re-adopt the Grievance Policy v1

Resolved. That the Grievance Policy be approved and re-adopted.

697. The Disciplinary Policy v1

To approve and re-adopt the Disciplinary policy v1

Resolved. That the Disciplinary Policy be approved and re-adopted.

698. Annex A – Deferred items register

The deferred items were updated.

699. Annex B – Official correspondence received

This was reviewed.

Meeting closed: 8.45 pm