

SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 20th March 2023 at 7.30 pm
In the Village Hall, Middle Street, Shepton Beauchamp TA19 0LQ

Councillors present: Cllr Nigel Wylie Carrick (Chairman) Cllr Andrew Rowswell
Cllr Ed Wakely Cllr David Bourn
Cllr Tim England

In attendance: Stella Davies (Clerk)

Members of the public: There were no members of the public in attendance

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

Open Session

Prior to the meeting the Chairman mentioned that as SSDC was ceasing to exist from 1st April, SSDC Cllr Crispin Raikes should be sent an email on behalf of the Parish Council thanking him for his work and support over the years as he had been a constant attendee at our meetings. **Action – Parish Clerk**

Litter. It was mentioned that the council had received correspondence relating to the litter (particularly tissues) by the village hall and towards Silver Springs. We are on a cycle route and it was thought that sometimes rubbish was dropped by cyclists and also the refuse collectors did not always pick up refuse that was not in the bins. The resident concerned suggested a litter bin, but we have responded to say that our pavements were too narrow to allow for this.

Buttle Close. The Chairman had received correspondence from Buttle Close residents concerning the difficulties they were having with their landlord (Abri) as they have dead rats in the roof space and the landlord is saying it is the residents' responsibility to remove them. It was suggested that they should contact the Environmental Health department. SCC Adam Dance asked for the correspondence to be forwarded to him, so it could be dealt with.

8 Piece Lane Hedge. SCC Adam Dance said he had been contacted again about the hedge on Piece Lane (this had been reported to SSDC by the Parish Council in August and then chased again in October) and had now passed this to a higher level.

Fly Tipping Silver Springs. He also mentioned that someone had approached him about the rubbish build-up in Silver Springs. He suggested that the Parish Council write to the residents and say that there had been complaints.

Stroke Unit Consultation. Cllr Dance said that the merger for YDH & Musgrove merger was going ahead. One area of concern which he suggested we promote was the public consultation about where to put the stroke unit. It was confirmed by the Clerk that this was in our April newsletter.

Somerset Flag. Cllr Bourn asked if SCC were going to bulk buy larger Somerset flags to sell as the ones on offer were too small for our flagpole and Cllr Dance said this was unlikely.

Ser Item

863. To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972, s85(1))
Apologies were received from Cllr Howard (work commitment), Cllr Lillywhite (work commitment), Cllr Brunt (personal commitment) and Cllr Joy (unwell).
Resolved. To accept and approve the apologies given.

864. 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.

- 865. To approve as a correct record the minutes/decisions of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 20th February 2023** (LGA 1972, sch 12, para 41(1)).
Resolved. That the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 20th February be signed as correct.
- 866. Annual Parish Meeting**
 To discuss the new format for the Parish meeting and resolve how to promote this, the organisation required before and at the event and who should be responsible for the various aspects.
- The new format of holding a less formal Parish meeting was discussed where short reports were given and groups had a stand so that residents were aware of the various groups within the village that they could join. Tea and coffee would be available. This could be advertised with posters around the village, on Facebook and in the newsletter. It was decided to try this format and see how it went.
- The Clerk will email the groups and let them know about the new format and ask them if they are prepared to set up a small stand and let the councillors know the response.
- Action – Parish Clerk**
- Cllr England offered to produce some posters for displaying around the village and for posting on Facebook.
- Action – Cllr England**
- 867. Play Equipment**
 Further to item 807 in the November meeting where £75 was approved for a replacement swing seat and repairs to the recreation field gate, to resolve than an additional amount of up to £50 be spent to allow for the purchase of an additional swing seat.
Resolved. That the additional amount of £50 be approved.
- 868. Defibrillator Training**
 To approve the spend of £175 +vat for an awareness session in the village hall for up to 50 attendees.
Resolved. That the spend of £175 + vat be approved and Cllr Joy be asked to arrange a date.
- Action – Cllr Joy**
- 869. Flooding/drain blockage near flyover**
 To resolve what action the council can take to try and resolve this problem.
Resolved. It was mentioned that SCC Jo Roundell Greene had been proactive in this and other highway problems and that SCC would be jetting the drains using an emergency budget in order to help prevent flooding.
- 870. Parish Council Newsletter**
 To approve the April Parish Council Newsletter to be printed for distribution with the April issue of The Web at a cost of £65.
Resolved. That the newsletter be approved for printing at a cost of £65 with the following amendments:
- The start time of the Annual Parish meeting be changed to 7.00 pm
 - The precept article should include the weekly increase for a Band D taxpayer
- 871. Payment of 7 hours of outstanding annual leave to Clerk/RFO**
 To resolve to approve the payment of outstanding leave which the Clerk cannot take due to work commitment.
Resolved. That the 7 hours of outstanding annual leave be paid to the Clerk.
- 872. Finance**
 To review the two Bank Reconciliations as at 28th February 2023 (Previously circulated).
- To approve the schedule of payments totalling £18,592.46 (Previously circulated) – this includes £15,500 transferred to the new Unity Trust Bank account for Shepton Beauchamp Parish Council
- Resolved.** The two bank reconciliations as at 28th February were approved and signed as correct by a non-cheque signatory. The payments were approved.

873. Report from Clerk/RFO. For information only

100 Club. The Clerk reported that there were now 51 numbers taken in the 100 Club, which currently gives us a very small profit. She thanked Lou from the Recreation Field Committee for her hard work in contacting existing members and getting new members. The prize winners will be posted on Facebook, in The Web and there will be a dedicated page on our website. She had produced some rules for the 100 Club which will be posted on the website and she will circulate to the councillors.

Action – Parish Clerk

Bank Switch. She reported that there had been problems closing our savings account with Santander and she had complained to the bank. This had finally been resolved, but she was still waiting for a cheque for £40 to be banked before she could start the switch or the cheque would be bounced and we would incur charges. She proposes to transfer another £10,000 to Unity Bank and only leave a small amount in Santander.

Rec Insurance. She has told Bruce not to disband the Lethbridge Recreation Committee for the time being until the insurance is sorted out. She is meeting with Cllr Joy to sort out getting quotations.

Action – Parish Clerk / Cllr Joy

Grass Cutting Tender. She has to prepare a tender for the grass cutting of the recreation field. The new contract will need to run from the beginning of June 2023. Cllr Wylie Carrick offered to help with this.

Action – Parish Clerk / Cllr Wylie Carrick

Reports. For information only

Highways

Cllr Rowswell said he had reported more potholes. Cllr Wylie Carrick mentioned the meeting with SCC Cllr Jo Roundell Greene and Lee from the Highways department when they looked at the run offs of water from the fields. Action has been taken by the farmer to mitigate the water coming off the fields onto Great Lane by blocking one of the entrances to divert the water and clearing the silt trap. There is a spring on the road from Muckleditch, which would be difficult to stop. Highways will be doing some remedial work on the drains at the crossroads at the top of the village, which will involve closing the road. The gullies in Great Lane will be cleared.

Lethbridge Recreational Ground Committee

Nothing to report. There is a committee meeting in April when fund-raising will be discussed. Work had been started on the questionnaire, which will be both through Survey Monkey and a paper version.

Ranger

There is new agency Ranger who should start tomorrow. He is not Chapter 8 qualified and so the SID will be moved by someone else, hopefully on a Wednesday.

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Cowleaze

There is little activity due to the rain.

Footpaths

Nothing to report.

874. Annex A – Deferred items register

This was reviewed.

Meeting closed: 8.45 pm