

MINUTES OF MONTACUTE PARISH COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2016 IN THE BAPTIST CHAPEL HALL

16/157/a PRESENT:

Members: Mr V Baker (Chairman), Mrs C Saint (Vice Chairman), Mrs J Folkard, Mrs A Gihon, Mrs A Jewell-Harrison, Mr H Marsh, Mr M Sampson, Mrs L Seigle and Mr D Warry

Others: Mrs S Moore (Clerk) and 5 members of the public

16/157/b APOLOGIES:

Mrs J Roundell Greene (District Councillor), Mr M Fysh (County Councillor) and the PCSO

15/158 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

None declared.

16/159 PUBLIC SESSION:

A resident expressed their concerns about the parking in Townsend especially on the corner by the entrance to the school. Vehicles are constantly blocking the road which makes it impossible for emergency vehicles to get through to Park View. It was agreed for the Clerk to contact the police about this situation.

Action Clerk

16/160 PCSO REPORT:

No report given.

16/161 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

16/161/a Cllr Roundell Greene:

The Clerk gave Cllr Roundell Greene's report. This covered:

- The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
- Flood prevention – with those at risk being able to get sand bags from SSDC
- And, a comment that Cllr Roundell Greene has not received a response from County Council regarding the traffic sweeps at the Lufton site.

16/161/b Cllr Fysh:

No report given.

16/162 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Minute ref: 16/144/c was amended to read 'if the hall was available at 5.45pm'

Minute ref: 16/146/c was amended to read 'no report given'

The Minutes of the previous meeting were signed and approved.

Proposed: Cllr Folkard Seconded: Cllr Warry agreed unanimously

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting were agreed and approved.

Proposed: Cllr Saint Seconded: Cllr Jewell-Harrison 7 agreed: 1 abstained

16/163 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

16/163/a Sporting Facilities

The Clerk confirmed that she had forwarded the information onto the contractor so that he could prepare the drawings. Once these had been done then these could be forwarded onto the town planner to prepare a planning application.

16/163/b Play Area

The Clerk said that she needed to arrange a meeting with a couple more playground companies to get some playground designs.

16/163/c 20mph Speed Limit Survey & SCC Feasibility Report

Cllr Baker said that the extraordinary meeting was well attended and that the meeting was held to collate the information from the surveys on what type of speed restriction the village would prefer and to send the result to Somerset County Council.

The Clerk has received the feasibility study from Somerset County Council which had been forwarded on to all members. The report divided the village into three areas: 1 = St Michaels View; 2 = Middle Street and; 3 = Yeovil Road and the findings from Somerset County Council are:

- Option 1 – 20mph Speed Limit: On the results of the S.I.D. results which given and current guidance where it states that the 85th percentile speeds which are above 24mph SCC do not feel that a 20mph limit would be appropriate in Locations 1 and 3. It also considers that the limit would be inappropriate in Location 2 because the length of the road is under the recommended 500m. Therefore under current guidance Option 1 has not been developed.
- Option 2 – 20mph Zone: As there has not been any specific safety issues identified it has not been possible to determine whether or not a 20mph zone would be appropriate. Therefore this option has not been developed.
- Recommendations: As vehicle speeds are compliant with the current 30mph speed limit and no specific safety issues have been identified at this site it has not been possible to establish the need for either option. It is concluded that either option could be delivered but as no specific safety issues have been provided it is recommended that neither option is taken forward at this time. Should either option be taken forward, then it will be necessary to undertake a detailed topographical survey of the site to determine whether or not a compliant solution could be provided.

A discussion was held and Cllr Saint said that the village has been asking for a 20mph limit for a number of years to which the Parish Council is in full support of. The speed limit should be changed to 20mph with additional signage by the school and at either end of the village to encouraging traffic to slow down.

Cllr Saint commented that over the years it has been difficult to differentiate between the road and the pavements in some areas due to the increase in levels of tarmac on the road. The surface needs to be removed so that there is a substantial height difference between the kerb and the road especially on the dangerous corner in the Borough leading into Middle Street.

Cllrs Jewell-Harrison and Folkard agreed with Cllr Saints comments. Cllr Sampson said that the village is in a conservation area with a considerable amount of listed buildings and thought that traffic calming would not be feasible but as the traffic is tidal depending on the time of day the preferred option should be a 20mph limit.

The Parish Council was congratulated on their persistence with trying to get a 20mph limit over the years and asked if SCC had responded to the survey report. The Clerk confirmed that she had not received a reply as yet.

Cllr Baker said that the majority of the surveys support a 20mph speed limit and proposed that the Parish Council should formally write to Somerset County Council. It was agreed the wording should read *'The Parish Council fully support the village and its residents in their request for a 20mph speed limit throughout the village. In addition to this the 20mph limit should be accompanied by painted (not physical) road narrowing marks at either end of the village and extra warning signage to denote a school in Yeovil Road and children crossing by the recreation ground/bus stop in St Michaels View'. The Parish Council strongly request that this recommendation is put forward'*.

Proposed: Cllr Baker

Seconded: Cllr Saint

agreed unanimously

16/163/d Christmas Tree

Cllr Saint said that the working party had agreed that after the tree had been lit then everyone could go back to the Baptist Chapel for refreshments. There will be a Christmas hat competition for both adults and children, Father Christmas would also be there and the

village choir have agreed to assist with the carol singing. Cllr Warry agreed to get the fruit and sweets and the Clerk said that she would contact Paull's to find out when the tree will be delivered.

Action Clerk & Cllr Warry

Cllr Warry asked if the Parish Council would be decorating a tree at the church. Cllr Marsh agreed to get the tree and Cllrs Baker, Seigle and Gihon agreed to do the decorating.

16/163/f Other

Cllr Jewell-Harrison said that she had been informed that the 'sheep wash' could be owned by SSDC.

16/164 HIGHWAYS:

The Clerk reported that she has responded to Somerset County Council regarding the request to have an 'H' Bar line marking at the entrance to Wash Lane via Middle Street.

The Clerk said that she had received an email saying that there will be an enhanced gully cleaning but not drain jetting. Also, as SSDC are now charging £12 per pot if any additional drains need cleaning.

The Clerk said that the winter grit collection can be made on 3rd December between 9am and 1pm. It was agreed to find out whether the groundsman could collect them as in previous years.

16/165 WORKING PARTIES REPORTS:

16/165/a Allotments

Cllr Gihon thought about having an allotment as a project for the children in the village so that they could learn how to grow vegetables and then give the produce away to the elderly. Cllr Baker said that a couple of the allotment holders could get involved and assist Cllr Gihon with this project. It was agreed to bring the plan to the allotment holders meeting on the 25th February.

Action Cllr Gihon

The Clerk said that the vacant plots need measuring and it was agreed that Cllr Sampson and the Clerk would measure the plots.

Action Clerk & Cllr Sampson

16/165/b National Trust

None declared.

16/165/c Street Lighting

No report given.

16/165/d Speedwatch

(Cllr Gihon left the meeting)

Cllr Sampson responded to the comments made about meeting with the Speedwatch co-ordinator. This was minuted on 18.01.16 Minute refs: 16/003 and 16/008 and referred to going around the village and, on 16.05.16 Minute ref: 16/072/b which referred to the zebra crossing. Cllr Sampson said that it was also after this meeting where he discussed with Cllr Bayes about arranging a time to meet with the Speedwatch co-ordinator.

(Cllr Gihon re-entered the meeting)

Cllr Baker said that as mentioned in the previous meeting all matters have to go through the Chairman and the members of the public should not have arguments with members.

The Clerk said the comments from the Speedwatch co-ordinator had been misconstrued at the September Parish Council meeting (*see minute ref: 16/122*), he was in fact asking whether the Parish Council would be willing to donate £100 towards Speedwatch signs and a leaflet drop.

It was agreed in principle to give a grant of £100 for Speedwatch signs/leaflets but a formal written request would be required.

Proposed: Cllr Saint

Seconded: Cllr Gihon

agreed unanimously

16/165/e Triangle Trust

Cllr Warry said that the Christmas Bazaar was on 26th November.

16/165/f Recreation Ground

Cllr Warry said that the junior football team reported water on the floor in the WC building

Cllr Warry asked whether a bill would be sent to the bonfire committee for the use of the recreation ground. The Clerk said that this had not been stipulated at the time so did not this would be appropriate. Cllr Baker said the procedure needs to be look at.

Cllr Folkard reported that there is dog mess on the recreation ground. It was agreed to put an article in the magazine and to monitor the situation.

16/165/g Footpaths

Cllr Folkard seemed to think that the PPLO was no longer operating and agreed to check.

16/166 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

No report given.

16/167 **CLERK'S REPORT:**

No report given.

16/168 **FINANCE:**

16/168/a **Matters for Report**

i. **NatWest**

The Clerk reported that NatWest had not carried out an instruction to increase a direct debit and needed Cllrs Baker and Saint to sign a letter demanding that this be rectified.

ii. **Budget & Precept Setting**

The Clerk had prepared the budget for 2017/18 and there were no significant increases to the budget. When the Finance Committee met to discuss the budget and the precept for 2017/18 it was suggested that there will be two major projects which are the play equipment and the sports pavilion. The money allocated in the 2016/17 budget but not used for new play equipment in the 2016/17 should be ring-fenced for this specific purpose in addition to any monies budgeted for in 2017/18. The Finance Committee also discussed the Land Maintenance contract and recommend that it is reviewed and possibly amalgamated into one contract.

The Clerk said that the Council Tax Support Grant will be significantly reduced and that she will not receive actual figures and Tax Base until the middle of December.

16/168/b **Cheques for Signature**

Sarah Moore	Expenses for October	£ 257.45	<i>Chq 1411</i>
K M Dike Nurseries	Grass Cutting on Rec October	£ 405.00	<i>Chq 1412</i>
Montacute Baptist Chapel	Hire of Hall for Oct & Extraordinary Meeting	£ 50.00	<i>Chq 1413</i>
Grant Thornton	External Audit	£ 240.00	<i>Chq 1414</i>
SSDC	Printing - Surveys	£ 18.84	<i>Chq 1415</i>
Broxap	Litter Bin	<u>£ 296.34</u>	<i>Chq 1416</i>
	Total	£ 1,269.93	

Proposed: Cllr Sampson Seconded: Cllr Marsh agreed unanimously

The Clerk passed the cheque for Montacute Baptist Chapel to Cllr Saint.

16/168/c **Matters for Resolution**

16/169 **PLANNING:**

16/169/a **Planning Information:**

No report given.

16/169/b **Report on Applications:**

16/04528/FUL – erection of a rural worker dwelling to replace temporary mobile home – Woodhouse Hill, Woodhouse Lane BA22 8TN – This application is in Odcombe Parish. The Clerk has asked for an extension.

16/169/c Report on Applications Considered

16/03981/LBC – refurbishment and conversion of the stable building – The Stables at Myrtle Farm, Back Lane, Montacute TA15 6XF – This application has been granted

16/03977/LBC & 16/03976/FUL– alterations to conservatory & kitchen area of the dwelling – Myrtle Farm, Bank Lane, Montacute TA15 6XF – These applications have been granted

16/170 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Clerk explained that she had received a couple of emails from a resident who thought that the Parish Council had a negative attitude towards the speed related issues in the village. The Clerk said that she had already responded to this email refuting that the Parish Council are negative and that it was the Parish Council who has been endeavouring to bring the 20mph limit scheme to fruition since it instigated the matter a number of years ago. The Clerk said that she directed the resident to the council's article in the August edition of the village magazine where a timeline of events was posted and stated that the Parish Council have followed all of Somerset County Council's procedures in this matter. The resident has since commented on the extraordinary meeting hoping that the Parish Council deal with the speed limit in a timely, open and positive manner and, on comments made out of the meeting by councillors. It was agreed that the Parish Council have always been supported of the 20mph speed limit but have to adhere to Somerset County Council's procedures and timescales. Also comments made out of a meeting are the individuals remarks and not that of the collective body.

16/171 **MEMBERS REPORTS:**

Cllr Jewell-Harrison agreed to ask the resident in Wash Lane to cut his hedge back.

Cllr Seigle offered to help with any matters regarding the playground.

16/172 **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10.20pm. There is no meeting in December and the next meeting will be held on 16th January 2017 at 7.00pm in the Baptist Chapel