

SAMPFORD BRETT PARISH COUNCIL**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 4th September 2019****in the Village Hall**

Present: Parish Councillors – Mrs J. Swan (in the Chair), Mr N. Brodrick, Mr G. Day, Mr M. Blazey, Mr. B.Doyle, Mr. S. Miles and Mrs D.Brooks, **County and District Councillor** – Mr Hugh Davies and 5 members of the Parish.

Apologies for absence were received from **District Councillors** – Mr. Ian Aldridge and Mrs Loretta Whetlor.

Declarations of Interest – There were none.

Public Participation: No one had requested to speak other than Dr. Bob Martin, the prospective purchaser of Sampford House. He explained the internal and external alterations they propose to make to the property, and that they are keen to keep the character of this listed building. Parish Council agreed to support the planning application (see Minute 722).

Minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd July were approved and signed as a correct record.

718. Matters Arising from the Minutes

CPR pilot scheme training was successful; Cllr Miles will organise further sessions.

719. District Council Matters

- a. Councillors from Somerset West and Taunton Council had visited Watchet to inspect the mud in the harbour.
- b. Two By-Elections in Taunton – Norton Fitwarren/Staplegrove ward and Vivary Park ward.
- c. Coal Orchard, a project of the previous Taunton Deane Council: Contract has been signed with Tides Construction who refurbished Taunton Deane Council offices on time and within budget. The development will be mixed apartments, rebuild, workspace and restaurants and incorporate a riverfront plaza with stepped terrace to make the most of its position on the River Tone.
- d. Williton/Watchet and Quantock Vale Area Panel will meet on 17th September at West Somerset House at 7.pm.
- e. Minehead/Williton A39. Temporary road closure at Dragons Cross for 3-4 nights (6.30 to 11.30pm) from October 7th.

f. Council unable to sign off Taunton Deane's accounts for year 2018/2019 due to public challenge.

720. County Council Matters

a. Have received further contact from Newgate Communication reference possible petrol station and supermarket at Washford Cross.

b. Somerset library's new outreach vehicle has started touring the county:

10-1pm From 5th September. Bridgwater – Job Centre Plus.

28th September – Yeovil.

2nd October – Dillington House, Nr. Ilminster.

5th October – Ham Hill, Stoke St. Hambdon.

21st October = The Beach Hotel, Minehead.

30th October – Shire Hall, Taunton.

12th October – Engine Room, Bridgwater.

26th October – Birchwood Community Centre – Yeovil.

31st October – Somerset Rural Life Museum, Glastonbury.

Contact 07976689867. John Carter. Senior Development Officer, Somerset Libraries, County Hall, Taunton, TA1 4DY. OR www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries. Twitter:@somersetlib.

c. Somerset libraries at Minehead have 5 iPads available for loan to local businesses to help them develop digital strategies.

d. Somerset County Council has underlined its commitment to apprentices by signing the Unison Apprenticeship Charter. The Charter is a pledge to make sure apprentices at the Council get high quality training, appropriate support, supervision and pay. Over the past 3 years the authority has invested in more than 300 apprenticeships and expects another 500 apprenticeships to start in the Autumn.

e. Improving Lives Grant Scheme. Each Councillor has £2000 available to award four grants to communities between 1.9.2019 and 30.11.2019. The focus of the Scheme is to empower communities to take responsibility for local actions.

721. A358 Safety and Speeding

In view of the recent fatal motorcycle accident on the A358 opposite Quantock garage Councillors discussed measures that might make the junction safer including a permanent speed warning sign and a double white line. It was generally felt that the red paint with a dashed line does not provide a clear warning not to overtake at the junction into the village. The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the special Highways team and the traffic

police at Portishead to explore safety improvements once the coroner's report is available. The whole stretch from the cars parked at the bottom of Tower Hill to Black Arch bridge should be considered.

Clerk was asked to write to Roger Biss and thank him for repairing the bus shelter which was damaged in the accident. Councillors also thanked Councillor Day for his assistance.

Clerk read out an email from PCSO Sue Marks as she was unable to attend the meeting.

722. Planning Matters

3-28-19-007 Black Barns, Weacombe – No objections.

3-28-19-008 & 009 Sampford House – No objections. Parish Council resolved to give the application its full support.

3-28-19-010 Highwinds 38 Tower Hill, Williton - No objections. Councillors Swan and Day had undertaken a site visit and met the neighbours who had no objection.

723. Footpaths – Glenn Martin has retired and Sam Jackman has taken over. Clerk will advise the Department that Cllr. Nick Brodrick has taken over from Mr David Drabble as footpaths officer for Sampford Brett.

Cllr Brodrick reported that the footpath around Manor Farm has been strimmed; the proposed kissing gate at Raglan's Cross has not progressed; and the lane from Woolston to Maggie's field needs cutting.

724. Fingerposts – Stogumber are considering whether they can take on the painting of the fingerposts in Sampford Brett.

725. Finance – The Clerk gave her quarterly report as follows:

Invoices received and paid:

£75 for training attended by 3 Parish Councillors.

£555.70 Clerk's half year salary.

£5 to the Flood Group towards expenses.

£8 for Village Hall Rent.

Dog Bin emptying. Fee for the year in advance (invoice not yet received) will be £227.76.

Balance in Bank after these cheques have been presented will be £6234.23.

There are at least 2 more Parish Council meetings in December (when the Precept is set) and March, before the end of the financial year. There will also be the Clerk's 2nd half year

salary approximately £600. At the 31st March 2020 we should be left with a balance in the region of £5500 unless we have some unexpected things to pay for.

It was resolved that the Clerk's salary since April 2019 should be revised in line with the NALC scale (SCP7). This will result in a slight increase in the quoted figures.

There being no other matters, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30 pm.

.....CHAIRMAN.....DATE