

## MUDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Julie Ferguson. Chilthorne Knapp, Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil, BA22 8QZ

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### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL –Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019, Mudford Village Hall at 7.00pm

#### PRESENT:

Mr P Sargent (Chairman)	Mrs J Lydon
Mr T Cavalier (part-time)	Mr N Lanigan
County Cllr Mike Lewis	Mrs J Ferguson (Clerk)
3 members of the public	

#### PUBLIC SESSION

A member of the public reported that there was a lot of debris in the river either side of the bridge on the A359, obstructing the flow of water and causing it to back up. The Clerk agreed to report this to the Environment Agency. Once again, the question of a safer crossing was brought up, the clerk agreed to chase up Gary Warren & John Nicholson after their advice was requested at the last meeting. The 'Road liable to flood' sign was leaning over, the clerk agreed to report this. There was still confusion over the exact Parish boundary, Cllr Lewis suggested the clerk request the definitive Boundary from SSDC.

#### 7.10pm – Meeting opened

Mr Sargent opened the meeting by presenting a Christmas Hamper to Mr & Mrs Cavalier in recognition of Mr Cavaliers efforts in the fight against the Primrose Lane development over the past 2 years. He said that the PC and the whole village were indebted to his contribution which has most definitely stalled the encroachment of Yeovil towards the village and the fight was not over yet. He wished Mr Cavalier a speedy recovery & looked forward to his attendance at future PC meetings. Mr Cavalier thanked the PC for their kind thoughts and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Apologies were received from Stephen Bartlett, District Cllr Tony Capozzoli, PCSO McIntosh and Jean Jones (VH Committee). Mr Sargent reported that Kay Mackenzie had resigned from the Parish Council since the last meeting and expressed sadness that she had felt it necessary to do so as she had been a valuable member of the PC and hoped that she would sit on the PC again in the future. Everyone agreed that she would be missed.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.** Mr Sargent declared an interest in Item 12 a) Financial Matters.

#### 3 REPORTS.

a) County and District Councillors report. Cllr Lewis reported that the County Council finances were looking healthy and a significant amount of money would be going into the reserves. West Camel PC had attended a meeting with Highways England to discuss the A303 upgrade and Cllr Lewis had raised the matter of the A359 impact at a recent public consultation also. District Cllr Capozzoli had sent his apologies.

b) Police report. The PCSO had sent apologies.

c) Village Hall Committee report. Jean Jones had sent her apologies.

#### 4 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28TH NOVEMBER 2019.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of the meeting held.**

**5 TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** There were no planning applications to consider.

#### 6 TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING DETERMINATION OF PLANNING NOTICES:

18/03763/COU – West Farm, Mudford, Extension to yard area. Application approved. Cllr Lewis expressed his disappointment that the Area East Committee had allowed the planning application to be approved and apologised to the Parish Council for the number of abstentions, to be noted that Cllr Lewis & Cllr Capozzoli had voted to refuse the application. The PC thanked Cllr Lewis once again for his support to the residents of Mudford in both this application and the larger Up Mudford application. It had been reported back from a member of the public that Cllr Rowsell & Cllr Hull (NIST Ward Councillors) in particular had abstained on grounds of lack of familiarity. The PC felt that this was unacceptable for their District Councillors, once again to let them down on an application that had caused so much damage to the community, especially in light of the recent court case that had upheld a planning decision to refuse

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permission for a Lawful Development Certificate for the existing use and return the site to its previous condition. The PC asked the Clerk to contact SSDC Democratic Services to understand what a Parish should expect from its elected District Councillor.

**ACTION: Clerk**

**7 OTHER PLANNING MATTERS:** There were no other planning matters.

### **8 COUNCIL MATTERS**

a) To consider the co-option of a Councillor. Mr Mark Rowlands expressed an interest in co-option to the council.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed by Mr Sargent and seconded by Mrs Lydon that Mr Rowlands be co-opted onto the PC.**

Mr Rowlands signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invited to take a seat on the Parish Council.

### **9 CEMETERY**

a) Cemetery headstones risk assessment. There was no change at this time.

b) Agree Exclusive Rights of Burial for Nick & Debbie Barnes.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve and sign the Exclusive Rights of Burial for Mr Nick Barnes & Mrs Debbie Barnes in plot D2-21.**

c) Chapel repairs. Mr Sargent reported that he had carried out repairs to the roof of the Chapel, replacing a number of tiles that had been displaced with the recent winds.

### **10 PLAYING FIELD AND PLAY AREA**

a) To receive playing field inspection reports from the relevant councillor and agree any actions arising. Mr Lanigan reported that the goal posts needed a good clean.

### **11 HIGHWAYS AND PARISH PATHS**

a) Droveaway Lane drainage ditch, West Mudford. The clerk reported that correspondence had been received from John Nicholson (SCC Highways) in response to an email from a resident requesting that County Highways complete the work that had been started to divert water away from Mr Garretts property. Mr Sargent asked the clerk to request a site meeting with Mr Nicholson to better understand the plan of action and to see if the PC can help the process along.

**ACTION: Clerk**

### **12 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

a) To approve the following payments:

Clerks Salary £444.15, HMRC £103.20, P. S. Services (Cemetery) £54.00, Newsletter printing £70.00, Chapel repairs £104.80.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to sign the cheques as presented.**

b) Other finance matters: Mr Sargent had been asked for the PC to consider granting payment for the Village Hall boiler repair at a cost of £330.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to grant the payment of £330 to cover the cost of the repair.** Mr Sargent suggested that it would make financial sense for the PC to purchase a more commercial printer that could handle the Newsletter printing. The clerk reported that the current printer was starting to become problematic also.

**RESOLVED: It was agreed for the clerk to purchase a suitable printer with a max. budget of £350.**

Mrs Lydon reported that the noticeboard outside the shop was in need of some attention, perhaps replacing. It was agreed to put this on the Agenda for the next meeting.

**ACTION: Clerk**

### **13 CORRESPONDENCE**

Rural Services Bulletin, NALC Newsletter. The clerk had received a letter in support of using the phone box to house a defibrillator. Noted.

**12 NEWSLETTER.** The PC thanked the clerk for the recently published Newsletter, saying that it had been well received in the Parish. Copies were available in the village shop.

### **13 CHALLENGE TO DEVELOPMENT AT UP MUDFORD**

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To resolve to exclude the press and public under s1 (2) Admissions to Public Meetings Act 1960 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. There was nothing discussed at this time.

**14**      **NEXT SCHEDULED PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS.** 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020. Further meetings will be called as necessary.

**8:30pm - Meeting closed.**