

HENSTRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Zöe Godden, Elvyns, Wavering Lane East, GILLINGHAM. SP8 4NX

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Approved minutes of a meeting of Henstridge Parish Council held on Monday 4th December 2017

Present: David Nichols (Chair), Howard Bentley-Marchant, Ken Courtenay, Simon Cullum, Dennis Finch, Carolyn Nichols, Barry Paginton, Bruce Pike and Michael Player.

Also present: District Councillor Hayward Burt, Environmental and Dog Warden Linda Jones, District and County Councillor William Wallace and PCSO John Winfield (from 20:30).

One member of the public was present at the start of the meeting.

The meeting began at 19:30.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from John Graham, Jean Oswick and Sue Place.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to approve the reasons for absence as reported.

2. Declarations of interest.

Simon Cullum, Carolyn Nichols and David Nichols declared disclosable pecuniary interests in item 10b so would not take part in discussions or voting on this matter.

3. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 06/11/17.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to approve the minutes as presented.

4. Reports

It was **agreed** to take item **4b** at this point in the meeting.

b) To receive a report from Linda Jones, Volunteer Dog and Environmental Warden. Linda Jones reported that there had been very few instances of dog fouling at the recreation ground over the past few months. Linda said she now has some helpers as fallen leaves were making it more difficult to monitor the situation. Linda had not found any fly tipping or dog fouling when patrolling the lanes around the village. Linda had caught and returned a loose dog and, in a separate incident, had assisted a resident who had been bitten by a dog near the school. This had resulted in intervention by the Police and the dog now had to wear a muzzle when in public. An area of concern was the cemetery, where Linda had found many instances of dog fouling along the paths and had spoken with people who had had to clear dog fouling from relatives' graves. Several ideas were discussed to tackle this problem, including liaising with SSDC to install CCTV, erection of notices and banning dogs from the cemetery. The Clerk was instructed to speak with SSDC to find out if a ban on dogs at the cemetery could be implemented and to report back to the next meeting. Members thanked Linda for her help.

Action 171204/1: Parish Clerk

a) To receive any Police matters.

PCSO John Winfield had not arrived, but the Clerk had spoken with him and reported that Avon and Somerset Police had liaised with colleagues from Dorset Police and were planning to address speeding at the A357 near the Dorset/Somerset border. Further liaison with Dorset Police regarding the traveller encampment at Five Bridges on the A30 had led PCSO Winfield to recommend that the vehicle gate to the recreation ground should be locked and this had been done. A Christmas drink drive campaign had been initiated and the Clerk had forwarded details of this to all members by email. Patrols of the recreation ground had taken place due to evidence of drug taking found recently, but no further evidence of this had been identified.

c) To receive County and District Councillor reports.

District and County Councillor William Wallace reported that SCC had been working to improve its OfSTED rating for services to vulnerable children. Four years ago, the service had been rated inadequate but significant progress had been made to services for the 500 vulnerable children in SCC's care. William told members that Adult Social Care was promoting an independence strategy to enable people to stay in their own homes and quoted an email address for contact in such matters: adults@somerset.gov.uk. William went on to report that SCC would be retaining library services in-house. Milborne Port library was the only one in Blackmore Vale ward and was well used. Finally, William informed members that road safety in Somerset was statistically the safest it had ever been, with fatalities having dropped by 16% since 2015. The actual number of fatalities on Somerset roads had risen from 22 to 25 from last year, but prior to this, the number had been in the 30s.

District Councillor Hayward Burt reported that, due to the decreasing grant income from central Government, SSDC was planning to enter into a pooling arrangement with SCC and the other the other four district councils in Somerset, whereby 100% of business rates would be retained. Hayward said that this arrangement could increase SSDC's income by £1m. William Wallace added that SCC's income could increase by £4m.

5. To consider the following planning application:

It was **agreed** to take item **5b** at this point in the meeting.

	Application number	Proposal	Applicant details
b)	17/04287/FUL	Siting of temporary rural workers dwelling, erection of hay barn and extension to hardcore yard	Mr Simon Redman, Land adjoining Marsh Lane, Henstridge
RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council supported this application but that they were keen that the temporary nature of the dwelling was reviewed after three years.			
19:47 - One member of the public left the meeting.			
a)	17/04319/FUL	Formation of vehicular access and car parking	Mr Tim Le Mesurier, Greenbest Ltd, Unit 2, The Marsh, Camp Road, Henstridge
RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council supported this application.			
c)	17/04431/FUL	Demolish existing building and the erection of new building to be used as hobbies room/garden store/office/studio and garage	Mr Wayne Milkins, Bridge House, 2, Shaftesbury Road, Henstridge. BA8 0PT
RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council supported this application.			
d)	17/04503/FUL	Erection of single storey rear extension	Mr and Mrs B V Mitchell, 5 Wessex Court, Henstridge. BA8 0AU
RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council supported this application.			
e)	17/04492/FUL	Demolish existing dwelling and the erection of a new replacement dwelling	Mr David Mills, Rose Cottage, Whitechurch Lane, Henstridge. BA8 0PA
Members discussed the pros and cons of demolishing the dwelling.			
RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council supported this application. Seven votes for; no votes against. Simon Cullum abstained from voting and asked for this to be recorded in the minutes.			

6. Recent SCC and SSDC Area East planning decisions:

Application number	Proposal	Applicant details	Current status
17/02965/CPO	Retrospective application - wood recycling and processing waste management site	Mr C Hunt, Longman Wood Recycling, Henstridge Airfield, The Marsh, Henstridge. BA8 0TF	Granted with conditions

William Wallace informed members that SCC's Regulation Committee had applied caveats relating to the containment of dust created at the site and that a close eye would be kept on the situation.

David Nichols noted that the heap of waste wood had already been reduced by approximately 30%.

Noted.

7. Matters deferred and arising from previous meetings:

- a) To hear an update on progress with taking forward the Village Agent scheme.

The Clerk reported that Milborne Port Parish Council had discussed this matter and posed several questions to the Community Council for Somerset. No update had been received from Abbas and Templecombe Parish Council.

- b) To note that a price has been received from County Highways for the installation of white gates at the entrances to Henstridge.

William Wallace suggested that the Clerk obtained photographs of similar white gates at Holton or North Cheriton so that members could see what they would look like.

Action 171204/2: Parish Clerk

- c) To hear an update on progress with working together with Stalbridge Town Council to address common highways issues as a result of possible future developments.

Simon Cullum reported that he and John Graham had not yet been able to make an appointment to take this forward but would continue to try.

- d) To note that SSDC are investigating the possible installation of a new vehicular access onto the A30 to the east of Henstridge.

Noted.

- e) To note information from SSDC and Locality on the registration of the Glebe Field as an Asset of Community Value and agree any further action to be taken.

The Clerk had send all details to members in advance of the meeting and it was concluded that the Glebe Field did not qualify as an Asset of Community Value because its main use had not been to further the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community. Advice from SSDC and Locality was that the Parish Council should approach the landowner directly to discuss the future of the site.

Ken Courtenay said that his wife had contacted the Head of Property Services at the Diocese of Bath and Wells to ask if there were any plans for the field and had received the following response: "In light of the planning consent recently granted on the land adjacent to the Glebe Land that we own, this has given the potential for possible consideration to this matter with a view to open up discussions with St Nicholas Church, The PCC and Parish.

One thing I can clarify is that any proposal we consider on Glebe Land generally, would firstly need to meet our general criteria to offer benefit to the Church, PCC and Parish as all proposals are considered holistically – further any proposal made would need the Parish to be in general agreement and The Diocese Board of Finance and Glebe Investment Committee would need to give consent to move this matter forward.

If the Parish/PCC are interested in considering any proposals for the site, I would be very happy to meet with the Parish Council at an early stage to discuss them."

David Nichols thanked Ken for this information and it was **agreed** that David would contact the Diocese with a view to setting up discussions with all parties involved and report back to the next meeting.

Action 171204/3: David Nichols

- f) To note that the Clerk has been contacted by David Sanders Solicitors in relation to the sale of Common Lane Field and to agree any further action to be taken.

Noted.

8. Correspondence

a)	10/11/17	SSDC	To consider if any member(s) wish to attend a one-day routine play equipment inspection course on 9 th January 2018 in Ilminster, at a cost of £105 per person.
Simon Cullum said that the Clerk was the only person trained to inspect play equipment and emphasised the need for training another person. No members were available to attend the training.			
b)	27/11/17	SCC	To note an upcoming road closure at Landshire Lane (East) for one day on 18 th January 2017.
Noted.			

20:16 – William Wallace left the meeting

9. Council Matters

- a) To consider a draft Housing Needs Survey, provided by SSDC.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to approve the Housing Needs Survey as presented and the Clerk was instructed to contact SSDC to make arrangements for the questionnaire to be distributed.

Action 171204/4: Parish Clerk

- b) To note that the Clerk has booked a place on a free training event relating to the General Data Protection Regulation changes that must be implemented by May 2018 and that the mileage costs will be split equally between all three of the Clerk's Parish Councils.

Noted.

- c) To hear any matters arising from playground, skate park and gym inspection reports. There were no matters arising.

- d) To receive reports from representatives (VHMC, HALT, Footpaths, Tree Warden, CSW, Other) and provide guidance as appropriate

Community Speedwatch – Michael Player reported that the regional Speedwatch meeting had taken place in Henstridge on 21st November. Michael had obtained two additional warning signs that he had put up on the A30 (east and west). Michael had investigated the possibility of acquiring a flashing speed sign but had found that these are not favoured by SCC. There would be restrictions on the type of flashing sign that would be allowed and the sign would have to be moved to a new location every two weeks. It was felt that these restrictions would make managing such a sign too problematic for the Parish Council at this time. Michael went on to report that Avon and Somerset Police was considering taking over responsibility for the Speed Indicator Device scheme. A new member of staff had been employed by Avon and Somerset Police to deal with highways matters, including additional speed enforcement motorcycles that had been procured.

10. Finance

- a) To approve the cashbook and bank account reconciliation for November 2017 as presented.

RESOLVED: The Cash Book and Bank Reconciliation for November 2017, as verified by Carolyn Nichols, was approved and signed by the Chair.

- b) To approve the following accounts for payment and two signatories for cheques:-

Minute ref	Supplier/Contractor	Narrative	Amount
11f) 04/07/16	bOnline	Village Hall broadband Oct 2017	£28.07
11b) 04/07/16	Nest	Pension payments December 2017	£20.03

	Staff	Salaries November 2017	£1,052.70
	Staff	Salary November 2017	£77.15
	Staff	Expenses November 2017	£144.74
9d) 04/09/17	SLCC	Regional Training Seminar (Clerk) 22/11/17	£41.40
	M P Bennet	Flailing at woodland	£122.40
	Stalbridge Building Supplies	Paint, rollers etc for graffiti at skate park & 2 x keys for recreation ground vehicle gate	£45.88
OS 11a) 30/10/17	Simon Cullum	Refund for rubber matting & sundries for Oak Vale Woodland	£75.44
	Jeremy Pratt	Key cut for rec shed - football club	£5.00
OS 6c) & 6d) 30/10/17	Vale Signs and Print	No dog waste & Children to be supervised signs	£60.00
	SES	Installation of 2 x CCTV cameras at Village Hall	£828.00
	SLCC	Clerk's membership fee 2018-19	£195.00
	Henstridge Village Hall	Hall hire June to November 2017	£133.00
	Carolyn Nichols	Leaving card for Vicar	£2.70
	HMRC	Tax & NICs November 2017	£219.10

Due to the previously declared disclosable pecuniary interest, Howard Bentley-Marchant took the chair for this item. Simon Cullum, Carolyn Nichols and David Nichols took no part in discussion or voting.

All the cheque values were verified against the invoices presented by Michael Player, and the invoices signed as a correct match.

RESOLVED: The above accounts were approved for payment and Ken Courtenay and Dennis Finch agreed as signatories.

David Nichols took over as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

- c) To note receipt of a contribution of £690.00 from Henstridge Village Hall towards the cost of two additional CCTV cameras.

Noted.

- d) To consider the Clerk's report regarding a funding request from South Somerset Community Accessible Transport and the recommendation to offer between £300 and £400 per year for the next three years; to agree any further action to be taken.

It was suggested that the SSCAT service could be advertised in Wots On and the Parish Council website.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council supported the principle of supporting SSCAT, would pledge £350 for one year on the condition that other Parishes made similar contributions, and would review this annually to decide if future pledges would be made.

20:30 – PCSO John Winfield arrived at the meeting and gave his report as follows: on 12th December, Avon and Somerset and Dorset Police forces would be working together to tackle speeding on the A357 and would also be carrying out random breath tests. Regarding Avon and Somerset's seasonal drink drive campaign, PCSO Winfield said that a double crewed vehicle would be allocated to rural roads to carry out stop checks throughout December and early January. Dorset Police were also running a drink drive campaign over Christmas and New Year. PCSO Winfield had spoken with Police and Crime Commissioner Sue Mountstevens about improving contact between local SCC highways engineers and the

Police. He had also been dealing with badly parked vehicles in Woodhayes. PCSO Winfield reported that he had been patrolling the recreation ground and had found no further evidence of drug taking. Finally, having liaised with Dorset, PCSO Winfield reported that the traveller encampment at Five Bridges on the A30 would be there for the foreseeable future. The number of vehicles in the layby had increased and there were problems with rubbish and pollution in the river.

The Clerk was instructed to contact Dorset County Council's Traveller Liaison Officer to ask what steps were being taken to prevent pollution of the river and site.

Action 171204/5: Parish Clerk

- e) To note receipt of a report from the internal auditor following a recent inspection of the Council's accounts.

Noted.

- f) To consider quotes for accounting software.

The Clerk had submitted a report, with details and quotes from five software providers, to members in advance of the meeting.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council would purchase Scribe accounting software at a price of £288 per year.

- g) To note that the final budget will be set at the next meeting on 8th January 2018.

Noted.

11. Date of Next meeting –The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 8th January 2018**. All items for inclusion on the agenda and all items to be listed under issues arising from previous meetings must be received by the Clerk by **9.00am on Thursday 28th December 2017.**

The meeting ended at 20:46.

Agreed and signed by the Chair _____

Date _____