

MILBORNE PORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16th January 2007 at Milborne Port Town Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Mr E Davis (Chairman), Mr E Watts, Mrs S Brown, T Copper, Mrs R Douglas, Mr J Edmonds, Mr J Farley, Mrs W House, Mr A King, Mrs M Lock, Mr R Lockey, Mrs M Russell. Also in attendance : PCSO Fiona Wilson (part time) and County Councillor William Wallace (part time)

1. Public Question Time (Two members of public were in attendance)

- Mr M Brown made several comments relating to planning application no.07/00025/FUL (9 Newtown and land adjacent). It was confirmed these would be taken in to account when the application was discussed at this evening's meeting.
- Mrs Douglas reported flytipping of tyres on the track opposite 3 Arch Bridge. Also drains in Gainsborough had still not been cleared. Clerk to report both.
- Mrs Lock again reported complaints regarding all Bellway site traffic using Rosemary Street – the clerk had not yet been able to speak to Bellways direct, but would contact them again to discuss the possibility of using other routes.
- Mrs House expressed concern about the safety of the trees and walls around Crackmore rocks and approaches, particularly following recent gales and wet weather. A tree which had fallen within Crackmore rocks had been cleared quickly by Highways, however the stump was still in the adjacent gateway and required clearance. The clerk agreed to contact Highways on this matter.
- Mr Watts asked the clerk to query what action was being taken regarding the flooding problem at the bottom of East Hill. It was noted that the drains had been marked with paint for a second time, but no action yet taken.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Duckworth

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19th December 2006 were signed as a correct record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Town Hall Repairs County Councillor William Wallace presented to the Parish Council Chairman a cheque for £4,657.75 which he was able to give from his Somerset County Council Community Budget towards the cost of the reconstruction of the South Street doorway. Thanks were expressed to Mr Wallace and it was hoped that a press photograph would be arranged shortly to acknowledge Mr Wallace's support. Work on the South Street door was now due to start on 1st February 2007.

4.2 Repairs to Ball Court Buttresses The builder, Mr Lewis, had confirmed that work on the buttresses was planned for June 2007, or earlier if at all possible. He also confirmed that he had already sprayed the weeds in the walls last year and would be spraying them again in Spring 2007 and would monitor the state of the walls in the meantime.

4.3 Local Government Review Mr Wallace confirmed that the County Council would be meeting on 22nd January to decide whether to submit their proposal for single Unitary Council for Somerset. Mr Wallace informed the meeting that he and the Conservative party as a whole were against the County's proposal. It was also confirmed that the District Council would be meeting on 18th January to decide whether to submit their own proposal for East Somerset Unitary Council comprising South Somerset and Mendip District Council areas. Four meetings had been held with Parish Councillors to obtain their views, however the general consensus was that not enough information was available yet. Mr Davis and Mr Watts attended a meeting organised by the District Council and Mr Watts and Mrs Freeman (clerk) subsequently attended a meeting organised by Wincanton Town Council and attended by representatives from the District Council, the County Council and also the Government's South West office. It was understood

from these meetings that there were likely to be approx. 40 bids nationally, of which only 9 would be accepted. Only those accepted would then be taken to the consultation stage between March and June. Mr Wallace suggested that there was very little which a Parish Council could do until a decision had been made by Government as to whether one of the Somerset County or District bids was to be accepted, following which all should be ready to debate and lobby as necessary.

5. Planning

5.1 The following **planning applications** were considered:

07/00011/FUL The erection of a single storey and first floor extension to dwellinghouse *Gauntlet Cottage, 13 Sherborne Road* **No objection**

07/00025/FUL The erection of an extension to 9 Newtown and the erection of 2 no. dwellinghouses adjoining (Revised Application) *9 Newtown and land adjacent* The clerk asked the council to note the receipt of three letters of objection and read out the main points raised. **The Council had no objection to this revised application, with the exception that the external roof covering of the extension and both new dwellings should be in plain tiles of a size, colour and finish to match existing tiles on no.9 Newtown. (Proposed R Douglas, seconded R Lockey, agreed unanimously).**

5.1 The following **planning approvals** were noted:

06/3195/FUL Erection of extension to create toilets, office and 1st floor meeting facilities, alterations to main hall and relocation of existing storage building. ***Church House, Bathwell Lane***

06/03396/FUL Erection of a single storey dining room and garage extension *26 Prankerds Road*

06/04023/FUL Erection of a two storey extension to rear of dwelling and garden shed
06/04028/LBC *Garden Cottage, Southcombe Gardens*

5.3 Notification was received of **appeal decisions** relating to the following applications

05/02113/FUL Alterations to public house and function room, conversion of coach house into two dwellings and erection of two dwellings. ***The Tippling Philosopher, High Street. Appeal allowed subject to conditions***

06/00291/FUL Erection of a single storey timber framed conservatory
The Barn, Wick Road **Appeal Dismissed**

5.4 Notice was received of an appeal lodged in respect of the following application decision :

06/02821/FUL The erection of a fence on existing wall *Old Stable House, Paddock Walk* (Appeal by written representation)

5.5 Notice was received of the intention to name new roads as follows :

- **Old Tannery Way** – new length of street running in a northerly direction of West Hill
- **The Brambles** – new length of street running in a westerly direction off Higher Kingsbury

6. Finance

6.1 The following payments were approved:

Mr A Hingston	General Maintenance	£ 284.76
BT	Telephone charges – Town Hall	£ 81.79
GB Sport & Leisure	Shackles (8) for play area swings	£ 34.43
Mil..Port Primary School	School Swimming Grant (10 weeks @ £10)	£ 100.00

7. **Playing Fields Proposed Toilet Block** Mr Davis asked the Council to note that the outline planning permission received for the erection of a toilet block at the Playing Fields would expire in May 2007, however the SSDC Buildings Inspector had agreed that if the Council could get the necessary footings done, he would accept this prior to detailed plans being submitted and completion of the block at a later date, once funding was available. It was agreed that the Council should go ahead with getting prices for the necessary ground work to be carried out and at the same time arrange for detailed plans to be drawn up.
8. **Milborne Port Businesses**
- The clerk reported that she had been in contact with Roger Firmin who had drawn up a comprehensive list of businesses in Milborne Port in preparation for a directory. She had arranged to meet with him later that week to go through details.
 - Mr Edmonds stated that with no guarantee that the proposed supermarket in Paddock Walk would be built, the District Council should be asked to consider allocating land elsewhere in the village for a supermarket and car park. It was agreed that the clerk should talk to Matt Day of the SSDC Economic Development unit on this subject. She was also asked to pursue with him the need for small industrial units.
9. **Commonalty Charity Lands** Mrs M Dewfall and Mr S Davis were re-elected as Trustees to the Commonalty Charity for a further term of 4 years
10. **Post Office Network Consultation** A letter had been received from Mr David Heath MP inviting all Parish Councils to sign a petition in protest against the Government's announcement that 2500 post offices would be closed. The petition was duly signed by the Chairman and Clerk with the support of every member of the council present. Mr Heath also urged all councils to complete the Government's official consultation response form – the clerk to complete and submit. All members of the council felt strongly that the local post office network was of vital importance to rural communities and that every effort should be made to protect its existence.
11. **Grounds Maintenance 2007** It was proposed by Mrs House, seconded by Mrs Russell and agreed unanimously to re-appoint South Somerset Landscapes to carry out grounds maintenance in 2007.
12. **Correspondence**
- **Paul Robothan, South Somerset Together** – Local Strategic Partnership for South Somerset *Noted.*
 - **Tim Cook, Community Development Officer – SSDC** – notification of workshop re “Making it Work – the implementation of your Town/Parish Plan” to be held on Thursday 15th February 2007, 7-9pm at Chilthorne Domer Village Hall *Noted – Clerk to attend if workshop considered appropriate for parishes not yet at the Parish Plan stage.*
 - **Pat Johnson, Committee Administrator – SSDC** – Notes from Area East Workshop – Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2006 held on 22nd November 2006 *Noted*
 - **SSDC** – Summary of Accounts 2005/06 *Noted*
 - **BTCV Conservation Charity** – outline of services offered by local office in Yeovil *Noted*
 - **Mendip & South Somerset Community Safety Partnership** – invitation to attend an evening promoting the benefits of Neighbourhood Watch – to be held on Monday 5th February, 7-9pm in the Maddocks Pavilion, Moor Lane, Wincanton. *Noted*
 - **South Somerset Council for Voluntary Services – Winter 2006 newsletter** *Noted*
13. The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 20th February 2007