

DRAFT MINUTES OF HAMBRIDGE AND WESTPORT PARISH COUNCIL
VIRTUAL MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th JANUARY 2021
VIA ZOOM AT 7.30 P.M.

21/739 PRESENT:

Mr. S. Denley (Chairman), Mr. P. Masters (Vice Chair), Mr. R Maidment, Mr. R Meacham, Ms. J Lock, Mr. M Stanton (District Councillor), Mr. A Dance (County Councillor), Mrs L.Brooks (Clerk). 3 members of the public were present.

21/740 APOLOGIES:

Nothing to report

21/741 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Nothing to report

21/742 MINUTES:

The Minutes from the December meeting have been circulated. They were agreed and signed.

Proposed: Cllr. Lock

Seconded: Cllr. Maidment

Agreed unanimously.

21/743 PUBLIC TIME

21/743/a Public Time:

21/743/b District Councillor: District Cllr. Stanton had emailed a report that had been circulated to the Parish Councillors. Councillor Stanton also reported on the following:

Caravan parked at Westport update: Councillor Stanton reported that they had written to the owner via a correspondence address he was using. He agreed that it does seem to be dragging on. However, if the SSDC do take them to court to get this removed then this is unlikely to be any quicker due to courts having a backlog because of Covid. Councillor Stanton will investigate this further and report back at the next meeting.

Land Adjacent Burgum, Westport: – Councillor Stanton reported that Tim Wills from SSDC had been in touch after the Parish Council had raised concern at the December meeting to Cllr Stanton about the height of the build. He informed the Parish Council that Tim Wills had visited the site and agreed the building was higher than they had been granted. Since then the landowner and agent have surveyed the site again using more sophisticated surveying equipment and agreed that it is higher. They will be submitting a new (Retrospective) planning application for this. The Parish Council vented their disapproval with this and will do so when this new planning application is received. Councillor Dance confirmed they can continue with the build whilst they wait for the outcome of this new planning application, but it was advisable that they don't as there is a risk that they will have to knock it down.

SSDC Officers: Councillor Stanton also informed the Parish Council that many Council Officers have now been re-deployed to help with the Covid vaccine rollout.

Withy Patch - Westmoor Lane – Councillor Stanton reported that he had been informed by Tim Wills that all vehicles and caravans had now been removed. He has liaised with the Arboreal Culture Officer at SSDC about reinstating the traditional rural hedgerow that was removed.

21/743/c County Councillor: County Cllr. Dance had emailed a report that had been circulated to the Parish Councillors. Cllr Dance also reported on the following:

Gritting of Westmoor Lane: Cllr Dance has put in a complaint to SCC Highways following the recent Westmoor Lane RTA. This was due to black ice on the road and involved a car, ambulance and fire engine. He has requested that due to the current state of the road with its deep ditches and the severity of the cambers that it must be gritted. It is a route that is used regularly by many who are travelling into Yeovil. The dangers of this road had been raised in the past by the Parish Council to Highways, who replied by saying the road was totally safe. Chairman Cllr. Denley to write to Highways again to reiterate the Parish Councils concerns.

Action: Cllr Denley

County Elections: County Council has written to the Secretary of State to ask for a deferral in the County elections for a year, due to the Unitary. They are still waiting a reply. As it stands, County Council elections are due in May. However, because we are in another Lockdown due to Covid-19, he felt the elections are likely to be postponed anyway until later in the year. This will be confirmed..

Parking in South Petherton: Cllr. Dance reported that there is a traffic warden who is still patrolling in South Petherton during lockdown and warned people to be careful where they parked. He was going to ask County if this could be stopped at the moment due to the number of people working from home and therefore parking on the road.

21/743/c P.C.S.O. Report:

4x4 – see matters arising below

21/744 MATTERS ARISING

21/744/a 4x4's using the droves: The Clerk had received some video footage and photographs of another recent visit by some 4x4s on the droves in Westmoor Lane. She forwarded them to the Police. PCSO Steve Trace emailed to say he would be visiting the registered owners of these vehicles on the 6th January and issuing both with section 59 warnings and also if the untaxed vehicle is parked on the road it will be seized for no tax. Note - Section 59 allows the police to give drivers a warning if they are reported to have used their vehicle in a manner which causes "alarm, distress or annoyance". If reported to have done so again within a year the police have the right to confiscate the vehicle.

21/744/b Banking – changes to mandate etc: The Chairman reported that all signatures and details from all the Parish Councillors had now been sent off to the bank and an acknowledgement had been received. He felt they were a step closer. As soon as the changes to the mandate had been accepted by Nat West, then the clerk's details can be changed. Also, the changes need to be requested to the bank regarding holding £100 only in the current account with money being automatically transferred from the reserve account every time a payment is made. The Chairman had recently visited Nat West to get a print out of the bank statements enabling the Clerk to carry out the bank reconciliation and end of third quarter accounts.

21/744/c Emergency Action Plan: The Clerk has updated the Emergency Action Plan to the best of her knowledge and past it to the Chairman for any additional amendments he wished to make. Chairman, Cllr Denley, will forward a copy to all Parish Councillors when this has been completed. **Action: Cllr Denley**

21/744/d Road safety mirrors – Cllr Denley reported these have not been ordered yet as they are not in stock. When they are back in stock a Pro-Forma invoice will be raised to the Parish Council for payment.

21/744/e Benches – update on repairs: The Chairman reported on the repairs that have been done to date. The work was praised by the Parish Council. The Chairman said he had spoken to Paul Knight and told him to proceed with the repair of the British Legion Bench on the green (previously estimated). The Parish Council agreed that the Dave Ridges memorial bench on the rec ground should also be repaired with Parish Council funds. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to this. Paul Knight to quote.

Proposed: Cllr. Maidment

Seconded: Cllr. Masters

Agreed unanimously.

21/7345 PLANNING:

201745/a Matters for report:

Nothing to report

21/745/b Decisions Notified:

Nothing to report

21/745/c Applications for consideration.

20/03336/FUL Land To The Rear Of The Lamb And Lion, The Green, Hambridge. Proposed erection of a dwelling and detached outbuilding. The Parish Council had received the plans to make their observations on prior to the meeting. They listened to the agent Helen Lazenby discuss the planning application and asked any questions they had.

The Parish Council had no objection to this planning application. Clerk to report to SSSDC Planning.

Action: Clerk

21/746 FINANCE:

21/746/a Matters for report:

End of third quarter accounts for 20/21: Accounts and bank reconciliation have been emailed to all Parish Councillors. Accounts need checking and signing off from internal auditor. The Clerk and Cllr. Maidment to liaise regarding getting accounts to new Internal Auditor for inspection, (Covid restrictions).

Action Clerk/Cllr. Maidment

End of third Quarter Balances.

Current account	£	1,060.90
Reserve Account	£	38,149.50
Total	£	39,210.40
There were 4 cheques not yet paid in:	£	214.80
Total as cash book		£ 38,995.60

VAT return needs applying for – still awaiting information to be able to do this.
The precept for 2021/22 was applied for on 13th December 2020 for £13,500.00.

Action: Cllr. Denley

2. Matters for Resolution:

Nothing to report

3. Cheques Payable:

Louise Brooks	Salary for December 2020	£ 192.06 chq no: 497
HMRC	PAYE payment for December 2020	£ 48.00 chq no: 498
Louise Brooks	Expenses for December 2020	£ 40.00 chq no: 499
Cox and Co Ltd	Payroll services for Jan/Feb/March 2021	£ 90.00 chq no: 500

Proposed: Cllr. Lock

Seconded: Cllr. Masters

Agreed unanimously.

21/747 CORRESPONDENCE:

All correspondence received, had been forwarded to the Parish Councillors.

21/748 FOOTPATHS:

Nothing to report

21/749 MEMBERS' REPORTS/ITEMS FOR NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

Cllr Maidment reported some potholes on Ruskway Lane. Clerk will send through the link to report any road defects that Parish Councillors find.

Action: Clerk

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm.

The next VIRTUAL meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th February 2021 at 7.30pm