

Minutes of the Kilmersdon Parish Council
held at Coles Garden Meeting Room
at 7.30pm on Monday 3 March, 2014



PRESENT: Councillors R Morse, C Gibson, A Jolliffe, J Hubble, D Hudson and County Cllr H Siggs.

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk and 14 members of the public.

Min No

1. APOLOGIES:

727 Apologies received from Cllr D Phripp and Ward Cllr E Drew.

2. MINUTES:

728 The Minutes and notes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3 February 2014 were approved and signed.

3. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME:

729 Members of the public spoke on planning application 2013/2264/OTA for the construction of 26 houses on land SE of the A367. Concerns were expressed and objections were made, but after due consideration the consensus was of grudging acceptance, because the outcome would be a ribbon development alongside a main road and of limited impact.

730 The Clerk informed everyone that he had received advance notice of a further application to construct 151 houses at the same location. He understood that MDC would consider the two applications together.

Council decided to forward comments now available and, because the Clerk had obtained an extension to the consultation date, it was agreed to arrange a public meeting to gather further details and opinion.

(Post meeting note:

The meeting was held at the Village Hall on 18 March.
54 members of the public attended)

731 A design was presented to the council on behalf of the Kilmersdon Play Park Committee showing their proposed layout for a community garden, which would be suitable for all ages, young and old. Following a detailed discussion, the council accepted the plans for consideration.

Cllr Jolliffe left the meeting at this point.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:

732 There were no declarations.

5. MATTERS ARISING:

733 Cllr Hubble led a discussion to clarify the impact of the Localism Act on the legal constraints that limit decisions taken by Parish Councillors. As the Parish Council was non-political, there would be no constraints on activities, in general, and, in particular, the preparation of a Parish Plan would not be affected by the Act. It would not be appropriate to publicise an E-Petition requesting Central Government to amend the National Planning Policy Framework.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- 734 The Clerk said he had received notice from Radstock Museum that the council grant cheque for £150 had been bounced by the bank. The Clerk had omitted to request a transfer from reserves at the February meeting, which was the cause of the shortfall.
- 735 He presented a letter for the Chairman to sign, to request the bank to transfer an amount to rectify the error. A sum of £2500 was agreed as required to meet existing expenses.
(Post meeting note:
The letter was countersigned by the Clerk and transfer confirmed by the bank on 14 March.)
- 736 The Clerk said he had received a response from HMRC and Jacob Rees-Mogg, MP, stating that the RTI system was working well for most users and help would be available from the HMRC help lines and website. It was agreed that the Clerk's suggestion to record a double salary payment should be arranged to correct the apparent underpayment now shown on HMRC's records. The Clerk to write to HMRC, explaining the problem and solution.
- 737 Confirmation had been received from SALC that the referendum principles on parish council precepts would not be applied for the year 2014/5, but this protection for taxpayers could be applied for the years 2015/6 and onwards, in the interest of extending the principles of direct democracy. (Local Government Minister, Brandon Lewis, MP.)

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

- 738 Deferred to the next meeting.

8. HIGHWAY MATTERS:

- 739 The proposal from the residents of Charlton for a 30mph limit there had been agreed by the Highways Agency and was now being considered for approval by Avon and Somerset Police.
- 740 The Clerk reported that he was negotiating with the Highways Agency on the matter of the relocation of the 30 mph and "Kilmersdon" village sign at the eastern side of Kilmersdon. His offer to contribute a sum between £360.58 and £410.58, rounded to £375, was still being considered.
- 741 The clearance of streams was still being progressed and it was expected that work could be completed by end- March to satisfy the financial requirements at the Flood Protection Office, Somerset.
- 742 The Clerk had received an offer to allow 'carry-over' to the next financial year, provided that the work could be committed before 31st March and completed after that date.
- 743 The Clerk undertook to ask the JCB operator and the tenant farmer to commit to the work and if possible to complete as soon as weather conditions permitted.
- 744 The Clerk confirmed he had met the Tree Protection Officer, MDC, and two trees had been identified as requiring planning permission for pruning. The remainder could be pruned or removed as necessary.
- 745 The Clerk said he had written to the Highways Agency on the subject of improving road safety in the A367 area near Fossefield Way.

9. PLANNING MATTERS:
planning permissions applied for:

746 **Ref:** 2013/2264/OTA
 Proposal: Outline planning application for residential development.
 Location: Land S.E. Of A367 Westfield Midsomer Norton
 Applicant: Landray Will Trust
 Application Type: Outline
Council recommended approval, since this would be a ribbon development alongside a main road and of limited impact.

Cllr Gibson declared an interest at this point.

747 **Ref:** 2014/0239/TCA
 Proposal: Proposed re-pollarding of Lime trees and pruning of one Yew tree
 Location: Church Of St Peter And St Paul Church Street Kilmersdon
 Applicant: Mr Richard Roach
 Application Type: Works

There being no objection, council recommended approval.

748 **Ref:** 2014/0266/FUL
 Proposal: Change of use of stables to 3 bed dwelling; office and food preparation area; erection of implement store/ feed store; retention of 2 polytunnels and erection of additional polytunnels.
 Location: Babington Stables Lowerfield Farm Hoares Lane Babington Frome Somerset
 Applicant: Ms Dide Lucas

Council recommended approval since the proposal is intended to provide commercial and residential facility at the location. The impact on neighbouring properties would be low.

10. PLAY EQUIPMENT:

749 The design presented earlier for the community garden was considered and it was agreed to accept the design, but address the siting of the new jubilee bench later.

11. POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT SCHEME:

750 No report.

12. REVIEW OF PROCEDURES:

751 The Clerk explained the methods he used to back up council records on line and added that he would detail a number of alternative ways for council to retrieve the information if necessary.

13. VILLAGE HALL:

752 The Clerk said that Linden Homes were still discussing the need for additional car parking spaces with the Village Hall Committee.

753 The Clerk said he had asked again that Lindens Homes remove the fence between the newly leased extension of the playing field and the original land. In the meantime he would work with the grass cutting contractor to arrange access to the additional grassed area.

14. CORRESPONDENCE:

754 None received.

15. MATTERS OF REPORT & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

755 None

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

756 **The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 7 April 2014 at 7.30 p.m. in the Coles Garden Meeting Rooms.**

757 There being no other business, the meeting closed at 10.20pm