



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

17/02680/FUL Southcote, The Hill single storey rear extension and repositioning of front entrance gates, no objections. Permission granted.

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

17/02694/FUL Trial Ground 94 dwellings and associated public space and external works. The Council discussed this application at length regarding: reduction in number of dwellings, layout especially opposite Old Kelways, provision of two pedestrian crossings on Somerton Road and Field Road, extended pavement and bus layby on Somerton Road, reinstatement of public footpath L13/55, a central feeder lane on Field Road, positioning of green space within development, retention of hedgerow boundaries, and concerns about the water system.

The Council agreed that an entrance off the roundabout was not feasible and that creating a community hall on the land by the cricket field remained an aspiration. The Council was disappointed that the developer had not chosen to meet before submitting the application and asked the Clerk to try and arrange a meeting with Persimmon Homes to discuss these points further, if possible before making the Council's observations to SSDC.

17/02453/S73A Land at Iris Way detached garage/store – amendment to Condition 2 of approved application 14/03943/FUL. This building's footprint was larger than shown on the original application, with an appearance resembling a bungalow rather than a garage/store, and was also not built in the correct place according to the 2014 plans. Even with the reduction in roof height proposed, it would continue to be overpowering and affect neighbouring dwellings. Recommended refusal.

17/02453/S73A (Further amendment) The Council continued to recommend refusal on the same grounds.

**c. Appeal decisions.**

16/03005/FUL Land opposite Wearne Court conversion of redundant barn to a dwelling and new vehicular access for residential and agricultural use. Permission refused. Appeal dismissed.

16/04427/FUL Ducks Hill 4 dwellings – Council continued to have serious concerns about flooding implications and setting a precedent outside line of growth, therefore recommended refusal. Permission refused. Appeal upheld.

16/04807/FUL 67 Garden City erection of detached building. With one abstention, Councillors voted to support this application, no objections - permission refused. Appeal dismissed.

17/00454/FUL The Retreat, Windmill Lane until the lawfulness of this dwelling had been fully established (or not) in law, no extensions should be approved to what was originally a very small barn. Strongly recommended refusal of this retrospective application. Permission refused. Appeal withdrawn.

17/00455/COL The Retreat, Windmill Lane - until the lawfulness of this dwelling had been fully established (or not) in law, no certificate of lawfulness should be approved. Strongly recommended refusal. Permission refused. Appeal withdrawn.

Note: The Retreat, Windmill Lane - enforcement notice appeals had been upheld in part, part quashed resulting in withdrawal of Appeals.

**5. Minutes of the last meeting (17 July 2017).** Agreed and signed.

**6. Matters arising from the minutes and raised by members.**

**a. Wearne speeding.** This item was addressed during the Public Session.

**b. Trial Ground development.** There had been a useful meeting with Mr Andy West of Persimmon Homes on 8 October. The Clerk would contact the Planning Officer Mr Millar to find out the progress of his subsequent meeting with the developers on 10 October.

**Action: Clerk**

**c. Bus shelter.** Cllrs Horsgood and Lock had met several times with two Town Councillors to confirm the details and their recommendation was a Queensbury bus shelter at a cost of £4292+VAT, being the only style which would fit in the area outside Travis Perkins. The DIY, Area North Planning and the local bus company were content with the proposal which did not require planning permission. The Council resolved to accept this recommendation and the Clerk would liaise with the Town Clerk to progress installation and payment.

**Action: Clerk**

Cllr Lock had recently withdrawn from the joint group for the bus shelter, as he felt that he could not continue to work with town councillors who had demonstrated a lack of integrity and respect for the rules of confidentiality. Cllr Wood also observed that the disbandment of the Joint Committee on the question of working informally in camera had severely damaged the working relationship between the two councils, which had recovered only comparatively recently from the governance review imposed by the town council in 2010.

**d. White lining at car park.** A local firm had agreed to add a "Keep Clear" sign in line with the church car park entrance when working in the area.

**e. Grouped Parishes Scheme.** In view of the situation with Langport Town Council, the possible meeting with a Dorset Clerk operating under this scheme had been put in abeyance.

**f. Natwest closure.** Natwest had organised a weekly bus visit to Langport which local clients could attend. There was no news on the future of the building.

## **7. Correspondence received and other matters.**

**a. Allotments.** There was just one half plot vacant at present, but Cllr Pope anticipated that one or two tenants might give up at the end of the year before 1 February.

**b. Lengthsman.** The "triangle" of waste land at Barrymore Close next to the railway bridge had at last been filled and the Lengthsman would keep it under control. He would also cut back vegetation around the wigwag lights and attack the brambles around the footpath backing onto Old Kelways fields towards the end of Brookland Road. Cllr Lock would refer the Cricket Club hedgerow to the Town Trust.

**Action: Cllr Lock**

**c. Youth Club.** Cllr Horsgood reported that the Youth Club remained in very good heart. The Club was now a registered charity and had applied for consideration as a recipient of the Tesco grants from shoppers' blue chips. Clubs were now running every Saturday morning, supported by SSDC funding.

**d. Casual Vacancy.** On her resignation, the Council wished to record its thanks to Cllr Seaton and its appreciation for her work while on the Council, particularly with regard to working on the village signs project.

**e. Field Road painted warnings.** The Council asked the Clerk to request Highways to consider these warnings denoting the speed restriction.

**Action: Clerk**

**f. St Mary's Park - possible double yellow lines.** The Council asked the Clerk to request Highways to consider these at the top of the road to discourage inconsiderate parking.

**Action: Clerk**

**g. Electoral Boundary Review.** The Clerk would ask the Boundary Commission to consider returning Wearne and Combe to the same ward as the rest of Huish Episcopi. This part was moved to the Turn Hill Ward, apparently to even up electoral numbers.

**Action: Clerk**

**h. War Memorial repairs.** The Chairman, Clerk and Cllr Wood had met with Mr Steve Mounsey of the Royal British Legion to discuss the memorial. It was possible the War Memorials Trust might agree to fund some refurbishment, and the Councillors were clear that non-invasive attention would be welcome, but the charm of the memorial was its style in keeping with the time of its construction. The Clerk had arranged for Mr Gillingham to repair the broken pillars at the memorial in time for Remembrance Sunday at a cost of £104 +VAT and Mr Carter would clear and weed it as usual.

**i. Parish Maintenance Contract.** The Clerk would be advertising the next three year maintenance contract 2018-2021 in The Leveller and on the Website.

**Action: Clerk**

**j. Christmas lights at Westover.** In accordance with the Council's wish to add Christmas lights at the Westover trading estate, the Clerk would approach Peninsular Training, Shakspeare Glass and The Levels Basket Centre for their agreement in principle and, if forthcoming, then work with the Town Clerk to purchase lights similar to those already used for Bow Street. **Action: Clerk**

<b>8. Accounts.</b>	<b>Current Account</b>	<b>Savings</b>
<b>Payments authorised by RFO</b>		
SSDC - Election expenses	432.60	
<b>Receipts since last meeting (since 1 April 2017)</b>		
<b>total receipts</b>	<b>62859.77</b>	
<b>total payments</b>	<b>36925.21</b>	
<b>balance at 11 Sep 17</b>	<b>25934.56</b>	
<b>Business Reserve</b>		<b>56311.83</b>
<b>Parish Charities</b>		<b>1746.20</b>
<b>Payments to be authorised</b>		
Clerk – administration	7.91	
HEA hall hire	67.50	
The Leveller – Clerk vacancy advert	102.00	
SSDC – car park half year rates	687.00	
Grant Thornton audit	240.00	
Lengthsman	39.90	
F Pope – Allotments water pump petrol	22.74	
<b>Payments by Standing Order (25<sup>th</sup> of the month)</b>		
Clerk	500.00	
Lengthsman	189.29	

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

**a. Chairman.** Cllr Nicholas informed Councillors that she presently held the Council records box, previously in storage with the Natwest, and members could borrow these on request. The records would eventually be entrusted to the Somerset Archives, along with any other records not being handed to the new Clerk.

**b. Clerk.** The Clerk had received a request from Mr Sills, St Mary's Churchwarden, that Huish Episcopi Parish Council authorise him to register an extension to the churchyard at St Mary's Church with the Land Registry. This land was bought by Huish Episcopi Parish Council from Mr and Mrs Clarence Harris, in accordance with the conveyance dated 10 June 1958, specifically to form an extension when required. The land has continued to be managed by Lloyd's Trust tenants as part of the whole field. This was agreed by the Council and the Clerk would put this in writing to Mr Sills.

**Action: Clerk**

**c. Members.** Cllr Horsgood asked that the lights at the Shires zebra crossing again be reported as faulty and also that weeds be cleared from pavements at Brookland Road, Sycamore Drive and Newtown Road.

**Action: Clerk**

**10. Date of next meeting (20 November 2017).**

**The meeting ended at 9.00 pm**

**Agreed:**

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

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