

SAMPFORD BRETT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 7th December 2016

In the Village Hall.

Present: Mrs J. Swan (in the Chair) Mr D. Drabble, Mrs D. Saunders, Mr M. Blazey, Mr G. Day, Mr I. Armstrong, Mr. B. Doyle, District Councillor Mr S. Dowding and County Councillor Mr H. Davies. There were also 2 members of the Parish present.

Apologies for absence: None

Declarations of Interest: None

PUBLIC INPUT: No requests had been received from the public.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th September were approved and signed as a correct record with the exception that in minute 590 the spelling of the name “Meneilly” be corrected and the words “No through road” be added regarding the rotten pole by the Old School.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

The Clerk has reported the rotten No Through Road sign post by the Old School and Highways will inspect this.

The Clerk has also written to Mr and Mrs Meneilly thanking them for their hard work in organising the books for the Telephone Kiosk library.

591. DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

Taunton Deane and West Somerset Council will work together until the 2019 Elections. There will be a new Council and there will be one third less staff and councillors. Ward boundaries will be reconsidered – it’s not yet known how this will affect Sampford Brett. First elections will be in 2019. There is to be a judicial review challenge by Taunton Deane.

Somerset Rivers Authority is precepting 1.25%.

Devolution – west country council generally in favour if the budget looks good, but don’t want a mayor.

Hinkley Point Agreement has been signed. Workforce already over 1000 and will rise to 2000 by end of 2017.

Universal Credit – Applications will have to be done on line.

Cyber Crime – Residents should tell the Police if they have problems.

Double yellow lines on Tower Hill. District Councillor still fighting for them.

Hinkley B rates have been revalued again (£11m, then £8m, now £32m) but the implications are unclear.

The LOCAL PLAN has been published and adopted by West Somerset Council. Available on their website.

592. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

David Fothergill (cabinet member for Highways) had spoken with Hugh Davies about double yellow lines on Tower Hill. Hugh will discuss with Williton Parish Council as the area in question is in their parish. Brought it to the notice of Williton Parish Council at their meeting and sent an email to David Fothergill. Williton Parish Council will debate it at their next meeting on the 9th January 2017, David Fothergill asked if we had undertaken a Consultation with the residents living there.

BUSES: No 14 Minehead to Bridgwater Service is no longer running

West Somerset is now joined up with the Health and one team, this will include problems with drug and alcohol addicts.

WILLITON HOSPITAL: Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have removed beds already. CCG will be present at the Scrutiny Committee Meeting on the 18th January.

PENSION AGE: A Motion had come before SCC to ask the Government to make a fair transition of state pension for ladies born after April 1951. There are 36,000 ladies in Somerset affected.

PLANNING

593. Planning Applications

Thornes Farm was refused and an Appeal has been lodged this week.

Luckes Lane barn conversion – original application was refused but the applicant has appealed. A second application is pending a decision.

Capton Quarry: Boundaries have altered (Stogumber Parish).

594. Stogumber Neighbourhood Plan - No comments to make.

595. Clerk to write asking if Capton Road application could now be removed from the SHLAA as it had now been refused at Appeal three times.

596. West Somerset Council want to know our top 5 priorities for S106 funding. The following were suggested:

- Build a new Village Hall or refurbish the present one.
- Bus shelter on the opposite side of the road.
- Connection to the gas network.

DEFIBRILATOR

597. Discussed some time ago but now need to move forwards. Volunteers will need training to do CPR.

Councillors to speak to neighbouring parishes for more information - Michelle at Williton Parish Council; John Grellier at Bicknoller; ? at Stogumber.

Chair to research options. £500 towards costs allocated in budget.

TRAINING

598. Councillor Drabble attended the Chairman's Training.

FINANCE

599. All Parish Councillors requested a Dispensation to set the Precept for 2017/2018.

The Clerk had prepared a forecast of likely expenditure for next year. After consideration it was resolved not to increase the precept this year i.e. to request £2200. Cheques outstanding to be paid were Village Hall rent £6, PCC for churchyard maintenance £100 and SALC for training fee £30.

VILLAGE AGENT

600. A questionnaire regarding village agent services has been received. It was agreed that councillors will respond to the survey individually as we do not have the information to respond on behalf of the Parish.

FOOTPATHS

601. Councillor Drabble reported that there were 2 issues to be dealt with which have been reported to Glenn Martin, but he has not come back to him yet.

602. Councillor Bernie Doyle is likely to move house before next meeting and may no longer be eligible to stand as a Parish Councillor. He was thanked by the Parish Council for his work whilst a Parish Councillor.

603. The Clerk was congratulated and thanked for completing 20 years service this month for the Parish Council.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.05pm.

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