

MUDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Sue Graham. Sun View, Babcarry Lane, Keinton Mandeville, TA11 6DR

Tel: 07874 220140

E-mail: clerk@mudfordparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.mudfordparishcouncil.gov.uk

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL – THURSDAY 22nd January at Mudford Village Hall at 7 P.M.

Members are reminded that the Council has general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability) Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.

PUBLIC SESSION

Present: 5 members of the public including Nick Weeks (Chairman of Area East Committee,) Marcus Fysh, Western Gazette. SB opened the meeting and invited comments from the public.

Discussion took place about the decision making procedure for planning application 14/02554/OUT Upper Mudford, Primrose Lane. This would be heard by the Regulation Committee with Area East and Area South Committees as 'consultees.' This procedure appeared to be unprecedented although SSDC had provided assurances that it was not. Nick Weeks and Tony Capozzoli expressed concern and frustration with the proposed procedure, particularly with the lack of consultation. The general consensus from all present was that T Capozzoli would be unable to properly represent his parishes for such an important planning application.

SB asked NW what would happen with regard to public / parish representations on the day that the application was considered. There was some confusion about the process although at this stage it appeared that public / parish representations would be heard at both Areas East and South meetings and also at Regulation Committee. Nick Weeks reported that the Regulation Committee would most likely take place in early February and he would confirm details of the procedure for the Parish.

Discussion took place about the s106 process. The District Councillors present advised the Parish Council to ensure it negotiated a s106 agreement that would benefit the Parish. Frustrations with this process to date were outlined by Parish Councillors, including an initial seemingly positive meeting with the developer and the planning officer regarding provision of traffic calming measures (for example) only to be told some weeks later that there would be no impact on the A359 from the new development! Further examples were outlined, with contradictions about what would be realistic and reasonable for Mudford. The Parish Council still believed that measures regarding Highways, flooding and landscaping were a priority. Councillors were urged to attend the Annual Meeting of Town and Parish Councils on 27 January to voice their concerns.

Concern was expressed that if the application was refused and went to appeal, there may be no conditions / s106 requirements attached to the application. Others present felt that this would not necessarily be the case.

A Mudford Parishioner urged the Parish Council to contest the Inspector's decision on the local plan believing that the proposed development was in the wrong location, wrong side of Yeovil, and would impact on sewage, drainage, and flooding.

It was also pointed out that it appeared that the calculations on which the housing allocation for Yeovil had been based were wrong. It was not clear whether the local plan had been informed by the correct figures and evidence. This could call into question the need for the proposed number of houses in the plan.

It would be important that the application, if approved was subject to appropriate conditions to reduce the impact on the Parish, as well as an appropriate s106 agreement to ensure some benefit to the Parish.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Min	Item	Action
104	<p>Attendance and to receive any apologies for absence and to consider acceptance of the reasons. Present: Stephen Bartlett (SB,) Mike Jones (MJ,) Lydia Gane (LG,) Tony Cavalier (TC,) June Lydon (JL,) Phil Sargent (PS,) Geraldine Mabey (GM) In attendance: Tony Capazzoli (TCz) Sue Graham (Clerk) There were no apologies from Parish Councillors. Thelma Mead (PCSO) had sent apologies.</p>	
105	<p>Declarations of interest. Councillors present requested a dispensation for item 10h. <i>Consider budget for 2015-16 to inform the precept request for 2015/16; to receive grant figures relating to the Localisation of Council Tax Benefit. Agree precept 2015-16.</i> This was agreed on the grounds that the number of persons prohibited from participating would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business.</p>	
106	<p>To hear reports from the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ County Councillor: Not present▪ District Councillor: TCz reported that the Annual Meeting of Town and Parish Councils was taking place on 27 January. Councillors were encouraged to attend. There was a large planning application (150 houses) pending for Ilchester. Councillors were welcome to attend a presentation on this should they wish to do so.	

107	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Police: The Police report for Ivelchester was read out. ▪ Village Hall Committee: LG reported that the First Friday Event would be taking place on 6 March ▪ Clerk: The clerk's items would be covered by the agenda. <p>Presentation of Sport 50 Grant. MJ reported that the County Councillor had approved a Health and Wellbeing grant of £500 for Sport 50.</p>					
108	<p>To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27 November 2014. RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to accept the minutes as a true and correct record of the meeting held.</p>					
109	<p>To consider the following planning applications: There were no planning applications</p>					
110	<p>To receive the following determination of planning notices: The following notice was received. The Planning Officer's report had been circulated for Councillors' information.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">14/03522/FUL</td> <td style="width: 35%;">Conversion of old bakery building into dwelling house and alterations to include addition to 1st floor.</td> <td style="width: 35%;">The Bakery Site, Deacons Lane Mudford BA21 5TE.</td> <td style="width: 15%;">Grant permission with conditions. This had been circulated.</td> </tr> </table>	14/03522/FUL	Conversion of old bakery building into dwelling house and alterations to include addition to 1st floor.	The Bakery Site, Deacons Lane Mudford BA21 5TE.	Grant permission with conditions. This had been circulated.	
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111	<p>Other planning matters S106 regarding development at Up Mudford, receive update. SB updated those present on the situation to date. He and TC had attended a s106 meeting with Simon Fox (Planning Officer), and Mr Timmis (developer) Yeovil Without Parish Council had also been in attendance. This meeting had been positive and Mudford's proposals for Highways, e.g. flashing lights, pelican crossing, bus shelters, as well as for additional cemetery land appeared to have been well received. The onus had been on the PC to obtain quotes and information about the viability of locations and of proposed schemes.</p>	TC				
112	<p>This had been frustrating with Parish Councillors not being expert in such matters and with the reluctance of Highways to provide any information regarding cost of schemes. It had been necessary to involve the County Councillor to gain feedback from Highways. Its opinion was that traffic generation / levels resulting from the development would not warrant traffic calming scheme. The irony of this judgment was discussed especially in view of ongoing accidents, volume of traffic through the village, and refusal of previous planning applications in the village because of highways issues.</p>					
113	<p>Report of discussion re: additional cemetery land acquisition. It was likely that the proposed development (including a residential home) would result in an increase in demand for the cemetery. This had been acknowledged at the meeting with the planning officer and developer. The PC had been asked to obtain the likely cost of this. TC had discussed this with the landowner and asked for independent valuation to be carried out. SB pointed out that there would be associated maintenance costs with an increase in the size of the cemetery. TC would update and liaise with Simon Fox on this. Action: TC</p>					
114	<p>Receive correspondence from SSDC Community Health and Leisure re s106 contributions. This correspondence with proposals for s106 contributions was received. The following observations were made: Playing Pitches / Changing rooms. Councillors agreed with observations regarding the problems with the site and questioned the appropriateness of the location given that it is not level, has a sloping pitch and is next to a high pressure gas main, the fact that it would not be located near the school was also not ideal. In general, the proposals did not fit with the Parish Council's preference for the facilities to be off site in Mudford Village. Previous discussions with James Divall had resulted in a proposal by the Parish Council for a contribution to a sports pavilion / changing rooms in the village and an extension of Mudford's recreation facilities, rather than the development of new facilities on the development. RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to respond to the proposals as above. Action: Clerk</p>		Clerk			
117	<p>Receive notification of examination of South Somerset Local Plan 2006-2028 – Inspectors Final Report. Discussion took place over the accuracy of the data in the plan. It was noted that if this was found to be incorrect the whole plan could be called into question.</p>					
118	<p>Receive notification of Appeal Decision 14/01887/OUT. The change of use of land for mixed development comprising housing with annexed businesses, sports hall and community accommodation, Land East of Hales Meadow, Mudford. Appeal Dismissed. This notification was received. Councillors commented that it was interesting to note that highway issues had been identified as a reason to dismiss the appeal.</p>					
119	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES. It was noted that the Tree Planting had taken place on 9th December. A commemorative plaque for 40th tree was suggested. LG agreed to enquire about whether funding could be obtained for this. Action: LG The Bulb planting still needed to take place. LG agreed to ask the Church would like some bulbs. It was also suggested that some could be planted outside the cemetery. MJ and GM agreed to take part in this. Action: LG, GM, MJ</p>	LG LG,GM,MJ				
COUNCIL MATTERS:						

120	<p>To receive playing field inspection quarterly report from SSDC and agree any actions arising. The playing field inspection reports were received. The SSDC quarterly report had also been received. This had identified some areas which were already in hand (skate park surface, tree root problem, graffiti, broken seats.) It reported that a sign was missing. LG to check which is missing at next inspection. Clerk to update inspection rota and circulate to councillors. Action: Clerk.</p>	Clerk
121	<p>Skate Park surface – update. 2 quotes for this work had been received, at this stage the quote from GB Sport and Leisure was favourable. Another quote was due any time. RESOLVED: It was agreed to delegate the decision about this work to the Chair and the Clerk once the final quote had been received.</p>	Clerk, SB
122	<p>Skate Park graffiti –update. The clerk reported that she had been informed that using a professional artist to work with young people could cost in the region of £1800. It was suggested that a local school could be asked to complete some art work. PS agreed to approach the Art Department at Yeovil College. Action: PS</p>	PS
123	<p>Replacement of benches. Three quotes for benches had been received. RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the benches should be ordered from Glasdon and installed by KM Dike. Action: Clerk</p>	Clerk
124	<p>Playing field trees damage to tarmacked area – receive quotes to repair. It had been difficult to obtain more than one quote, three contractors had been approached and none had been able to provide a quote. The Tree Officer at SSDC had suggested a contractor and a quote was awaited from him. Work to remove the root problem was the priority, work on the tarmac would not be possible until a growing season had passed, this would minimise the risk of any further damage to the tarmacked area. NW, TC, members of the public left the meeting.</p>	
125	<p>Dog fouling –receive advice from Dog Warden and consider any actions arising. The clerk had contacted the dog warden. There was limited action that could be taken other than putting up signs. The problem was ongoing, there had been complaints and a report of a parishioner slipping on dog faeces and injuring himself. The problem was evident in the playing fields and on the public right of way from the bridge to Trent. SB agreed to contact the landowner to see whether there could be a sign put up. Action: SB.</p>	SB
126	<p>It was acknowledged that there was limited action that could be taken. Clerk to advise Dog Warden of complaints and to visit more regularly. PS offered to use spray paint if the Dog Warden was happy to provide it. Action: Clerk</p>	Clerk
127	<p>Managing Seasonal Issues – receive circular from Came and Company Parish Council Insurance. This had been circulated.</p>	
128	<p>To receive reports regarding Highways and agree any actions arising.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed Indicator Device (SID) dates for 2015. The dates were received. • Digital Speed signs – update and grant support, receive correspondence from James Divall. MJ has obtained quotes for the solar powered signs but was currently at a standstill awaiting input from Highways. The preferable option was more expensive at £7k but included a 6 year including warranty and installation. There was a possibility of a grant for this but the application also depended on Highways input. MJ to pursue Highways and ask for Mike Lewis’s involvement if necessary. Action: MJ. • It was noted that Community Speedwatch was due to start again next week. • Grass Verge Cutting on entrance to village. It was requested for the verge of the A359 to be cut between Hinton Crossroads and bridge, together with the area opposite the church. MJ would enquire about a service and cost at the Annual Meeting of Town and Parish Councils. Action: MJ • Recording of times A303 is closed and diverted via the A359 and Mudford Village. It was agreed that a record of this needed to be maintained. Councillors to report to clerk. Action: Clerk to maintain record. • Receive notice of Road Closure Marston Magna- Sherborne Road and Rimpton Hill. This would start on 2nd February for 54 days. 	MJ
129	<p>SALC New Councillor Training March 12th 2015– consider attendance. GM, TC and PS would attend on 12 March. Clerk to book and inform Councillors of details. Action: Clerk</p>	Clerk
130	<p>Parish Council Website, consider content and upgrade. The clerk noted that the current version of the website was outdated and difficult to use. Vision ICT had offered to upgrade the website for a £150 one-off fee. An example of how the site would look was available. Councillors agreed that the new version was better and that it would be beneficial to update the website to make it fit for purpose. RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to pay £150 for the upgrade.</p>	Clerk

131 **FINANCIAL MATTERS:**
To approve the cash book and bank account reconciliation for December -January. The cashbook and bank reconciliation were checked, agreed and signed.

MUDFORD PARISH COUNCIL 22 January 2014 Receipts & Payments since November 27 2014				
	Balance 27/11/14			£ 39,333.05
RECEIPTS				
	28/11/2014	interest business reserve account	£ 0.63	
	28/11/2014	interest bonus saver	£ 0.97	
	31/12/2014	interest business reserve account	£ 0.65	
	21/12/2014	Interest bonus saver	£ 1.14	
Total Receipts			£ 3.39	£ 3.39
PAYMENTS			£ -	
Total Payments			NIL	
BANK ACCOUNTS				
Current Account			£ 100.00	
Business Reserve Account			£ 14,081.40	
Bonus Saver Account			£ 25,155.04	
TOTAL BANK ACCOUNTS			£ 39,336.44	£ 39,336.44
Less outstanding cheques 22-01-15			0.00	

132 **To consider ytd budget expenditure.** The budget and YTD expenditure was circulated, checked and signed by Councillors.

133 **To approve the following accounts for payment and two signatories for cheques.**
RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve the following payments and for SB and MJ to sign the cheques.

Salaries Dec 2014, Jan 2015	Clerk's salary	£851.48
HMRC	Tax and NICs December 2014, Jan2015	£163.25
Expenses Dec 2014 and Jan 2015	Clerk's Mileage, Telephone, Postage	£50.22
Mudford Village Hall	Wi Fi at Village hall 2013	£200.00
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KM Dike Nurseries Ltd.	Playing Field and Cemetery maintenance	£977.84
KM Dike Nurseries Ltd	Concrete in loose goalposts	£60.00
Milborne Port Computers	Remote Support session	£30.00
Society Of Local Council Clerks	Membership Renewal	£103.00

134 **Internal Audit- update.** The clerk reported that the internal auditor would be visiting on 26 January to audit the accounts from 1 April- 31 December. He would also be completing a financial risk assessment. A report would be provided to the Council thereafter.

135 **Receive legal briefing from SALC. Transparency Code for Council with a turnover not exceeding £25k.** A legal briefing from SALC was received noting that councils with a turnover of less than £25k would not be subject to external audit but would be required to publish information about activities and accounts. It was not clear at this stage whether Mudford would fall into this category.

136 **Consider budget for 2015-16 to inform the precept request for 2015/16; to receive grant figures relating to the Localisation of Council Tax Benefit. Agree precept 2015-16.**

Councillors had met to consider the budget. Detailed consideration and discussion took place about each budget line, taking into account planned expenditure for the day to day running of the council, as well as contingencies. It was agreed that the budget needed to take account of work required on the play area, including planning to repair the tarmacked area damaged by the tree roots. This would require £5k to be set aside this year with a view to the work being completed the following financial year. In addition, the 'Parish Projects' budget line was increased, this included an allowance for digital speed signs. There were no further significant exceptions to day to day budget lines. A proposal was made to set aside a sum towards a legal challenge to the development at Up Mudford. This would result in a £6k increase in the precept. It was noted that it was best practice to consult with parishioners.

137 **RESOLVED:** It was proposed and carried with a vote 6 (for) - 1 (against) to agree the precept pending consultation via a consultation flyer. This would be distributed to households in the Parish to assess the extent of disagreement with such a proposal. The responses would be received in a public place on 29th January and final decision regarding the precept made thereafter. This would allow the SSDC deadline of 30th January to be met. Action: Clerk to prepare flyers.

138 **Grant requests:** Receive request for donation from South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau. This was considered

Clerk

