

# CURRY MALLET PARISH COUNCIL

## ORDINARY MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Curry Mallet Parish Council  
held on Monday July 13<sup>th</sup> 2015 in Curry Mallet and Beercrocombe Village Hall.

**Present:** L W Frazer (Chairman), R J Allard, D R Beck, G K Townrow P McKeown and Mrs A J Clarke.

**In attendance:** Sue Steele (District Councillor), Mary Hughes (Village Hall Committee)

### 1212 Public Participation Time.

There were no items raised.

### 1213 To receive reports from the District and County Councillors on items that may be of interest.

The report from Derek Yeomans has been previously circulated to members. (21<sup>st</sup> June 2015)

### 1214 Declarations of Interest.

Mr Townrow declared an interest in item 1185.4 March Cottage, it being a neighbouring property to his own; in addition, on behalf of the Council, Mr Townrow had contracted Mr Dove in 2013 and 2014 to undertake various flood mitigation projects within the parish.

### 1215 To approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 15th June and extra-ordinary meeting of 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015

The minutes were approved and were duly signed by the meeting chairman.

### 1216 Matters of report arising from these Minutes.

1180 & 1188 return of Register of Interests to SSDC

- These had been returned to SSDC by deadline of 8<sup>th</sup> June. Mr D Beck's is now complete and will be lodged at SSDC by Mr Townrow on 22 July. Acceptance of Office forms were passed to the Clerk for safe-keeping.

1184 Footpath Matters

- Mr McKeown advised that Leslie Braunton, SCC Rights of Way Team Area Warden, has advised that one cut of paths has been completed and another is scheduled for September. Mr McKeown to check which paths this comment referred to and to highlight that L8/9 and L8/10 are problematic. He will also point out that the handrail on the footbridge is still in need of repair; it is currently in the ditch and that the Council are still awaiting confirmation that work undertaken by parish volunteers on 22 March meets the required standard and has been approved.

1186 Annual Return; progress to completion

- Mrs Clarke reported that the Return was submission to Grant Thornton on 22<sup>nd</sup> June and receipt acknowledged. Next communication due in August

1189 Signatories to Council's Accounts; progress update

- Mr Allard was to liaise with Mr Turner re progressing the change of signatories on the bank mandate form. Mr Hughes to be deleted on the same mandate. A second mandate, for Mrs Clarke and the Clerk, remained to be progressed.

1190 re-positioning of dog bin posts

- It was agreed that the Higher Street bin near the entrance to Doble Close should be straightened and the broken post mended. Mr McKeown to undertake the work and purchase cement and any other items necessary to effect repairs.

1201 Outdoor Play Area Working Group

- New members. Mr Allard noted that no progress has been made so far due to other priorities, but was aiming for an article in the next newsletter – copy date being 20th August.

1185.4 Complaint to SSDC Planning re wavy mortar courses on March Cottage wall

- It was noted that it had taken the Conservation and Enforcement Officers over 6 weeks to respond following the May 28<sup>th</sup> site meeting with Mr Dove, the owner: Mr Dove was to meet with the Ward Member on 14<sup>th</sup> July. The Parish Council agreed that this was an unreasonable delay and undertook to make formal representation if so requested.

### 1217 New Village Hall Committee.

1. It was agreed that the Parish Council would convene a Special Meeting on either 12 or 19<sup>th</sup> August (dependent upon N Greenslade's availability) to allow residents an opportunity to view the hall, ask questions and hopefully elect a new committee at the end of the session.

2. The evening should be positive, relaxed – with Coffee and cake and potentially children’s entertainments to allow adults a better chance to engage.
3. The Parish Council will write to each of the existing trustees, pointing out their continuing obligations. Mr Frazer to circulate a revised text and the letter to be sent by the Clerk for and on behalf of the Parish Council.
4. A separate letter is to be sent to the regular hall users asking for their support and confirming that forward booking are being honoured. Mrs Clarke, Mr Allard and Mr McKeown are to agree between them who will conduct each pre and post hire inspection as well as regular checks on the hall. Linda Sheridan, hall cleaner continues in her duties and is also to be asked to highlight any damage or cause for concern.
5. An A4 leaflet is to be printed and circulated to all homes in Curry Mallet and Beercrocombe. Beercrocombe Parish Council are to be asked to distribute within their area and Curry Mallet Parish Councillors will cover the remaining homes. The leaflet will be distributed 2 weeks before the meeting, will be punchy and positive in its messaging and contain a contact point (Mr Frazer). 220 leaflets will be required. Mr Frazer is also to ascertain the extent of hall usage over the past years.
6. The positive points to deliver at the meeting include:-
  - Healthy Finances
  - Good bookings and revenue streams
  - Hall is in a good state of repair and continues to be cleaned
  - The VHC now have CCS membership – offering a great support service
  - SSDC are fully supportive
  - Indemnity insurance for trustees can be made available
  - The VHC has the support of 2 Parish Councils and local charities and hall users.
7. Curry Mallet PC confirmed that they are effecting due process (for a registered charity) to ensure a new VHC is formed at the earliest opportunity and are working to ensure the hall remains open in the meantime.

**1218 Magna Carta Committee Update.**

1. The new village-centre sign is still awaiting completion at the sign fabricators; it has been confirmed that no licence fee is payable to County Highways in respect of the new village-entry signs. Planning approval for the village-centre sign is in place and the Parish Council to confirm an erection date once Highways approval has been confirmed. The old village-entry signs are still to be repositioned, Mr Townrow to progress with Gary Warren of County Highways.
2. Finance sheets to the end of June were shared. It was noted that some income is still awaited and that the Committee are to be reminded that they owe the Parish Council £170 of expenses as their share of the First Aid training costs.
3. If the VAT can be recovered then the event will break even. VAT reclaim to be made in September by the Clerk.

**1219 SCC Chairman’s Award Nomination for Services to the Community.**

This was discussed and members noted the closing date as 4<sup>th</sup> September. Any individuals to be considered are to be flagged to the Clerk.

**1220 Finance.**

1. It was noted that no invoice has yet been received for the June newsletter. Mr Frazer to pursue with the printers but it was agreed that up to £120:00 can be paid when invoice received. Proposed by Mr McKeown and seconded by Mr Beck. Unanimous approval.
2. Deardon’s invoice from April 2015. It has now been confirmed that the original cheque had been cleared by the bank and that Mr Frazer is liaising with Deardon’s to get returned the second payment he made to them last week for the same invoice.
3. It was agreed that the Clerk be paid his monthly salary for June by cheque, in amount of £111.97. Proposed by Mr Townrow and seconded by Mr Allard, this was passed. Cheque number 498 was issued.
4. SALC training costs – the invoice has yet to be received but the amounts will be £25:00 (new councillor training) and £59:00 Clerk training. Mr Allard proposed and Mr McKeown seconded that these amounts be approved and paid when the invoice received. This was unanimously agreed.
5. There were no other bills or invoices to hand.

**1221 To agree attendance by Councillors to any forthcoming meetings.**

1. Mr Frazer to attend PC Chairmen’s meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> September.
2. Mrs Clarke to attend new councillor training on 20<sup>th</sup> July
3. The Clerk to attend part 3 of clerk training on 16<sup>th</sup> July and Planning training for Clerks run by SSDC on 22<sup>nd</sup> September.
4. Mr Townrow to defer the session on Aims and Objectives due to priority for installing the new VHC.

## **1222 Correspondence.**

Councillors noted the e-mail from Graham Long concerning the Superfast Broadband partnership for Devon and Somerset. Phase 1 will be completed but Phase 2 is going through a new tendering process. In Curry Mallet the fibre broadband is working for some households.

## **1223 Items of Report**

1. Hedge growth infringing onto the highway along Silver Street has been reported to Mr Beck. Location was near footpath L5/12, east of Halfway House and Beer Street Junction. The Clerk is to raise this with County Highways and copy Beercrocombe PC as it is in their parish.
2. The issues with footpath L8/13 at Crimson Hill are to be referred to North Curry PC as it is in their jurisdiction.
3. Mr Townrow requested 3 Welcome Packs for new residents in Fieldgate Lane. It was unclear who held stock and how up to date the content was. Mr Townrow to investigate with the newsletter's Editorial Team and this will be an item for the September meeting.
4. Mr Townrow reported that the Sheppy Road Sub Station culvert clearance can now proceed. Western Power have confirmed they own the culvert and are arranging for it to be jet washed by a contractor. Once completed, County Highways will clear the road-side gullies and drains, allowing free passage of run-off water into the stream rather than along the road as at present.
5. Mr Townrow noted that four Curry Mallet students had been awarded prizes at Huish Academy's recent Annual Prize Giving Ceremony; Jemima Thornton, Zaida Adams and Anastasia Adams had been awarded Year Prizes for overall commitment to the life of the Academy and Isobel Lagnado had been awarded a Maths Prize for outstanding achievement.

## **Date of Next Meetings**

- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September – Parish Council Monthly Meeting
- 12 or 19 August provisional date for Special Meeting of Village Hall committee

Both meetings at 19:30 in the Village Hall

**Shaun Dale**  
Clerk to the Council