

# *Huish Episcopi Parish Council*

**Draft Minutes of the Meeting of Huish Episcopi Parish Council (HEPC) held at Huish Episcopi Primary School on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022 at 7.00pm.**

**Present:**

Cllr Shirley Nicholas Chairman  
Cllr Graham Lock  
Cllr Julia Gadd  
Cllr John Wood  
Cllr Barry Horsgood  
Cllr Jane Redfearn  
Cllr Keith Peto  
Cllr Rob Crumb

Emma Curtis – Parish Clerk

**There were six members of the public in attendance some of whom provided information on planning applications being considered.**

**The meeting opened 7.10pm**

**01/2022. Apologies for Absence.**

Received from Cllr Arwyn Harris and District and County Cllr Clare Paul. Reasons for absence approved.

**02/2022. Declarations of interest.**

Received from Cllr Rob Crumb – Langport Town Councillor.

**03/2022. Approval of Minutes.** It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 as a true record. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

**04/2022. Matters arising from the minutes.**

No matters arising.

**05/2022. Planning:**

**a. To consider applications received since last meeting:**

**21/03845/S73A** Badger Cottage, Newtown, Langport, TA10 9SE

S73A application for the removal of Condition 5 (Windows, first floor windows in the north elevation) of approval 20/00201/FUL Erection of dwelling and garaging, relocation of visitor parking area

*No Objections*

**21/03754/OUT** Land Adjoining Highfield Farm, Windmill Lane, Huish Episcopi  
Outline application for residential development of three dwellings and a garage building for Highfield Farmhouse, all matters reserved save for access and layout  
*No Objections, however it was noted that the SSDC Local Plan stated not to join Pibsbury with Huish Episcopi.*

**21/03769/HOU** 14 Orchard Vale, Huish Episcopi, TA10 9QW  
Demolition of Conservatory and erection of Single Storey Side and Rear Extensions and Erection of Garaging and Home Office  
*It was agreed to support this application in principle but to suggest a pitched roof would be more suitable for the location.*

**22/00120/OUT** Snowdrop Cottage, Wagg Drove, Langport, TA10 9ER  
Outline application for a self build detached dwelling with some matters reserved except for access  
*No Objections*

**22/00135/REM** Land West Of Frog Lane, Langport  
Reserved Matters application for approval of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following outline approval 20/00131/OUT for the proposed erection of 1 No. Dwelling  
*No Objections*

**b. To consider application 21/02785/OUT following presentation from Clive Miller Planning Lt at January's meeting:** Cllrs agreed that there was nothing further to consider at the present time regarding this application.

**c. To note decisions notified since last meeting:**

**21/03721/HOU** 15 Huish Lea, Langport, TA10 9RF  
Conversion of integral garage and erection of a single storey extension to rear of dwelling  
*Application Approved With Conditions*

**d. To note applications still in progress:**

**21/02339/FUL** Land At New Farm Lane, Bowdens, Langport  
Alterations and conversion of barn to dwelling, erection of garage and alterations to form vehicular access, parking and turning  
*Awaiting Decision*

**21/00311/OUT Planning Application Re-Consultation**

Land To The North of Somerton Road Adj The White Bungalow, Somerton Road, Langport  
Outline planning application for up to 100 dwellings, associated open space and infrastructure with all matters reserved except access  
*Awaiting Decision*

## **06/2022. Highways and Car Park**

Cllr Horsgood reported that a new telegraph pole had been erected outside the car park.

**a. Bus Shelter on Somerton Road.** Cllr Nicholas reported that she had been in contact with the new CEO of Persimmon Homes to try and push for the shelter but as yet no reply had been received. Cllr Nicholas confirmed she would keep trying.

**b. Speed Indicator Device (SID).** Cllr Peto summarised the information circulated in his monthly report and provided information on a new radar gun which was being trialled by speedwatch. Cllr Wood reported that the statistics received via the SID show that the device is making a difference within the parish and is slowing traffic.

## **07/2022. Reports from meetings and training attended by councillors since the last meeting**

**Outdoor Pursuits and Leisure report:** Meeting postponed so no report.

**Abattoir Liaison Group:** Cllrs noted information supplied in Cllr Harris's monthly report and expressed concern regarding temporary accommodation for workers. It was agreed to ask Cllr Harris to elaborate on this at the next meeting.

**Youth Club:** Cllr Horsgood reported that the Youth Club was doing very well and an undergraduate was working with them for 12 months. Cllr Horsgood stated that fundraising continued to help underprivileged children attend a camp later in the year.

**Flood Group:** Cllr Crumb referred Cllrs to his report stating that he had attended the January meeting as HEPC Flood Warden. Cllr Crumb further provided information regarding the Curry Rivel Cycleway Group and the meeting he attended.

**Litter Picking:** Cllr Crumb reported that the next litter pick would take place on Friday and the group was meeting once a month during winter and twice a month during summer. Cllr Crumb encouraged new volunteers to attend and stated that the catchwater at Cocklemoor would be getting cleared of weeds.

**Tourism and Marketing:** Cllr Gadd summarised her report submitted prior to the meeting and stated she felt that HEPC should become members of MTIG. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Gadd become the HEPC MTIG representative.

**HEPC/LTC Joint Meeting:** Cllr Wood requested that an item for the next joint meeting following the elections be the provision of a community hall. Cllr Wood presented information he had prepared for LTC on a community hall and a possible location and requested that the Clerk send this to LTC for circulation. Cllr Wood and Cllr Nicholas stated they had been discussing with GTH the possible purchase of some Glebe land.

## **08/2022. Community**

**a. New Changing Rooms. To receive an update and consider quote for next phase of project:** The Clerk stated that following some comments made at a HEPC/LTC Joint Meeting with Cllrs stating a Village Hall may be better suited on the site, she had reservations about the location and continued expenditure of public funds on the project. This is especially prevalent with the upcoming elections and possible change of HEPC administration. The Clerk queried what research and community involvement had been undertaken as this would be required for grant applications should extra funding be needed. It was noted that the majority of the build should be covered by s106 funding. Cllrs considered whether LTC should also be contributing towards the project. Following discussion and consideration of the quote for stage 3 of the project it was **RESOLVED** to proceed. Cllr Crumb abstained from the vote.

**b. Climate Emergency Fund. To receive an update on the project:** Cllr Peto provided an update on the project and its success. It was noted that the project required more administration than anticipated.

**c. Platinum Jubilee. To consider commemorative gift for children within the parish:**

Following discussion it was agreed not to proceed with a commemorative gift for children within the parish. Cllr Crumb's proposal of a gift for 70 randomly selected residents was also not supported. Funding for community events was considered but it was felt this may be hard to administrate. Cllr Horsgood detailed events that the social club would be putting on over the weekend along with community events being championed by the Tourism and Marketing group. To conclude, it was **RESOLVED** to proceed with the purchase of some Jubilee Trees with plaques to plant within the parish and to purchase a Jubilee Flag for the flagpole at the War Memorial.

**d. Somerset Food Trail. To consider allotments involvement in The Somerset Food Trail:** It was **RESOLVED** to allow the allotments to be involved in The Somerset Food Trail.

**e. Free Trees. To consider requesting free trees and location for planting:** It was **RESOLVED** not to proceed with this initiative at this time as locations for 150 trees on public land could not be guaranteed.

**f. Annual Parish Meeting. To consider date and format of the Annual Parish Meeting:** It was **RESOLVED** to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7pm prior to the Parish Council Meeting.

#### **09/2022. Council**

**a. Neighbourhood Plan. To receive any updates:** The Clerk reported that the first quote had been received for consultation fees and that two further quotes would be gathered for consideration.

**b. Fingerpost Signs. To receive any updates:** Cllr Wood reported that there had been no response from High Ham Parish Council regarding the post at Picts Hill so proposed that HEPC proceeded with the restoration of the two posts within the Parish. It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with the refurbishment of the two posts and the Clerk was instructed to gain a quote and progress the works.

**c. War Memorial Steps. To receive any updates on repair:** Cllr Wood informed Cllrs that he had been in contact with a contractor and an estimate for the works was around £400. It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with the repairs.

**d. Website. To consider quote received for new Parish Council website:** It was **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation received and proceed with a new Parish Council website. Cllr Peto requested that the community website webmaster was thanked for his endeavours.

**e. Maintenance Contract. To consider merging the Maintenance & Ranger contracts:** It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with merging the two contracts and to increase the Rangers hours to four days per month from April.

**f. Meeting Schedule. To consider returning to bi-monthly meetings:** It was **RESOLVED** to continue with monthly meetings and reconsider following the elections later in the year.

**g. Staffing. To consider providing the Clerk with a Home Office Working Allowance:** Due to the increase in energy prices it was **RESOLVED** to provide the Clerk with a Home Office Working Allowance at a pro-rata rate of what is received from the Clerks other Council estimated at £13 per month.

### **10/2022 Accounts**

**a. To receive the bank reconciliations dated 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022 and sign as approved:**

Bank reconciliations were received and it was **RESOLVED** to sign as approved.

**b. To receive recent payments list approved between meetings:**

The payments list was received and accepted.

**c. To consider grant application from Langport Area CIO:**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve this grant application for £500.

**d. To consider grant application from The Women's Community Forum:**

It was **RESOLVED** to refuse this grant application on the basis that not enough information was provided on what the grant would be spent on.

**e. To note receipt of the Internal Auditors report for the first half of the 2021/22 year:**

Circulation and receipt of the report was noted. The Clerk/RFO was praised for work. No issues were raised.

**11/2021. Date of next meeting:** The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7.00pm.

**The meeting closed at 8.56pm.**

DRAFT