

Huish Episcopi Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Huish Episcopi Parish Council (HEPC) held in the Huish Sixth Auditorium, Huish Episcopi Academy, on Monday 15 July 2019 at 7pm.

In attendance:

Cllr S Nicholas Chairman

Cllr G Lock

Cllr J Wood

Cllr B Horsgood

Cllr R Crumb

Cllr A Harris

Cllr J Redfearn

Cllr J Gadd

Lisa Newby Parish Clerk

Clare Aparicio-Paul (CAP) District/County Councillor (arrived 7:05 pm left 8:00pm)

8 members of the public (left the meeting by 8:50pm)

Press (left 8:30pm)

Public session opened at 7:00pm. Notes of the subsequent topics discussed are found appendix 1 at the end of the minutes.

Meeting opened at 7:22 pm after the public session.

36/2019. To receive apologies for absence, and to note and approve reasons given - No absences. Cllr Nicholas reported that Cllr Stranger has resigned from the parish council, creating a vacancy in the Huish Episcopi ward of the parish. The vacancy is advertised (11 July) and if no request for an election (from 10 parishioners residing the Huish Episcopi ward, by 31 July) then the space can be filled by co-option.

37/2019. Declarations of interest. None

38/2019 Approval of Minutes. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes are a true record of the Annual Parish Council meeting on 13 May 2019, and duly signed by the chairman.

39/2019 Planning applications

a. Applications received since last meeting

None at the time of issuing the agenda. Application **19/01641/HOU** The Willows, Bonds Pool, Langport TA10 9JQ – erection of first floor extension and a balcony to the south east elevation and carrying out alterations was received by the clerk on 12 July. It was agreed to delay in response to allow time for neighbours to the application location to view plans if required.

b. To note applications still in progress:

18/03657/FUL – land north of Brookside Wagg Drove Huish Episcopi - erection of dwelling and car port. Amended plans received for information.

18/03993/FUL - Land adjacent to the Grange Pibsbury TA10 9EJ – Erection of a dwelling house and a double garage. No objections

c. To note decisions notified since last meeting:

19/00099/FUL – Land OS 8441 Pibsbury TA10 9EH – Erection of a general purposes agricultural barn with solar PV panels. No objections. Permitted with conditions.

19/00892/HOU – 38 Bishops Drive – Extension. The Parish Council objects to this application. Permitted with conditions.

19/01304/HOU - Cobtree House – erection of extension. No objections. Permitted with conditions

d. To note correspondence received from parishioners in Pibsbury regarding the development opposite Autumn Leaves in Pibsbury. The parish council contacted the Internal Drainage Board, with a response received 15 July, stating that officers had visited the site in question.

40/2019 matters arising from the minutes.

a. Motion received to review resolution. A request was received from three councillors to revisit item 26/2019 Community Speed Watch (CSW) liaison. New information was provided resulting in the requirement of only one parish councillor to act as support for CSW. It was resolved that Cllr Wood is the CSW liaison.

41/2019. To receive written or oral reports from Councillors attending meetings on behalf of the Parish Council.

Langport and Huish Episcopi Youth Group (LHEYG) Cllr Nicholas and Cllr Horsgood attended a LHEYG meeting on 6 June. Youth Group continues to flourish. Attendance at Yeovilton Air Day, hard work over the weekend, but youth group had an excellent presence.

Abattoir Liaison Cllr Harris attended the meeting on 18 June, which was cancelled last minute due to mis communication. Issues rearranging a subsequent meeting due District Councillor who was chairman was not re-elected. South Somerset District Council (SSDC) will not provide administrative support but will provide two officers (District Councillors) to sit on the board. Cllr Harris offered to chair the group, and the clerk offered to administrate for the next meeting only.

River Group meeting. Cllr Gadd attended the river group meeting at Langport Town Council (LTC) on 5 June. Main focus is monitoring to be able to show that improvements in visitor numbers, employment. Important for LTC and HEPC to work together. Currently waiting for the Environment Agency to approve certain aspects of the walkway.

Fingerpost Training attended by Cllr Crumb, Cllr Gadd and Cllr Wood, covered the health and safety aspect of fingerpost refurbishment. Due consideration is being given to fingerposts located within the parish, current status and whether it is possible to refurbish or restore.

42/2019 Cycleway meeting. The cycleway agreement was discussed, Cllr Lock has reservations about some of the content. Apart from the reference to 'Huish' being changed to 'Huish Episcopi', it was **RESOLVED** to agree the content of the agreement.

A map of the boundary for the Westover part of the cycleway owned by LTC has been provided by LTC, for clarification. A breakdown of the fees involved for the purchase of the Westover part of the cycleway, the licence negotiation for the longer part of the cycleway, legal fees was provided. The total outstanding, after allowing for VAT (LTC to reclaim) and a grant provided by SSDC, there is a balance of £2295 to consider. Drayton Parish Council and Muchelney Parish Meeting would contribute a total of £360, leaving £1935 to be split between HEPC and LTC. It was agreed to discuss this again at the next cycleway meeting 24 July 2019.

43/2019 Highways and car park.

a. Damage to War memorial. The war memorial was badly damaged at the end of May. As a result, an insurance claim is ongoing for the repairs and to repair the fence to the car park. The clerk is still obtaining quotes for the work that is required.

b. Overnight parking in the car park opposite the church. It is recognised that options are limited for what action HEPC can take regarding overnight parking. Further suggestions were improved signage (bigger and brighter) to state no overnight parking, and also a height restriction bar, which could be rotated aside for authorised vehicles (such as Wessex Water).

c. Academy agreement for car park use during term time. It was **RESOLVED** to agree the agreement and that Cllr Nicholas signs on behalf of the parish council. The agreement will be sent to the Academy to be signed, along with an invoice for usage.

d. Speed Indicator Device (SID). The benefits of a SID were discussed again, and that a second type of device had been researched which was cheaper. It was agreed that the purchase of a device is best delayed until the volunteers to manage the device were in place, which included persons chapter 8 trained. Appeals on the community website, and also the Leveller has offered a space to advertise for volunteers. The community lengthsman has the necessary training to move the device.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve future budget of £2500 for the purchase of one Speed Indicator Device.

e. Bus Shelter – Persimmon homes, in response to a letter from Cllr Nicholas, have agreed (subject to HEPC obtaining the necessary planning permission) to facilitate land for a bus pull in and a bus shelter, on Somerton Road (Taunton direction). It was **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the clerk working with Cllr Nicholas, to explore the planning, design and cost implications to progress the project further.

44/2019 Village Hall. Cllr Crumb proposed that a working group works towards identifying a location for a village hall. A few possible locations were discussed. Cllr Harris suggested a 'New resident survey' to include question about a village hall. Cllrs Nicholas, Crumb, Harris and Lock to work together to discuss and try and make some progress.

45/2019 Outsource councillor email support. It was **RESOLVED NOT** to consider outsourcing the councillor email provision at this time. Cllr Harris to enquire with an email provider as to the possible costs involved in the provision being outsourced.

Members of the public left at 8:50pm.

46/2019 Accounts

a. to approve payments listed. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments listed. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payment to ICO in subsequent years to be paid by direct debit.

Balances for the July Meeting

	Bal b/fwd				£56,920.93
Receipts	Allotment plot 25			£36.00	
	VAT refund			£693.86	
				£729.86	£729.86
					£57,650.79
Payments	Auth in May meeting				
	Langfest 19	£500.00			
	Huish and Langport cricket club	£500.00			
	Langport and Huish Citizens	£500.00			
		£1500.00	£1500.00		
	RFO authorised				
	Came & Co Ins renewal	£593.74			
	Allotment maintenance	£58.90			
	NALC reference book	£19.99			
	Cleancut bus shelter cleaning	£45.00			
		£717.63	£717.63		
	To be authorised July				
	Salary clerk (July and Aug)	£973.34			
	Lengthsman (July and Aug)	£393.76			
	Clerk expenses	£168.21			
	ICO annual registration	£40.00			
	Academy room hire (May)	£33.75			
	Academy room hire (July)	£33.75			
	Hamdown Management	£80.00			
	Hamdown Management	£25.00			
	SSDC election fees	£471.67			
	Lengthsman weedkiller	£20.00			
		£2239.48	£2239.48		£4457.11
	Balance c/fwd September				£53,193.68
	Balance of reserves account including interest up to 01/07/2019				£68,189.28

b Current spend to budget It was **RESOLVED** to accept the current spend to budget for 2019/2020.

c. Account transfer to Unity Trust. The new bank accounts have been opened but the funds have not been transferred from Nat West to date. Unity Trust bank chased this on 9 July.

d. Reserves policy and Investment policy. It is a legal requirement for the parish council to have an investment policy, and a reserve policy in place. The clerk is to explore standard policies for both that would fit and can be tailored to fit HEPC.

47/2019 Date of next meeting 16 September 2019

48/2019 Press and public had left the meeting at 08:50pm

49/2019 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM Staff in confidence.

An action point from the Internal Auditor is to review the parish clerk's contract of employment. The consideration was to become a member of South West Councils. As a member, appropriate contract of employment and supporting policies are provided along with Human Resources support. It was **RESOLVED NOT** to go ahead with membership at this time as more information is required.

After some HMRC issues, the current payroll provision has been reviewed and it was **RESOLVED** to change to an alternative provision.

Meeting closed at 9:13 pm.

Approved by:

Mrs S Nicholas
Chairman
16 September 2019

Appendix 1 Notes from the Public Session of the meeting 7:00pm until 7:21 pm

Cllr Nicholas welcomed the new Council.

Concerns raised regarding trains not whistling when approaching the footpath across the railway line.

Parishioner who recently raised a complaint about a council member gave a brief account of the issue. Receipt of a response was acknowledged by the parishioner, and the apology within not accepted at all. Parishioner not happy and considering taking the complaint further to the monitoring officer.

Wearne Small Improvement Scheme (SIS), no update/correspondence received either by parishioners or by the parish council. There are some sensors on the road, apparently gathering traffic data, which have been in place for about six weeks.

Community Speed Watch have received complaints regarding a very loud speeding motorcyclist, which has been reported to PCSO, awaiting update.

Clare Aparicio-Paul (CAP)- District (SSDC) and County Councillor (SCC) –

Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) work continues as normal and the Bill is progressing. CAP is now representative on the Waste Board, as District Councillor and County Councillor. SSDC spending through the transformation process due to changing structure and as a result officer numbers reduced. Professional officers that have left post are now acting as consultants for departments such as planning, to address backlog of work outstanding. Full SCC meeting on 17 July. Annual audit report is very positive, funds are spread very thinly.

SSDC support for the abattoir liaison committee will be provision of the two officers (CAP and Tiffany Osborne) but will not support administratively as has been the case in the past. It is considered inappropriate that the abattoir takes this responsibility on.

2016-2036 local plan consultation from SSDC. There is a local community consultation in Langport (Bow Wharf) on Tuesday 16 July. Area North committee will only have planning applications of 10 houses or less referred to it, anything above this number will go straight to Regulation Committee.

Comment from the press regarding lack employment opportunities in the SSDC catchment, and that SSDC are investing funds in employment in Dorset. Scrutiny Committee have been advised that councillors are concerned that the benefit is going outside of the district council area.

Brookland Road, there is no progress with this issue currently, and all avenues have been exhausted to date.

Public session finished at 7:21 pm.