

# *Huish Episcopi Parish Council*

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Huish Episcopi Parish Council held in the Huish Sixth Auditorium, Huish Episcopi Academy, on Monday May 20 at 7 pm.**

## **Present:**

Cllr S Nicholas	Chairman	
Cllr G Lock		
Cllr J Wood		
Cllr J Fraser		
Cllr F Pope		
Cllr B Horsgood		
Cllr J Seaton		
Cllr C Palmer		(7-9.10 pm)
Cllr D Yeomans	County Councillor	(7-7.30 pm)

Parishioners:		Mr J Gale, Mr R Saunders, Mr V Derham, Mrs H Lawrey, Ms A Shillabeer, Ms L Newby, Mr R Tilley, Mr and Mrs D Stacey and Miss S Stacey
	7-8.15pm	Mr G Edmunds, Mr A Gaynor, Mrs C Dunn, Mrs S Higgins, Mr R Moody, Mrs T Hilton, Mr and Mrs C Brookfield, Mr and Mrs T Blackwell, Mrs O Twiss, Mr M Webb, Mr and Mrs R Spencer, Mrs G Hornby, Mrs S Jewell, Mr T Perrin, Mrs J Brassington
Non-parishioners:	7-8.40pm	Mr D Mumby (Western Gazette)

## **Public Session**

Mr Edmunds requested that the Council re-visit pollarding the cherry trees at The Avenue. Mrs Brassington had concerns about a blockage at Wagg Rhine.

**1. Apologies for absence.** Cllr R Stranger and District Cllr C Aparicio Paul.

## **2. Elections and other related matters.**

### **i. Chairman**

Cllr Nicholas – proposed Cllr Wood, seconded Cllr Fraser, unanimous.

### **ii. Vice Chairman**

Cllr Lock – proposed Cllr Wood, seconded Cllr Nicholas, unanimous.

**iii. Declaration of Acceptance of Office.** Completed by Chairman.

**iv. Declarations of Interests forms.** Reminder of any amendments to be notified to Clerk.

### **v. Working Groups**

Community – Chairman, Vice Chairman, Cllr Wood, Cllr Fraser

Development Control – Chairman or Vice-Chairman and 1 or 2 Councillor(s)  
nearest the application

Farming – Cllr Lock and Cllr Stranger

Staffing – Chairman, Vice Chairman

### **vi. Committee Representatives**

Memorial Field – Chairman, Cllr Horsgood (Cllr Fraser attends in a non-Council capacity)

Lengthsman Liaison – Cllr Lock

Abattoir Liaison – Cllr Horsgood

Environment – Cllr Palmer

Youth Club – Chairman, Cllr Horsgood

Annie Tite Fund – Cllr Fraser

**3. Policies – confirmation.** There were no changes except amendments in Standing Orders and Financial Regulations regarding new public contracts regulations. It was agreed that the de minimis level would remain at £1500.

- a. Risk Management Policy
- b. Code of Conduct
- c. Standing Orders – amendment to be made.
- d. Financial Regulations – amendment to be made.
- e. Freedom of Information Act (within Standing Orders)
- f. De minimis level - to remain at £1500.

**Action: Clerk**

**4. Minutes of the last meeting (21 March 2016).** These were agreed and signed.

**5. Declarations of interest.** Cllr Seaton declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to Langport Town Council, as Chairman.

**6. District Councillors' and County Councillor's Reports.** Cllr Yeomans said that the new Planning Act would bring huge changes, especially regarding building on greenfield sites unless strong mitigating factors could be demonstrated. It was a difficult time with government insistence on a building programme in isolation from job creation. There was no confidence in building industrial units without advance interest. The new Community Infrastructure Levy would be in force from November and would erode developers' profit margins. The reduction in Section 106 payments at the same time would have infrastructure implications and might well prove disadvantageous to affordable building.

## **7. Planning.**

### **a. Decisions notified since last meeting:**

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 15/04038/FUL | SCFF Abattoir, Muchelney Road construction of additional carcass chills, an energy centre, storage, covered yard and relocated security office - no objections, however Councillors stressed the continuing need for ABP to maintain a robust dialogue with its neighbours, addressing their concerns regarding privacy, proximity and access as this proposed development of the site progresses. Permission granted.                                     |
| 15/05502/OUT | Lavender Cottage, Newtown Road - no objections, it should be noted access to this proposed dwelling would be from Fern Road. Permission granted.   |
| 15/05601/COL | Land opposite Wearne Court - certificate of lawful existing development for the erection of a building. Huish Episcopi Parish Council recommended that this application be refused and resubmitted in a simplified application that plainly only included information relating to the modern steel framed hay barn, and a separate application also be submitted to legalise the stone building for the agricultural purpose intended. Permission granted. |
| 15/02022/COL | Long Orchard Farm Pibsbury application for Certificate of Lawfulness to comply with agricultural tie/S106 Agreement – permission refused.  |
| 16/01193/FUL | Shires Garage alterations to existing canopy to raise from 3.9 to 5m no objections – permission granted.   |
| 16/01194/ADV | Shires Garage raise height of existing sign by 1.1m no objections – permission granted.  |

**(7)b. Applications received since last meeting, or still in progress:**

16/00621/FUL	Long Orchard Farm Pibsbury conversion of double garage into one bedroom dwelling - no objections, Councillors were happier with the amended, if retrospective, application but noted that this dwelling must remain an agricultural tie.
16/08887/COU	Land at Wood Drove relocation of 3 static caravans, no objections providing that present caravans are removed immediately as any more modern replacements are brought in and that the 3 caravans are sited in the same field – application withdrawn.
16/01091/FUL	Somerleigh Somerton Road rear extension - no objections.
16/01295/OUT	Old Nursery Farm Windmill Lane redevelopment of farm buildings to provide 3 single storey dwellings - no objections, the Parish Council would certainly prefer bungalows as shown.
16/01488/FUL	19 Parsonage Close rear extension and extension over garage - no objections.
16/01490/S73	Highfield Farm vary condition with revised plans - no objections.
16/01683/FUL	Pandora, The Avenue proposed parking area and associated retaining walls – no objections.
16/01756/FUL	Land at Duck's Hill three market dwellings and one affordable dwelling with associated parking and domestic curtilage, landscaping works and formation of vehicular access. Councillors had serious concerns regarding agricultural area, flooding and outside direction of growth. It was proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Fraser and agreed with one objection that the application be recommended for refusal.
16/01822/OUT	Land adjacent Hamdown Lodge 2 dwellings and garages (High Ham PC) - concerns about the excessive size of the proposed two further dwellings alongside Hamdown Lodge in this location.
16/01868/FUL	Westover Garage, The Willows garage extension – no objections.

**8. Matters arising from the minutes and raised by members, to include:**

**a. Residents' Survey.** 80 surveys had been received so far. Cllr Wood and the Clerk would input the data after 15 June cut off date. Cllr Wood would present his analysis in due course.

**Action: Cllr Wood/Clerk**

**b. Purchase of external defibrillator cabinet.** The incorrect defibrillator cabinet had been returned and the cost reimbursed; the correct version had been ordered, cheque to be signed.

**c. Speed (wigwag) signs.** The posts were now in place.

**9. Correspondence received and other matters.**

**a. Allotments.** Cllr Pope reported that there were four empty plots remaining. One tenant had requested a second plot. The Council felt this might set a precedent and reduce availability for parishioners in general. It was too soon to judge whether this tenant, or any tenant, had sufficient time and effort to support two plots to the required standard.

**b. Lengthsman, including contract.** The contract had been duly signed with the Lengthsman to paid bimonthly.

**c. Youth Club.** Ms Newby thanked the Council for its continuing support of the Youth Club. The recent Council grant had been well used to support a workshop creating eight extra flags in time for the Langport Festival. The Warhammer Club was due to restart shortly.

**(8)d. Speed Indicator Device reports.** Cllr Palmer expressed her concern about the lack of a pedestrian crossing on Somerton Road. The SID revealed huge traffic numbers on a road which has to be crossed by many parishioners and their children in order to use pavements only available on one side of the road. It was proposed by Cllr Palmer, seconded by Cllr Seaton and agreed unanimously that, in the light of the major development both completed and outline permission, the Council should approach SCC for a pedestrian crossing between Shires Garage and Peony Road.

**Action: Clerk**

**e. Village signs.** Cllr Nicholas and Cllr Seaton had met to discuss possible new signs for Huish Episcopi and approached a company for initial costs, approximately £1200 for four signs with artwork provided by the Council. They would bring a final proposal to the next Council meeting, which could then be presented to Highways.

**Action: Chairman/Cllr Seaton**

**f. Possible adoption of redundant BT payphone.** This payphone, in common with a number around the country, had already been adopted by Heartbeat as a possible defibrillator location. It was suggested that the Town Council might transfer the telephone box to the Ridgway Hall to house one of two proposed defibrillators for Langport, the other being in the town centre.

**10. Requests for grants/donations.** All grants had already been agreed except the grant for the Senior Citizens Club which was unanimously agreed at £200.

Huish cum Langport PCC	£1500
Local Information Centre	£4000
Memorial Field	£6000
Langport Youth Club	£6000
Huish Episcopi Primary School	£1000
Langport Festival	£500
Senior Citizens Club	£200

**11. Accounts, including External Audit Governance Statement 2015-2016.** The Clerk informed the Council of the Internal Auditor's Report, a copy would be circulated to Councillors. The main points were: to reassess the insurance cover for the Council's physical assets, to review Clerk's appraisal arrangements and to locate, if possible, the relevant sources for the Huish Episcopi Charities' interest.

The Clerk would also ask Greenslade Taylor Hunt to value Pibsbury Allotments field as this would be a requirement for the next External Audit. The External Governance Statement was agreed and signed.

	<b>Current Account</b>	<b>Savings</b>
<b>Payments authorised by Chairman</b>		
SALC training (Clerk)	15.00	
Survey printing - SSDC	180.56	
Survey delivery – PCC donation	100.00	
Survey voucher - Tesco	50.00	
Long Sutton PC Lengthsman (reissued)	108.00	
<b>Receipts since last meeting</b>		
Carried forward 1 April 2016	7269.64	
Precept	42500.00	
Reimbursed defibrillator cabinet costs	420.00	
Allotments 1-24 rents	720.00	
Cancelled cheque	108.00	

(11)		
(since 1 April 2016)		
total receipts	51017.64	
total payments	1134.16	
balance at 5 May 16	49883.48	
Business Reserve		46293.65
Parish Charities		1745.59

**Payments to be authorised**

Clerk – salary	1000.00
Clerk – administration	9.60
Lengthsman April/May	356.44
Lengthsman materials (re-issued)	19.50
Came and Co. - insurance	538.12
HMS Ltd (PAYE)	20.00
B Knox (Internal Auditor)	156.25
Defibrillator cabinet	1019.40
SALC subscription	574.49
Grants as per item 10	

**12. Matters of report and items for next meeting.**

**a. Chairman.** The Chairman had received a request regarding voluntary work in Nepal, but the Council felt it could not support this particular grant.

**b. Clerk.** The Community Website had lost two advertisers but gained three. Following a disabled parishioner's request, the Clerk would enquire about a dropped kerb at the former St Mary's Church Hall corner to match the church side.

**Action: Clerk**

**c. Members.** Following a query from Cllr Lock, the Clerk confirmed that she did not hold the allotments field deeds.

Cllr Pope requested consideration of new signage at Brookland Road Nos 54-68, where emergency services had recently difficulty locating the access to an elderly disabled parishioner following a minor fire.

**Action: Cllr Pope/Clerk**

Cllr Horsgood asked the Clerk to bring problems associated with on the road parking at Peony Road to the attention of Hastoos Housing Association.

**Action: Clerk**

**13. Date of next meeting.** The next meeting would be held on Monday 18 July 2016 at 7pm in the Huish Sixth Auditorium.

**Meeting ended at 9.40pm**

**Agreed:**

**S NICHOLAS (Mrs)**  
Chairman of the Council

**J M REDFEARN (Mrs)**  
Clerk to the Council