

## 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 - Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020, Mudford Village Hall at 7.00pm

#### Councillors Present:

Stephen Bartlett (Chairman)  
Phil Sargent  
Nick Lanigan

Mark Rowlands  
June Lydon

**In attendance:** C. Cllr Mike Lewis, D. Cllr T Capozzoli, the clerk and 2 members of the public.

#### Public Session

A member of the public reported the path between the A359 & Hales Meadow was slippery & the hedge was overgrown. The clerk agreed to report this to SSDC. The chairman was handed a letter from a resident requesting the PC consider installing a footpath around the Recreation field. It was agreed to put this on the next agenda for discussion & for the clerk to respond to the letter, letting them know. As it was not an agenda item, Cllr Sargent presented a 3<sup>rd</sup> quote for the footpath extension for the Cemetery. As the existing 2 quotes were out of date, it was agreed that Cllr Sargent would obtain updated quotes and that it would be on the next agenda for a decision.

Much discussion was heard about the conduct of SSDC planning department, Regulation Committee & Area Committees in relation to the meeting of the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2019 where the Primrose Lane development was decided. It was agreed that the minutes and the transcript or recording of the meeting should be requested by the PC, as it was believed that there were irregularities in the conduct of the committees and the planning process rendering the decision unlawful. It was noted that the PC had received an email from SSDC offering for the Head of SSDC, Val Keith to attend PC meetings as part of the 'Future of Local Government in Somerset' correspondence. The PC asked the clerk to respond and invite Val Keitch to a future PC meeting.

#### 7.35pm – Meeting opened

Cllr Bartlett welcomed Cllr Rowlands to the PC.

**20/01 Apologies for absence.** Apologies were received from Cllr Cavalier & Jean Jones (VH Committee).

**20/02 Members declaration of interests.** Cllr Sargent declared an interest in Item 20/12a) Financial Matters.

#### 20/03 Reports.

a) County and District Councillors report. C. Cllr Lewis explained that there was ongoing discussion regarding a unitary authority, but it was believed that ultimately Government will decide on the future structure. The County Council financial situation will be clearer when it is known what will be provided by central government. D. Cllr Capozzoli highlighted the SSDC Great Parish Tree Giveaway and offered details of a grant from Area East of £1000 for Parish Projects. It was agreed that the clerk would look into it for discussion on a future agenda.

b) Police report. There was no report.

c) Village Hall Committee report. Mrs Gane reported that they were obtaining quotes for the repair to the VH roof. There was a vacancy for 2 committee members, the treasurer and booking secretary. Up and coming functions – Fri 27<sup>th</sup> March, Easter Quiz night & Thur 9<sup>th</sup> April, Café. The clerk reported that a letter of thanks had been received from Mr Weir to the PC, for the grant of payment for the VH boiler repair.

#### 20/04 To approve the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 18th December 2019.

Cllr Sargent requested that the payment for the chapel repairs & the hamper be shown separately. This was agreed and the minutes were amended.

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

**20/05 To consider the following planning applications:** There were no planning applications to consider.

**20/06 To receive the following determination of planning notices:** There were no determinations to received.

**20/07 Other planning matters:** There were no other planning matters.

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### 20/08 Council Matters

a) To consider the co-option of a Councillor. There had been nobody who had come forward since the last meeting.

### 20/09 Cemetery

a) Cemetery headstones risk assessment. There was nothing to report at this time.

b) Cherry trees. Cllr Sargent had received a verbal quote from Dikes to remove the trees at a cost of £280. It was agreed to accept this quote as it was substantially cheaper than the other quotes obtained last year.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to instruct Dikes to remove the 2 Cheery trees from the Cemetery.**

**ACTION: Cllr Sargent**

### 20/10 Playing field and play area

a) To receive playing field inspection reports from the relevant councillor and agree any actions arising. Cllr Lanigan reported that there was a lot of dog mess and litter on the field.

### 20/11 Highways and parish paths

a) To consider repairing/replacing the noticeboard outside the shop. Cllr Lydon reported that the Noticeboard outside the shop required some attention. Cllr Bartlett and Cllr Rowlands agreed to have a look to assess any repairs that could be done and report back to the next meeting.

**ACTION: Cllr Bartlett and Cllr Rowlands**

b) Meeting with Gary Warren SCC Highways regarding traffic calming measures & crossing improvements. Cllr Sargent and Cllr Rowlands had met with Mr Warren and a number of improvements had been identified. These included traverse strips across the road at the bottom of the village, enhanced road markings & signage & anti-skid surface for the zebra crossing and nameplate signs at either end of the village. The crossing was noted to be unsatisfactory, however significant cost was attached to better lighting or traffic lights (£50K - £75K). This could not be covered by SCC Highways budget. C. Cllr Lewis was asked to consider the crossing for the Small Improvements Scheme. Cllr Sargent requested that the PC consider entrance 'gates' at either end of the village which could incorporate the village nameplate speed sign. The cost of the gates was £4000 and as this was not covered in the budget and with a potential costly repair for the Village Hall roof, it was agreed by the PC that it could not be considered at this time.

c) Speedwatch progress report. Cllr Sargent reported that he had a number of volunteers come forward, including someone to do the admin. He would report back at the next PC meeting.

**ACTION: Cllr Sargent**

### 20/12 Financial matters

a) To approve the following payments:

J Ferguson	salary & expenses	£467.22
HMRC	PAYE	£103.20
P. S. Services	Cemetery caretaker	£48.00
SSDC	Playground inspections	£95.40
KM Dike	Oct-Dec ground maint.	£1068.52
Burrows-Hutchinson LTD	Primrose Lane advice	£900.00
Mudford Village Hall	grant for boiler repair	£330.00
J Ferguson	printer reimburse	£234.46
Vision ICT	Domain renewal	£66.00

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

b) To approve the cashbook and bank account reconciliation for 13<sup>th</sup> Nov 2019 - 13<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to accept the cashbook as set out below.**

MUDFORD PARISH COUNCIL 30th January 2020			
Receipts & Payments 13th November -			
	Balance 13/11/19		£ 52,832.75
RECEIPTS			
	Bank interest		£ 4.22
	Bank interest		£ 4.30

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	Bank Interest		£	4.38
	Bank interest		£	4.74
	Memorial fee - William Brake		£	50.00
	Barnes - Exclusive Rights		£	100.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>			<b>£</b>	<b>167.64</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
	Salaries & Expenses		£	989.19
	HMRC		£	206.40
	David Callaghan - Marker stones		£	32.00
	P S Services - Cemetery Oct & Nov		£	54.00
	Phil Sargent - Chapel repairs		£	104.80
	P Sargent - Swing repairs		£	30.00
	Total		£	1,416.39
<b>Balance</b>			<b>£</b>	<b>51,584.00</b>
<b>BANK ACCOUNT STATEMENTS</b>				
Current Account		£	100.00	
Business Account		£	27,061.94	
Business Reserve Account		£	24,428.06	
<b>TOTAL BANK ACCOUNTS</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>51,590.00</b>	
<b>Add outstanding lodgements</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>Less outstanding payments</b>	K Mackenzie	<b>£</b>	<b>6.00</b>	
<b>Balance</b>			<b>£</b>	<b>51,584.00</b>

c) To consider and agree the budget and Precept request 2020-21. The budget was presented which necessitated a precept request of £30 800. This represented an annual increase of £13.16 for a band D property.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to approve the budget for 2020-21, as presented.**

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to submit a precept request of £30 800 for the year 2020-21.**

**ACTION: Clerk**

**20/13 Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence had been circulated by email and noted.

Rural Services Bulletin, NALC Newsletter, Great Parish Tree Giveaway, SWP Briefing, Buckingham Palace Garden Party, Services and facilities audit survey, South Somerset Health Walks, Wessex flood warden newsletters, NHS consultation on future of acute mental health inpatient beds for people of working age

**20/14 Newsletter.**

It was decided that the next newsletter would be an Easter edition. Cllr Bartlett asked for contributions for the newsletter to be passed to the clerk.

**ACTION: All Cllrs**

**20/15 Challenge to development at Up Mudford**

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. Cllr Bartlett provided a brief.

**20/16 Date of next meeting.** 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020. Further meetings will be called as necessary.

**9:10pm - Meeting closed.**