

Huish Episcopi Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Huish Episcopi Parish Council held in the Huish Sixth Auditorium, Huish Episcopi Academy, on Monday 17 September 2018 at 7 pm.

In attendance:

Cllr S Nicholas Chairman
Cllr G Lock
Cllr J Wood
Cllr F Pope
Cllr B Horsgood
Cllr C Palmer
Cllr R Stranger
Cllr R Crumb
Cllr K Peto

Lisa Newby Parish Clerk

Clare Aparicio-Paul District/County Councillor (left 8:33pm)

PCSO Malissa Thompson and colleague Josh (arrived 7:20 pm, left 7:30 pm)

9 members of the public

1 member of the press (left 8:29 pm)

Public Part of the meeting opened at 7pm. Notes of the topics discussed in appendix 1 at the end of the minutes.

The public part of the meeting ended at 7:30 pm with flowers presented to Councillor Nicholas to celebrate her 40th year as a Parish Councillor for Huish Episcopi.

Meeting opened at 7:34 pm

01/2018. To receive apologies for absence, and to note and approve reason. No apologies.

02/2018. Declarations of interest. Cllr Pope declared an interest in item 10.

03/2018 Approval of Minutes. Agreed approval and signed as a correct record the Minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council on 17 July 2018.

04/2018 Planning applications

a. To note decisions notified since last meeting:

17/04048/FUL – Land behind Badger Cottage. Permitted with conditions. Confirm that Application permitted for 23 dwellings.

18/01187/FUL – Mulberry Cottage 2 x sheds, permitted with conditions

18/01257/REM – Trial ground 80 Dwellings, permitted with conditions. Some discussion regarding the Public Right of Way, as Planning may support the possible diversion of the public footpath on this area. Cllr Palmer is currently investigating this, and has requested a meeting but with no response as yet.

18/01509/S73 – Merriots Farm, permitted with conditions

18/01841/FUL – 7 Brookland Road. Front porch and rear extension. Permitted with conditions

18/02350/FUL – 2 Southview, Tanyard Lane, TA10 9HF. Permitted with conditions

b. To note applications still in progress, or applications received since last meeting:

18/01249/FUL – Trial ground 94 dwellings. Although the outlaying permission for 80 has been permitted with conditions, this application still remains live on the SSDC planning website.

18/01420/COU – change of use. No objections.

18/01971/S73 – land at Ducks Hill – no objections.

18/02594/FUL – Former Atkins garage, level view Pibsbury – demolish workshop and erection of dwelling with carport – no objections.

c Notifications of appeals received since last meeting

APP/R33525/W/18/3202355 re 17/0460/FUL land opposite Autumn Leaves Pibsbury

APP/R33525/W/18/3202365 re 17/04236/S73 land opposite Autumn Leaves Pibsbury

Response required to Appeals panel by 21 September 2018, the Council still oppose this development.

05/2018. Matters arising from the minutes and raised by members, to include:

a. Allotments – to note that the allotment tenancy process is to be revised, including introduction of a written tenancy agreement, a new tenant process and an allotment forum in the form of social media page. Proposed that Cllr Peto to format a page for consideration

with appropriate security in place. **Agreed.** It was recognised that a social media policy would also be required, for adoption before the page goes live. **Action Clerk/Cllr Peto.** Proposal to explore placing a notice board at the allotment field. **Agreed. Action Clerk** to report at the next meeting.

b. Footpaths - To discuss and agree support of the Somerset County Council Volunteer schemes (correspondence received), and agree a Council representative. Cllr Crumb volunteered to be Parish Pathway Liaison Officer. **Agreed.** Cllr Crumb to work with Cllr Palmer to perform a footpath audit. Clerk to forward forms to Somerset County Council. **Action Clerk.**

Discussion regarding the complaints received regarding various footpath issues within the Parish. The lengthsman is unable to address any issues without the permission of the landowner. Cllr Palmer requested to view the lengthsman contract. **Action Clerk** Cllr Wood noted that the public footpath in Wearne is much improved and now accessible. Cllr Palmer noted that there is heras fencing in place to reserve the right of way on the Trial Ground area.

c. Church car park –

Correspondence received from Wessex water regarding proposed work on the Huish Episcopi Detention Tank situated in the car park. As a result, the proposed marking out of the car park is now postponed. The clerk is to meet with Wessex Water to determine their requirements. **Action Clerk.** Need to be mindful of car park users in connection with the work.

d. Trial ground road names – correspondence received regarding the naming of the residential road in the Trial ground development. Old records of the Trial ground area were viewed, and the proposed name choices are names of fields historically in that area. Main choices: Bicknell Lease, Paradise Close, Deacons Orchard, Wearnhay. Two reserve choices Somers Close and Bishops Clyse. **Agreed.** Clerk to notify Planning regarding these choices. **Action Clerk.**

e. Village hall – Discussion regarding possible sites of a village hall for Huish Episcopi. It was recognised that a proposed site was the initial consideration. Discussion regarding the Parish survey conducted in 2016 showed that over 53% of those surveyed would like a village hall. Proposal to consider a village hall. **Agreed.**

f. Dog Fouling -The Clerk spoke with the Dog Warden from South Somerset District Council (SSDC), and again it was found there was no need for a bin in Kennel Lane. Suggestion from Dog Warden is that complaints are made directly to SSDC via the reporting page on the SSDC website. Discuss placing a link on the Community Website directly to the reporting page. **Action Clerk.**

06/2018. Correspondence received and other matters.

a. Town Clock – to discuss and decide whether to contribute to the additional scaffolding/renovation costs. Due to unforeseen issues, the proposed costs have now increased significantly. The Council agreed in March 2018, once the renovation costs are finalised and should there be a shortfall with the fundraising, that the Council would give half of the shortfall amount to the Clock Restoration Fund provided that the amount was matched by Langport Town Council (LTC).

b. River Project – Letter from LTC to request a letter of support for the ‘River Project’. Cllr Saunders from LTC gave an overview of the funding criteria, and requested that the Council write to express support of the project. **Agreed. Action Clerk.**

c. Flood Plan – correspondence regarding the Council being joint sponsors of a local community flood plan. Cllr Pope expressed an interest in representing the Council at any meetings regarding the community flood plan. **Agreed.**

d. Youth Group – to receive a report from Langport and Huish Episcopi Youth Group. A short verbal report was given by Cllr Horsgood.

07/2018 Accounts

a.

	Current Account	Savings
To note payments authorised by RFO		
Academy Hall Hire	33.75	
Fuel for allotment pump April to Aug 2018	48.42	
SLCC - literature	29.60	
Scout Group (agreed July 2018)	1000.00	
Food bank	324.00	
skip hire allotment	366.04	
PKF Littlejohn external auditor	360.00	
Queensbury bus shelters	1030.80	
total payments	3192.61	
To note receipts since last meeting		
Greenslade Taylor Hunt FBTA	248.94	
Academy car park usage contribution	791.00	
total receipts	1039.94	
balance at 9th July 2018	30526.32	
payments authorised July meeting	1396.43	
error in previous reporting	0.02	
balance as at 16 July 2018	29129.87	
total receipts	1039.94	
total payments	3192.61	
balance as at 10 September 2018	26977.20	
To note payments to be authorised		
Clerk – administration July to September	76.36	
Car park rates	760.00	
Payments by Standing Order (25th of the month)		
Clerk (Sept & Oct)	800.00	
Lengthsman (Sept & Oct)	386.46	
Total of payments to be authorised	2022.82	
Projected balance after authorised payments	24954.38	
Business Reserve		66330.24
Parish Charities		1746.60

A comment was made about the payment for Queensbury Bus Shelters, which was for the fitting of the side panels on the bus shelter near Tesco's. The cleaning regime is duly noted and approved of. Apply to Tesco's for funding towards a bus shelter on the opposite side of the road. **Action Clerk.**

b. to note current spending to budget figures. Figures circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and no questions received.

c. To note receipt of the conclusion of 2017/2018 audit from the external auditors PKF Littlejohn LLP. There are no action points and the audit has now concluded. The notice of audit conclusion is displayed on the Community website, and on the Parish notice board. The notice of conclusion needs to remain on the Parish notice board until after 30 September 2018.

d. Internal Auditor. to note that the new internal auditor has been engaged and the first meeting is scheduled for 12 October 2018

08/2018. Matters of report and items for next meeting.

a. Chairman.

Cllr Nicholas has received documentation from a parishioner regarding the recognition of Huish Episcopi as a postal address. Letter of support from the Council requested. **Agreed.**

Action Clerk.

Concerns regarding the rising crime rate in the parish, and looking at the feasibility of a private security firm (after consulting with a neighbouring parish). It was noted in the PCSO's report earlier, that there will be more engagement in community work from October, which should make a difference.

b. Clerk. None

c. Members.

Cllr Peto – Recent bad smells may be due to a drain issue, but there has been more reporting of instances recently. Community speed watch meeting in October. Working with the Abattoir main transport contractor, and with Somerset County Council to ensure suggested HGV route is clear and used.

Cllr Palmer is liaising with Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) for advice regarding the right of way on the Trial Ground site. Suggested finding a way to work together with LTC when dealing with large planning applications in the future. **Action Clerk.**

09/2018. Date of next meeting (19 November 2018).

10/2018. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM. The following proposal will be considered: That, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sect. 1(2), the Public and Press should be excluded from the meeting because of the confidential nature of this matter.

To resolve to discuss a confidential item regarding Huish Episcopi Allotment Field. **Agreed.**

The public left the meeting at 8:57 pm. Cllr Pope left the meeting at 8:57 pm.

The tenant remained to speak with the Council before the Council discussed the item in question.

A discussion followed, again with the confirmation that the structures placed on the plot did not have permission from the Council. The tenant confirmed legal advice and engaging legal representation, and left the meeting at 9:09pm.

The Council duly discussed the request for permission for structures on the plot, but were unable to reach a conclusion given the tenant is engaging legal representation. It was proposed that the Council seek legal advice. **Agreed. Action Clerk.** It was proposed that the Council apply to join the National Allotment Society immediately. **Agreed. Action Clerk.**

A termination of tenancy agreement needs to be issued on a separate matter for a different plot. **Agreed. Action Clerk.**

Meeting closed 9:32.

Appendix 1 Notes from the Public Session of the meeting 7pm until 7.30 pm

Val Saunders (Chairman LTC): The town clock renovation has encountered some unforeseen challenges resulting in a much greater spend than the original estimate. Mrs Saunders urged the Council to consider contributing financially. The River Project is gathering momentum, and a letter of support was requested from the Council to LTC.

Andrew Lee (Editor of the Langport Leveller): The Western Gazette (WG) are approaching Parish and Town Councils for information as the news team no longer feel able to attend Council meetings. Mr Lee requested that any information sent to the WG to be sent to other news providers, including the Leveller. The Clerk confirmed that any information available was in the public domain, and the only correspondence sent directly (by email) was the agenda when published (which was returned undelivered from WG).

Clare Aparicio Paul (District/County Councillor) : Gerard Tucker sends apologies. Brookland Road shops an issue again, contact Andrew Gunn at SSDC. CIL notification received. Boundary Commission review may not go through before the election next year. Police and Crime figures down for Huish Episcopi Parish. Wearne small improvement scheme still ongoing. Library consultation, 7000 responses this time, no decisions made as yet. Speeding – there is a company who could present to Parish Councils regarding a speed indication device, details to be sent to the clerk.

PCSO report: List of crimes reported in the last two months, along with action taken. Anti-social behaviour being addressed. From 1 October 2018 the PCSO shift will be changing and will involve more community work.