

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 18 November 2019 at 7pm.

In attendance:

Cllr S Nicholas Chairman

Cllr G Lock

Cllr J Wood

Cllr A Harris

Cllr B Horsgood

Cllr R Crumb

Cllr J Gadd

Cllr K Peto

Lisa Newby Parish Clerk

Clare Paul (CP) District/County Councillor (left 9:00pm)

Tiffany Osborne (TO) District Councillor (left 8:31pm)

Barnaby Harris and Owen Pike from Sanderson Weatherall LLP (left 7:25 pm)

Press (left 8:05pm)

3 members of the public (MOP)(left the meeting by 8:14pm)

Apologies: Cllr J Redfearn

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 7:26pm after the public session.

64/2019. To receive apologies for absence, and to note and approve reasons given - Apologies received from Cllr Redfears, prior engagement. It was **RESOLVED** to receive apologies and approve the reasons given.

65/2019. Declarations of interest. None

66/2019 Approval of Minutes. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes are a true record of the Parish Council meeting on 16 September 2019, and duly signed by the chairman.

67/2019 Matters arising from the minutes. A report was received from the clerk with updates on the war memorial, damaged bus shelter, footpath on The Hill, damaged parish sign, finance, allotments and defibrillator.

68/2019 Planning:

Application 19/03005/OUT has been received, which lies in an adjacent parish. The parish council **RESOLVED** not to comment, leaving responses to the appropriate parish council.

2 MOP left at 7:34 pm

a. Applications received since last meeting

19/01716/FUL Extension to existing commercial units to provide additional B1/B2/B8(a) employment unit Westover garage – no objections

19/02678/S73 vary condition 2 of application 17/04828/FUL Land OS Ducks Hill TA10 9EN – no objections.

b. To note applications still in progress:

18/03993/FUL - Land adjacent to the Grange Pibsbury TA10 9EJ – Erection of a dwelling house and a double garage. This application has been permitted with conditions.

19/02127/HOU two storey side extension, Kings Orchard, Kennel Lane, TA10 9SB.

Further amended plans received regarding this application, the parish council response remains unchanged.

c. To note decisions notified since last meeting:

19/01867/FUL reconfiguration of rear yard, Travis Perkins, North St Langport TA10 9RQ. Permitted with conditions.

19/02078/HOU side and rear extensions, Apple Acre, Sandpits Hill TA10 ONG. Permitted with conditions.

19/02113/S73 variation to allow car port/store land opposite Autumn Leaves TA10 9EJ. Permitted with conditions

19/02172/HOU Construction of a timber frame tractor shed and garden store, Moorfields, Pibsbury, TA10 9EJ. Permitted with conditions.

69/2019. To receive written or oral reports from Councillors attending meetings on behalf of the Parish Council.

River Group meeting. A written report was received from the meeting on 4 September 2019.
LTC Tourism and Marketing Committee meeting on 13 November 2019. Cllr Gadd attended and a written report was received.

LTC Climate working group Cllr Peto attended the initial meeting and a report was received.
Cycleway meeting on 11 September 2019 was attended by Cllr Nicholas and Cllr Lock, and a written report was received.

Village Hall working group met for the first time on 12 November and a written report was received.

Abattoir Liaison Group The notes of the meeting on 21 October, which was well attended, were received. The recent odour issues were discussed, and apparently were not from ABP but from the Wessex Water asset beneath the car park opposite the church. A date for the pollarding of the willows at the allotment field is to be set.

Community Speed Watch a report and statistics were received for November 2019. More volunteers required.

70/2019 Highways and car park.

a. Speed Indicator Device (SID). A report for the SID was received from Cllr Wood to circulate with the proposal. Memorandum of Use (MOU) is required from Somerset County Council (SCC) with appropriate MOU needs to be in place before moving forward, then the location plan can be added

b. War memorial. Cllr Wood is happy to meet with stonemason who completed the repairs to the war memorial after the collision regarding renovation/repair work. It was **RESOLVED** that a meeting be arranged with Cllr Wood and the stonemason to discuss works required.

c. Bus shelter update. An update of the progress with the insurance claim for the replacement bus shelter outside Travis Perkins. The insurance settlement offer and next action was discussed at length. It was proposed and **RESOLVED** to refuse the insurance company offer of £4500, and for the clerk to seek further guidance (via a solicitor or advice line) regarding recovering the full amount.

d. Damaged village sign. The Huish Episcopi village sign on the way into Newtown has been damaged. A new sign has been ordered at a cost of £395 plus VAT which can be installed by the parish lengthsman. An insurance claim has not been raised because of the relatively small value taking into account the £250 excess that would be applied.

71/2019 Community

a. Dog waste bin request, Wearne. This was discussed at length. South Somerset District Council (SSDC) have been contacted regarding the installation of new bin and the associated charges. A longstanding request for a bin in Brookland Road was mentioned as well. SSDC will look into the current use of bins in the area and the possibility of re-siting one. It was **RESOLVED** to wait for the SSDC response.

b. Phone box residents are unhappy with the current state of the phonebox. LTC apologise for the lack of action, but propose relocating it to Langport town centre and housing a defibrillator.

c. Local Area Flood Plan

It was **RESOLVED** to support the draft local area flood plan recently received, and that Cllr Crumb would be the parish council representative.

d. Christmas tree recycling point Communication received from SSDC. It was **RESOLVED** to allocate an area in the car park opposite the church and notify SSDC accordingly.

72/2019 Allotments

a. 2020 trees plated in 2020. The allotment field was considered to take part in this Transition Town initiative, but it was **RESOLVED** not to plant any more trees in this area. Alternative locations have been suggested.

b. Bulbs requested by allotment tenants to be planted on grass verges outside the allotment field. It was **RESOLVED** not to support this initiative as the parish council do not own the land where the proposed planting is to take place.

c. Cultivation definition and risk assessment. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the allotment risk assessment, and to include a definition of cultivation of plot in the allotment rules in the new year.

d. National Allotment Society membership. It was **RESOLVED** to renew the membership, after the clerk attended a local forum.

TO left at 8:31

73/2019 Accounts

a. to approve payments listed. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments listed.

Balances for the November Meeting (as at 1 November 2019)

	Bal b/fwd				£32,159.71
Receipts	Insurance claim war memorial			£2,604.29	
	Further claim war memorial			£484.00	
	CIL 17/04060/FUL			£1,394.40	
	CIL 18/00761/FUL			£1,693.02	
				£6,175.71	£6,175.71
					£38,335.42
Payments	Payments authorised in September meeting				
	Cycleway LTC		£967.50		
	Luke Grafton Ltd		£822.84		
	RFO authorised				
	Bank charges	£18.00			
	HMS payroll	£18.00			
	Timeback accounts payroll set up	£55.00			
	GW shelter solutions	1200.00			
	HE Academy	£33.75			
	HE Academy defibrillator	£1,800.00			
	N Phillips war memorial	£1,838.59			
	Pheonix Landscapes car park	£396.00			
	Bridget Bowen Internal audit	£240.00			
		£5,599.34	£5,599.34		
	To be authorised November				
	Salary clerk (Nov and Dec)	£778.94			
	Lengthsman (Nov and Dec)	£393.76			
	HMRC (Nov and Dec)	£194.40			
	Timeback accounts Oct	£5.00			
	Timeback accounts (Nov and Dec)	£10.00			
	Clerk expenses	£25.65			
	Allotment expenses R Crumb	£44.80			
	SALC Regional training seminar	£48.00			
	Pheonix Landscapes car park fence	£580.80			
	For every cloud (Tommie sign)	£30.00			
	Lengthsman weedkiller	£20.00			
	Poppy wreath donation	£100.00			
	National Allotment Society	£66.00			
		£2,297.35	£2,297.35		£9,687.03
	Balance c/fwd				£28,648.39
	Reserves account balance b/fwd				£83,689.35
	Interest received July to September			£51.59	
	Balance of reserves account including new account deposit.				£83,740.94

b Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). It was noted that the CIL amounts were received and that they have to be duly marked as restricted funds in the accounts.

c. Internal Auditors Report. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the internal auditors report and the action points noted within.

d. Investment Policy. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Investment policy required by legislation, and to consider moving £50,000 to the TSB option suggested within.

74/2019 Policy updates:

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the reviewed publication scheme.:

3 MOP left at 8:40

75/2019 Grant applications

a. The Angel in Langport. The grant application received for £1000 was discussed. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the grant application.

b. St Margarets Hospice – to consider a budget provision as requested by another parish council. After much discussion it was **RESOLVED** not to support this request, but possibly reconsider at a future time.

76/2019 It was **RESOLVED** to exclude members of the press and public for discussion of agenda item 77/2019 staff in confidence.

CP left 9:00pm

77/2019 Staff in Confidence Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC) was requested to assist with a benchmarking process for the parish clerk and responsible financial officer position. After some discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to implement the recommendation of an increase in salary to the new SCP19 of the National Joint Council of Local Government Services (NJP), and increase the hours per week from 10 to 12, with effect from 1 December 2019. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the reviewed contract of employment.

A further discussion evolved regarding the frequency of parish council meetings and reviewing a committee structure.

78/2019 Date of next meeting 20 January 2020

Meeting closed at 9:16 pm.

Signed:

Cllr S Nicholas
Chairman

20 January 2020

Appendix 1 Notes from the Public Session of the meeting 7:00pm until 7:25 pm

Member of the public wishing to speak about planning application 19/03005/OUT in a neighbouring parish, recently received. Briefly discussed with questions about proposed dwellings, access, precise location and reference to a previous application

Tiffany Osborne (TO) – District Councillor and Clare Paul (CP)- District (SSDC) and County Councillor (SCC) –

Short report due to purdah. County Council audit due to go ahead Thursday 28 November. Full council meeting postponed. Climate Emergency workshops postponed until the new year.

District Council full meeting postponed.

Brookland Road discussed with no definitive action imminent.

A question was raised about a recent local press article regarding Langport Town Council (LTC). CP has been asked for guidance by LTC regarding further funding avenues, as LTC budget is not met by the precept, not a governance review.

Presentation from representatives of SandersonWeatherall LLP

A short ten-minute presentation about a proposed development at Bowdens Crest Park, Langport, for 74 static holiday caravans. The applicants would like for the park to be used all year round, which means the pitches can be used for residential purposes. The potential planning application will be for change of use, with a possible age restriction.

The proposal was briefly presented. Subsequent questions regarding dealing with water run-off, sewage, impact on local services, and the concern regarding access to the site were discussed.

Public session finished at 7:25pm.