

MUDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL – Friday 25th January 2019 at Marston Magna Village Hall at 7.30pm

PUBLIC SESSION. Members of the public raised the following points:

18/03763/COU Land at West Farm.

Yard extension has already been carried out with more than the 1 permitted HGV regularly using the yard.

Previous owners operated without any extension to the yard therefore no enlargement is necessary.

This is an ongoing saga with nothing being enforced, despite enforcement promised by SSDC & Planning Inspectors to no effect.

They appear to be operating with immunity from planning department. Simon Fox promised action by instructing legal dept. for prosecution. Why has nothing been done?

Why should we have to comment again on something which is now under enforcement, when we have already provided comments previously?

The PC shouldn't discuss or consider an application that is being used unlawfully.

River banks have already been altered by the applicants business, which has changed the flow of the river and potentially increased the risk of flooding. This has been mentioned to Simon Fox. SB said this had been mentioned to the Environment Agency also, but they haven't visited the site.

PS brought up the proposed new roundabout at Sparkford and was concerned about the traffic impact on the A359. It was felt that a risk assessment for the A359 was needed. Figures from the Mudford speed camera show that the total vehicle numbers through the village are 2.5mil per year, with an increase of 8.63% year on year. Damage to the road by the increase in vehicle numbers and HGVs was severe, with the lanes around Limington becoming rat runs.

1	Attendance and to receive any apologies for absence and to consider acceptance of the reason. Present: Stephen Bartlett SB, Tony Cavalier TC, Phil Sargent PS, Nick Lanigan NL, June Lydon JL, Kay Mackenzie KM. In attendance: Julie Ferguson (Clerk), 8 members of the public. Apologies received & accepted: Lawrence Weir LW, Tony Capozzoli (District Councillor), Jean Jones (Village Hall Committee), Mike Lewis (County Councillor) would be late.				
2	Declarations of Interests. KM declared an interest in Item 5: Planning- 18/03763/COU. PS declared an interest in Item 9: Financial Matters; Payments - PS Services.				
3	Reports. To hear reports from: County Councillor. Mike Lewis reported the following: A303 Upgrade – Concerns have been raised by residents about the potential increase in traffic on the A359. Highways England are working with the Planning Inspectorate and are currently considering responses to the open forum held recently. County Council budget should break even this year due to the Chancellor of Exchequer providing additional £6m funding. TC expressed concern over the recent reports about increases in accidents due to the lack of gritting on many major routes in and around Yeovil. ML suggested writing to David Fothergill to express disappointment that gritting is not taking place and put any evidence/photos of accidents on social media. Police. The Police were not present. The Clerk reported that 2 instances of crime were reported to the Police for Mudford Parish in November. Village Hall Committee. Jean Jones had sent apologies as currently in full 'Panto' mode but provided the following report: The Village Hall Committee Treasurer Heather Rowlands has resigned from the 1 st April 2109. This is obviously a huge loss for the Committee and a plea goes out to anyone who might be able to take on this role, even if only on a caretaker basis until a more permanent solution is found. Clerk to note in Item 12. Parish Environment Warden. LW was not present at the meeting, however reports of flooding by the bridge had been received during the heavy rainfall before Christmas. Rubbish was reported in the garden of Chapel Cottage where rodents had been seen. ML suggested if the rubbish problem persists then it could warrant reporting to Paul Huntington – Environmental Health Officer. Clerk. The Clerk circulated the meeting schedule for 2019 and will send to PC members electronically and post on website.				
4	To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22 November 2018. RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of the meeting held.				
5	To consider the following planning applications and make recommendations to the planning officer: KM left the meeting whilst 18/03763/COU was discussed. <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Ref</th><th>Detail</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>18/03763/COU</td><td>Land At West Farm, West Mudford Road, Mudford, Yeovil, Somerset, BA21 5TL. Extension to yard area. Discussions regarding the fact that this was an unlawful site as the yard extension had been completed without permission concluded with the following decision; Since there is an ongoing court case pending on the site members felt it was odd that they</td></tr></tbody></table>	Ref	Detail	18/03763/COU	Land At West Farm, West Mudford Road, Mudford, Yeovil, Somerset, BA21 5TL. Extension to yard area. Discussions regarding the fact that this was an unlawful site as the yard extension had been completed without permission concluded with the following decision; Since there is an ongoing court case pending on the site members felt it was odd that they
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18/03763/COU	Land At West Farm, West Mudford Road, Mudford, Yeovil, Somerset, BA21 5TL. Extension to yard area. Discussions regarding the fact that this was an unlawful site as the yard extension had been completed without permission concluded with the following decision; Since there is an ongoing court case pending on the site members felt it was odd that they				

		<p>were being asked to consider the application, however worries that the planning department would pass the application without further objections being made from the PC meant that comments would be provided in objection to the proposal.</p> <p>It was noted that the applicant had been interviewed under caution.</p> <p>Further discussion raised the point that there was a second aspect to the planning application, namely storage. Worries existed over what exactly is to be stored and the visual impact of storage containers, with further water displacement increasing the flood risk.</p> <p>Scrap vehicles were reportedly abandoned on the areas around the yard.</p> <p>Generally it was felt that these ongoing applications with no enforcement of proper process were gradually chipping away at the lack of planning approval and being used as stalling tactics by the applicant in order to continue with unlawful use of the site.</p> <p>RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to recommend refusal.</p>
19/00057/DPO	Key Site, Lyde Road, Yeovil, Somerset, BA21 5HR.	<p>Application to modify a S106 agreement between Yeovil Developments Ltd, BDW Trading Ltd, South Somerset District Council and Somerset County Council dated 12th June 2015 in relation to Highways Agreement (including the omission of highways improvement works Element 6 Mudford Road/Lyde Road junction and Element 7 Mudford Road/Combe Street Lane/Stone Lane junction)</p> <p>It was generally felt that, once again developers were wriggling out of their S106 obligations with no proper justification. Figures obtained from the Mudford Speed camera show a trend of 8.63% increase in traffic year on year. The modifications to these 2 junctions would presumably have increased safety and traffic flow with the proposed increase in vehicle numbers. Mudford data suggests that the traffic is increasing significantly each year therefore the modifications should go ahead.</p> <p>RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to recommend refusal.</p>

ML left the meeting at this point.

6	To receive the following determination of planning notices: The following notices were received and noted:		
	18/02982/LBC	Castle Cottage, Main Street, Mudford, Yeovil, Somerset, BA21 5TE The carrying out of internal alterations to first floor to form additional bedroom	Application Permitted with Conditions
	18/03054/S19	Stone Farm, Stone Lane, Yeovil, Somerset, BA21 4NU Conversion of barns to form five residential units, car ports and stabling, and re-instatement of cottage to residential use, including associated internal and external alterations and erection of extensions without compliance with conditions 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09 and 10 of Listed Building Consent referenced 17/03999/LBC	Application Permitted with Conditions
	18/02736/S73	Stone Farm, Stone Lane, Yeovil, BA21 4NU Conversion of barns to form five residential units, car ports and stabling and re-instatement of cottage to residential use, including external alterations, erection of extensions, garaging and car ports without compliance with conditions 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15 of planning permission referenced 17/03998FUL	Application Permitted with Conditions
	18/01900/FUL	70A Stone Lane, Yeovil, BA21 4NU Demolish existing buildings, the erection of a replacement dwelling and conversion of existing bungalow to a domestic garage/studio	Application Permitted with Conditions
7	Other planning matters. There were no other matters.		
8	<p>Council Matters.</p> <p>Clerks Contract. Agree newly appointed Clerk's contract: SB asked for the Clerks contract to be sent to all Councillors electronically for their consideration and, if acceptable, presented at the February meeting for signature.</p> <p>Public Sector Bodies Accessibility Requirement. Receive briefing paper from SALC and agree any actions arising: Clerk briefed Councillors on the detail regarding accessibility requirements required of Council websites by Sep 2020 and the need for an assessment to be carried out to ensure the village website complies with these requirements. It was agreed that the Clerk could instruct Vision ICT to carry out this assessment and any changes deemed necessary providing the cost does not exceed £300.</p> <p>Cemetery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cemetery headstones risk assessment: There was nothing new to report. 		

- Consider plot reconfiguration and headstone positioning and agree any actions arising. RESOLVED: The removal and repositioning of Mr Taylors family headstone from the current location plots T50 & T51 to plot B13. Also to accept the quote provided from Appleby & Childs to carry out the repositioning and for the PC to pay all costs (£198). Clerk to arrange.
- Consider plot marker stones wrt. maximum size, design. RESOLVED: Maximum size of plot marker stones on row 'T' to be 24"(H) x 17"(W) (61 x 43 cm).
- Consider standard burial/internment plot size. PS suggested further discussion required. Clerk to add to Agenda for next meeting.
- Agree revised wording in table of fees (re installation of memorials and headstone size). Clerk to update Table of Fees to detail row 'T' maximum headstone size and memorial fixing codes of practice requirements. Also to show all dimensions with their metric equivalent.
- Agree exclusive rights of Burial for plot B1-13? (to replace previously agreed rights on 'T' plots 50 and 51)

Herbert William Chivers
 Rosalind Fitzner
 Richard Taylor
 Christine Taylor
 Keith Kilgannon
 Elsie Joyce Molloy

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve and sign the exclusive rights of Burial for Herbert William Chivers, Rosalind Fitzner, Richard Taylor, Christine Taylor, Keith Kilgannon and Elsie Joyce Molloy in plot B1-13.

- Agree exclusive rights of Burial: Plot C2-27: Christine Mitchell. RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve and sign the exclusive rights of Burial for Christine Mitchell in plot C2-27.
- Agree exclusive rights of Burial: Plot T51: Una Wills. RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve and sign the exclusive rights of Burial for Una Wills in plot T51.
- Agree exclusive rights of Burial: Plot T50: P McHugh. RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve and sign the exclusive rights of Burial for P McHugh in plot T50.
- Quotes for Cemetery path. 2 quotes were provided, PS felt because of the large costs involved a 3rd quote should be sought, with a breakdown of costs. PS agreed to source another quote. Clerk to add to Agenda for next meeting.
- Quotes for removal of 2 Cherry trees. A verbal quote of £30 from Dikes had been received to kill the trees but didn't include removal, TC offered to get another quote by next meeting. Clerk to add to Agenda for next meeting.
- Quotes for 8 new 'T' plot markers. After some discussion it was decided that only 4 'T' plot marker stones would be required, due to better positioning between the plots. Providing the quote for 8 stones was proportionally reduced (excluding delivery) it was agreed to accept. Clerk to arrange.

Playing Field and Play area.

- To receive playing field inspection reports from the relevant councillor and agree any actions arising: JL reported that there was nothing significant to report, other than some litter needing to be cleared up. NL observed that a vehicle, probably a moped, had left some damage to the grass. SB suggested that it be re-assessed Mar/Apr time and re-seeded if required.
- Playing field fitness equipment update: Councillors reported that the equipment was proving popular with children and adults alike. NL reported that whilst carrying out playing field inspections he took advantage of the cycling machine but felt that the movement possibly wasn't as 'free' as it could be. SB agreed to try it out. It was suggested that an article on the Play & Fitness Equipment should appear in the next edition of the Newsletter. Clerk to note in Item 12.

Highways and Parish Paths.

To receive reports regarding highways and agree any actions arising.
 Clerk reported that a reply had been received from County Highways from a previous request for slippery moss to be treated on the footpath between Hales Meadow and Main Street Mudford. This service was no longer funded by the County Council so SB suggested that salt/grit be applied to the footpath regularly and this would solve the problem. Neighbours in the area would be approached to see if this is something that they could support.

- Provision of roadside grit. The purchase of 8 bags of salt/grit was agreed, with further bags to be purchased as required. PS agreed to buy the bags from Wickes (£4.30 - cheaper than the council, £4.74) and store at the Cemetery. These would then be distributed when required.
- Receive update regarding damage to speed indicator device and consider any actions arising. Westcotec had been informed that the post was now in place and ready for the camera to be installed. Clerk to chase this up.
- Consider finger posts maintenance and decide whether to buy this service. LW was not available to provide an update on this item, Clerk to add to Agenda for next meeting.

9	FINANCIAL MATTERS:	
	To approve the following payments and two signatories for cheques: RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve the following payments and for NL & PS to sign cheques. TC signed the cheque for PS Services.	
	Salaries	£410.78

HMRC		£97.80
Postage telephone and mileage	January 2019	£13.47
S Graham	Stationary	£13.99
J Ferguson	Reimburse clerk for hall hire fee	£30.00
K M Dike	Cemetery ground maintenance	£1068.52
PS Services	Cemetery caretaker	£147.00
Chris Lee Tree Services	Tree surgery	£1350.00
CPRE	Membership	£150.00

Other finance matters.

- Budget as presented at Novembers meeting was unanimously agreed for the 2019-20 year.
- Precept – consider and budget and precept request for 2019-20. RESOLVED: The Council unanimously agreed to keep the Precept the same as the previous year, allocating £3110 of reserves to meet the 2019/20 budget.
- To approve the cash book and bank account reconciliation for 23 November 2018 – 25 January 2019. RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve the cashbook as set out below.

MUDFORD PARISH COUNCIL 25 January 2019			
Receipts & Payments 29 November 2018 - 25th January 2019			
	Balance 29/11/18		£70,200.50
RECEIPTS			
	Bank interest		£4.44
	Bank interest		£4.59
	Bank interest		£7.07
	Bank interest		£5.82
	Rivetts (Burial C Mitchell)		£175.00
	Queen Thorne PC donation		£2,500.00
	Memorial Inscription Curtis		£30.00
Total Receipts			£2,726.92
PAYMENTS			
	22/11/2018	Salaries	£524.91
		Nest	£28.10
		Postage telephone and mileage	£26.97
		LQM Ltd. Anthrax Report	£4,553.12
		Railton TPC	£1,000.00
		T Cavalier (Mileage)	£16.10
		R Buxton Solicitors	£ 2,587.20
		PS Services Cemetery Caretaker	£48.00
		Futureform Stationary	£63.89
		D Jarvis Associates	£2,160.00
		Such Salinger Peters Drainage report	£1,800.00
		MPCS Computer Security	£40.00
	20/12/2018	Sports & Play Consulting Ltd	£800.00
		S Graham (Engraved Plaque)	£21.50
		S Graham (Expenses)	£36.85
		HMRC	£97.60
		Salaries	£410.98
		Postage telephone and mileage	£33.37
		Newsletter (SSDC)	£49.48
		total	£14,298.07
Balance			£58,629.35
BANK ACCOUNT STATEMENTS			
Current Account		£100.00	
Business Account		£31,521.46	
Business Reserve Account		£27,007.89	
TOTAL BANK ACCOUNTS		£58,629.35	
Add outstanding lodgements			
Less outstanding payments			
Balance			£58,629.35

To consider ytd budget expenditure. RESOLVED: Ytd budget expenditure was circulated, checked and signed.

TC questioned why the Council had 2 Business Saver accounts with NatWest. SB believed that it was because one of the accounts offered a higher interest rate without instant access. TC agreed to confirm this was still the case.

10	<p>Correspondence. Consider the following correspondence and agree any actions arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation London Bridge - Vision ICT instruction to update website. It was agreed that it would not be necessary to instruct Vision ICT on the occasion of the death of the Monarchy. • Donation from Queen Thorne. There had been a request from Queen Thorne PC that the Council report back how the donation would be spent. TC advised that the money went specifically towards the cost of the LQM Anthrax Report, part of the legal costs for the Up Mudford challenge. Clerk to send a letter (email) of thanks to Queen Thorne PC advising how the donation was spent. • The Somerset Wood. Request from Cheddon Fitzpaine PC for contributions toward the long term care of The Somerset Wood which was being established by Somerset County Council in honour of the fallen from WWI. Discussion between councillors suggested that since the wood was a considerable distance from the village (Taunton), it would be more appropriate to plant a tree in the village for each WWI Veteran that came from the Parish. RESOLVED: Not to donate towards the Somerset Wood, but to consider further a village memorial.
11	<p>LIST OF ITEMS DISTRIBUTED AND AVAILABLE SINCE LAST MEETING: Rural Services Network News Bulletins; SWP newsletter; SALC AGM; Support the EA flood awareness campaign; Digital mapping toolkit; Royal British Legion flyer; Somerset Voice; Avon & Somerset Police newsletter; CPRE Newsletter; CPRE Save our soils campaign; SSDC rural housing plan consultation; School admission arrangements consultation 2020/2021; Xmas tree recycling flyer; SSDC Halls for hire-discontinued; Buckingham Palace garden party nominations; CPRE star count; Somerset water pollution article.</p>
12	<p>Newsletter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider request for resident to develop events section of website. Mr Wilkinson has offered to update/enhance certain areas of the village website. RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to accept Mr Wilkinson's kind offer of assistance with the website, with a note to review in 3 months how the arrangement is working. Clerk to arrange. • Appeal for foster carers. Clerk to put an item in the next Newsletter. • Feature on new play/fitness equipment in Play area (discussed at Item 8). • Vacancy on Village Hall Committee- Treasurer (discussed at Item 3). <p>It was agreed to finalise the content of the Newsletter in March for a pre-Easter publication.</p>
13	<p>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. (professional advice) Planning Application 14/02554/OUT. It was not necessary to remove the public. Receive update on legal / professional advice and consider any actions arising. There was nothing to report.</p>
14	<p>NEXT SCHEDULED PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS: 28 February 2019. Further meetings will be called as necessary.</p>