

**CURRY MALLET PARISH COUNCIL**  
**ORDINARY MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Curry Mallet Parish Council  
held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017 in the Curry Mallet and Beercrocombe Village Hall, Curry Mallet.

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

**1431. Public Participation Time**

No members of the public were present.

**1432. To receive reports from the District and County Councillors on items that may be of interest**

Cllr Yeomans' report for February had been previously circulated.

**1433. Declarations of Interest**

All members notified their non-personal and non-prejudicial interests in the Village Hall Lease agenda item.

**1434. Apologies**

Mrs A J Clarke, for family reasons (see min. 1355).

Cllr Sue Steele who was attending meetings elsewhere.

**1435. Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

These were approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

**1436. Matters arising**

1302. Village Website & Newsletter – Mr McKeown had prepared and circulated to members of the Steering Group a proposal for training and web-site management. He was seeking concurrence from the Steering Group before they engaged with Tea Pot Creative to implement the strategy.

Issue 46 of the newsletter had recently been published and, in response to an enquiry from Mr Townrow, no comments have been received by members as to either content or layout. A need for more extensive proof-reading was noted, however.

1320. Play Area – Mr Allard provided members with a ground area plan showing the overall layout and equipment as envisaged by Rob Parr of SSDC Leisure Services: He noted that revision to the siting of the basket swing and incorporation of a tunnel beneath the mound would be progressed, but the plan was much welcomed and would be displayed at the Annual Parish Meeting. In order to be compliant with Environmental Health regulations, weekly volunteer inspections of the Play Area's equipment and grounds would be necessary, with a log book to evidence the checking and reporting of defects. It was likely that the Youth Club table would need to be re-located to another part of the hall grounds. Mr Allard would also engage the Village Hall Committee in a similar discussion. Once these consultations were complete and plans amended, they will be shared with the Duchy of Cornwall's Land Steward. Following receipt of quotations for supplying the equipment, SSDC will be able to release the S106 capital sum (£4,177) to the Council. There then will be need of grant applications to external agencies and also community fundraising to finance the residual costs of equipment and ground works. Mr Allard was ensuring that the S106 timescales were achieved. Mr Allard was thanked for the Outdoor Play Equipment Working Group's achievements thus far.

1349. Church Street re-surfacing – Work was now complete and Highways had addressed the concerns of local residents regarding the drainage of surface water run-off. Their proposed ameliorative works far exceeded expectations and the Highways team were commended for their efforts, given the prevailing financial constraints.

1355. Parish Council Membership – Item ongoing and will be raised at the Annual Parish Meeting.

1369. Footpath bridge repairs - Mr McKeown continued to progress with the Rights of Way Team.

1375. Pope's Cross Notice Board – Mr Beck had discussed the fabrication with Brian Cleal, and now awaited a formal quotation in order to progress a grant application to SSDC.

1399. Annual Parish Meeting - Mr Townrow reported that the Community Safety Officer at Yeovil Fire Station was progressing the request for a speaker. Seven local organisations had also confirmed their willingness to speak. The Clerk to follow up outstanding invites and also provide a short introduction on Internet Safety as a taster to assess interest in a wider and more in-depth session on the subject. The Clerk had confirmed the Smart Meter team were also attending. 4 x Rollei display stands had been ordered from SSDC Area North.

1427. Contact verge cutting during 2017 - Mr Townrow to ask Highways to delay their contractor's Curry Mallet cut to the end of their schedule and to arrange for Westley Harris to cut in April / May, as necessary, dependent on the speed of growth in the next 2 months.

#### **1437. Village Hall Lease Renewal**

Mr Allard confirmed the Village Hall Committee will be apprised of recent discussions with the Duchy of Cornwall's Land Steward. He confirmed that the EPC inspection had been conducted on March 13th and that the report was awaited.

The Chairman reported on a potential liability for imposition of Business Rates were the Hall Committee's "Registered Charity" status to be lost, which needed to be considered as the lease renewal was being progressed.

Scope for installing a Hearing Loop within the hall building would be progressed by the VHC with Adrian Payn, the village electrician.

#### **1438. Footpaths & Rights of Way**

The Council appreciated the work undertaken by SCC Rights of Way and Stud Farm in maintaining paths on their land. The paths were clear and the hedge trimming means they remained an asset that the community can enjoy. Mr Townrow advised that, as a Volunteer Strimmer, he had received updated Risk Assessments from SCC Rights of Way which were used for their staff. Mr Townrow would incorporate the updated health & safety provisions in the Council's risk assessments for parish volunteers' community activities. These SCC Risk Assessments, regarding Materials Handling, Hedge-trimmer Use and Storage of Fuel, would be provided to the VHC for its use. (*Done*)

#### **1439. Planning**

##### **17/00884/FUL Glebe House Extension**

After consideration of the submitted plans, the Council had no observations to make on the submission since the proposed development was not detrimental to visual amenity for the wider community.

##### **17/00674/FUL Park Farm Agricultural Building Extension**

After consideration of the submitted plans, the Council had no observations to make on the submission since the proposed development was not detrimental to visual amenity for the wider community. The lack of proximity to the churchyard and the church building was noted.

#### **1440. Finance**

Bank Reconciliation at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017: (February Statements are still outstanding -

Current Account and Cash Book	£2706.94	(Bank £2806.94 - £100 chq outstanding)
Treasurers Account	£2864.52	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£5571.46</b>	

Beercrocombe PC has been invoiced for its 30% share of the Beer & Curry newsletter printing costs for 2016/2017 financial year, amounting to £84.88. Payment had been sought before the financial year-end.

The Council approved the following payments and cheques were raised accordingly:

Duchy of Cornwall – Playing field rent 6 months in arrears	£60.00	Cheque 550 Issued
PMP Printing, newsletter Issue 46	£117.48	Cheque 551 Issued

Clerk Salary Review. The NALC National Review had recommended a rise of 1.02% from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017. This would make the Clerk's Salary £115.14 per calendar month for Scale Point 15. Mr Townrow proposed that the Council adopt the National recommendation, Mr Frazer seconded this and all present agreed.

Grant Thornton external audit pack for the 2017 Annual Return submission was expected within the next 3 weeks.

#### **1441. Council Policies & Procedures**

- Review of Fol Publication Schedule – This was reviewed and Clerk to make final amendments and recirculate to members.
- Confirmation of Transparency Code Compliance. This was reviewed by the Clerk and deemed the Council to be compliant.
- Dates for 2018 meetings were provisionally agreed and Mr Allard to book the Hall Committee Room accordingly.

#### **1442. Attendance at forthcoming & recent meetings and feedback on meeting attended**

Nothing was reported.

#### 1443. Correspondence

Several items of correspondence had been previously circulated to members including:

- Police & Crime Commissioner's February Newsletter
- SWWP February Newsletter and Easter Bank Holiday collection arrangements
- PSPO (Public Spaces protection Order) letter from SSDC. Clerk to liaise with SSDC Environmental team over Dog Fouling orders for the playing field adjacent to the school and for the land surrounding the village hall. (*Done*)

#### 1444. Items of report from members

- Mr Allard reported loose fence posts in the fence run between the Helliars Lane access and the School Gate. As this was a County Council maintained fence, he will report the matter to SCC.
- It was noted Hatch Road will be closed for 1 day on 14<sup>th</sup> March and Beer Street, Beercrocombe on 7<sup>th</sup> April.
- South Somerset Area Highways' team were praised for the work they have undertaken at Headwell Bottom in clearing the ditches and replacing the rails along the side of the road. This work was really appreciated by members and would help provide safety for road-users as well as for the community when floodwater now will flow more easily through this constriction.
- Members noted with appreciation the re-alignment of the movement-activated light at the pedestrian entrance to the hall car park; greater visibility at the edge of Higher Street was now afforded to both pedestrians and vehicle drivers.
- The SSDC Engineering Technician (Denise Wallace) was to be contacted by Mr Townrow regarding replacement of the southwest side Doble Close street sign. (*Done*)

**Next meeting will be held on Monday April 10<sup>th</sup> 2017 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm**



Shaun Dale Clerk to the Parish Council