

SAMPFORD BRETT PARISH COUNCIL**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 5th December 2019**

Present: Parish Councillors Mrs J. Swan (in the Chair), Mr N. Brodrick, Mr M. Blazey, Mr G. Day, Mr B. Doyle, Mr S. Miles, Mrs D. Brooks. There was 1 member of the parish.

Apologies for absence were received from **District and County Councillor Mr. Hugh Davies.**

Declarations of interest were made by the Chair with respect to the village website (see minute No. 732).

Public participation: No one had requested to speak.

Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th September 2019 were approved and signed as a correct record following correction of the planning application number for Highwinds to 3/23/19/010 (minute 722).

726. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- 718. One CPR session has been held; another session will be held tomorrow.
- 719d. Area panel deferred to Tuesday 14th January. Volunteer to attend required.
- 721. Clerk has written to Roger Biss thanking him for repairing the bus shelter with Cllr. Day
- 723. Clerk has written to Footpaths Dept advising them that Cllr. Brodrick has taken over from Cllr. Drabble.

727. District Council Matters

District Councillor Ian Aldridge joined the meeting at 7pm.

- a. Williton Parish Council are precepting for some more money to buy a speed indicator (S.I.D).
- b. Watchet Paper Mill will have 150 new houses built on its former site.

DJS

- c. The police plan to use West Somerset House as their base by the end of January. There will be a mobile cell for temporary use in the car park. The public office will be at Minehead.
- d. A new local plan is to be developed for SWAT. Hopefully it will be holistic, address climate change and have greater emphasis on infrastructure. Several major development sites around Watchet and Williton have come forwards at one and will provide 1200 houses (cf 700 in current local plan), but the district council has no remit to consider infrastructure. Where will the employment come from?

728. County Council Matters

County Councillor Hugh Davies was not present as pending the elections he had to comply with "Purdah" restrictions, but sent in his report and supplied various leaflets:

- a. The "Have your say" Climate Emergency Drop-in sessions have been postponed to January/February 2020 due to announcement of a December General Election.
- b. Upgrade of the Quantock Road Roundabout, Bridgwater, started on Monday 4th November with completion set for Spring 2020.
- c. Temporary closure of A39 Cannington Road has been deferred from 21st November to 13th December 2019 (one night; 18.00 – 07.00.)
- d. SCC Community Snow Warden Scheme 2019/2020 requires consideration consideration. All Town and Parish Councils will be given the opportunity to receive training to respond to prolonged periods of low temperatures and snow. If local councils wish to get involved they may nominate new or existing emergency wardens.
- e. In the next few months SCC will base a social worker in the A&E Departments at Musgrove and Yeovil Hospitals. This initiative will run through the winter so that social care expertise is immediately available in A&E when needed. The Council is also looking at having a social worker based at the South Western Ambulance Service control centre.
- f. SCC is looking for people to fill three new Duke of Edinburgh Award volunteering opportunities.

DJD

- g. SWAT is introducing a saver scheme to encourage more people to use the Park and Ride; details on the Visit Somerset and Park and Ride websites.

729. Planning Matters

Cllr Swan gave an update on the current status of recent applications:

- a. 3/28/19/007 Black Barns – withdrawn. New application ABD/28/19/001 submitted and prior approval granted
- b. 3/28/19/008 & 009 Sampford House – granted (and work started)
- c. 3/28/19/010 Highwinds (38 Tower Hill) - granted
- d. 3/28/19/011 Elmfield – granted
- e. No outstanding applications at present.

730. Clerk's Vacancy

Since the last meeting Ginny Yandle has informed the chair that she intends to retire at the end of March 2020. Councillors have met informally to develop a recruitment plan. Actions taken so far:

- 1. Drafted and approved adverts, a job description and a person specification. Adverts placed on/in SALC website, Free Press (and other papers in that group), Pathways, village notice boards, Facebook.
- 2. Information packs have been sent out; closing date for applications is Dec 31st.

The following timetable and actions were agreed:

- a. 16th Nov – 31st Dec - Chair to prepare draft Contract and interview questions for all to review (model documents are available)
- b. Dec 31st – closing date for applications
- c. Jan 1st – 8th – All to review applications and draw up shortlist for interview
- d. w/c 13th Jan – interview
- e. w/c 20th Jan – appoint

DSB

- f. Feb 2020 – new appointee to start shadowing Ginny. Details to be developed.
- g. Panel for interviewing – Councillors J. Swan, N. Brodrick, S. Miles.

731. Footpaths

The stile at Raglands has been replaced with a kissing gate.

Church Path in Aller woods has been cleared of trees. Clerk will write a letter of thanks to Wyndham Estate.

732. Website

Chairman J. Swan declared a prejudicial interest and left the room.

It was resolved to pay Sonder Digital (previously Open Door Internet) £24 a month from April 2020 to manage the Sampford Brett website. This was considered to be a good deal, cheaper than other companies and has the benefit of being based in the village.

733. Culverts

Cleaning out of the main storm culvert was completed last week. Minor remedial work on the outlet pipe may be required in early 2020.

734. Finance

a. The Clerk gave her quarterly report:

Balance as at 16.10.2019	£6234.23
Newspaper advert for Clerk (to pay)	£ 268.80
Village Hall rent	£ 16.00
Chairman's Training	£ 30.00
Balance as at 4.12.2019	£5919.43
Less to pay before end of March 2020	
Village Hall Rent	£ 16.00
Clerk's salary for 2 nd half year	
Sept 2019 to March 2020	£ 600.00 (approx.)
Estimated balance at 4.12.2019	£5303.43

31/3/2020
DJS

DJS

b. Councillors signed Request for Dispensations to set Precept for 2020-2021. After discussion it was proposed to increase the Precept by £300 to £3100. It was also Resolved to donate £150 to the PCC for churchyard expenses.

735. Dates for next year's meetings

Wednesday 14th March at 6.30pm Annual Parish Meeting, followed by a short Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 3rd June at 6.30pm

Wednesday 2nd September at 6.30pm

Wednesday 2nd December at 6.30pm.

There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

Chairman's Signature: DJ SWAN

Date: 4th March 2020