

Minutes of the Kilmersdon Parish Council
held at Coles Garden Meeting Room
at 7.30pm on Monday 2 March, 2015



PRESENT: Councillors R Morse, S Gibbs, J Hubble, D Hudson, A Jolliffe and D Phripp.

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk, 1 member of the public and County Cllr Harvey Siggs.

Min No

1. APOLOGIES:

103 Apology received from Ward Cllr E Drewe.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:

104 There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES:

105 The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2 February 2015 were approved and signed.

4. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME:

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- Restructuring the Management of in house fleet operations (Bridgwater, Glastonbury, Frome, Taunton and Yeovil).

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- 119 The Clerk undertook to check if the Church treasurer had progressed with negotiations concerning a joint contract with the council, using the same contractor.

10. HIGHWAY MATTERS:

- 120 The Clerk said he had received details for the installation and use of SIDs by parish councils and the conditions to be observed if it were decided to install the devices. After consideration it was agreed that the offer would not be accepted on this occasion.

11. PLANNING MATTERS:

- 121 A letter had been received from Savills in response to the parish council request for information in connection with the preparation of a Village Design Statement and Parish Plan. It was agreed the details should be accepted for future inclusion in the drafts. It was also confirmed that the contents of the letter and its attached map should remain private to the eventual working party, or committee.
- 122 Two planning applications had been received, but not in time to allow public notice to be given. The Clerk said he would ask MDC for extensions to the consultation date to allow discussion at the next meeting. The applications concerned the pruning of a tree at Orchard Farm and the erection of a double garage at 51A Silver Street.

PLANNING MATTERS (CONTD):

PLANNING MATTERS (CONTD):

- 123 The Clerk said he had sought information concerning planning applications 2013/2264 and 2014/0093, relating to proposed development adjacent to the A367 Westfield. The Planning Officer had advised that, should approval be granted, the developer would be required to provide recreational space. If that were provided on site, then a contribution under the CIL arrangements would not be made. On the other hand, if a CIL payment were made, then part of that would go to BANES.
- 124 The Clerk read out a letter from the Senior Lettings Officer at MDC concerning the future of the Kilmersdon Rural Housing Association. The tenants had been informed and no action was necessary at the parish council.
- 125 The Clerk said he had received an email note from Clive Betts, Chairman of the CLG Select Committee to the effect that Central Government had rejected most of the committee recommendations contained in its report on the Operation of the National Planning Policy Framework.

12. REVIEW OF PROCEDURES:

- 126 The revision of draft Financial Standing Orders was taken at Item 7. The clerk confirmed he had reviewed all related Orders and confirmed that Standing Orders were not affected.
- 127 The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 has abolished the need for external audit of small parish councils. With turnover of less than £25,000 pa Kilmersdon is therefore exempt. The Clerk said he was satisfied that the existing set of Orders is unaffected by this change in procedure.
- 128 A draft Transparency Code mandating the provision of audit information to the public is being prepared at DCLG and is expected to become Law on 1st April. This will state that all information previously scrutinised by the external auditors must be published either on the parish council website or at the District Council site – MDC.
- 129 The Clerk confirmed that all available information would be published on the parish council website before the deadline of 1st July.
- 130 The information not currently available is dependent upon completion of the end-year activity which is due to commence. This will involve the closure and approval of the parish accounts and will be the start of the audit cycle for 2014/15. The analysis and scrutiny will be conducted by both auditors in accordance with the present procedures and will be repeated for 2015/16. External Audit will cease after that date.

13. PCSO:

- 131 The Chairman reported that he had attended a PCSO Steering Group Meeting on 4th February and had raised the matter of excessive noise in Ames Lane. The police would be monitoring and the possibility of a speed survey would be considered.
- 132 A report of disturbances was received and the Chairman undertook to seek further information from the PCSO.

14. CORRESPONDENCE:

133 None received.

15. MATTERS OF REPORT & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

134 Litter, repairs and maintenance near the playing field.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

135 **The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Saturday 4th April 2015 at 12.30pm the Village Hall, immediately following the Village Day Open Morning.**

136 **The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 13th April 2015 at 7.30 p.m. in the Coles Garden Meeting Rooms.**

137 There being no other business, the meeting closed at 10.25pm

ANNEX TO MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3 MARCH 2015

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT MARCH AND APRIL 2015

Here is my report for March and April. For those Councils where there will be elections, I can only say thank you for the work you have put in over the last two years with me, and I hope to see many of you post May.

Highway Maintenance

- The repair of “dangerous defects” (Immediate & 24hr priority) for December 2014 was 99% on time (384 defects, 380 repaired on time, 4 late).
- 14,303 potholes identified for repair this year compared to 17,519 last year showing capital investment is improving the network.
- Highway Safety Inspection Manual available on SCC web-site.
- The £700K planned LED lantern replacements is due to commence 2nd February and will be completed by end of this financial year.
- The £499K Cosmo dimming conversions largely complete.
- Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan available at District Council offices and Libraries or online at www.somerset.gov.uk/rightsofway

Transport Development

- 128 schemes are now finalised (either completed or removed) from the overall two year programme, with a further 17 currently in construction / pending a start. 35 schemes from the 2012/13 programme are complete, 7 are in the construction phase. 68 schemes from the earlier 2011/12 programme are complete with 2 in construction / pending a start. Of the new schemes requests, 27 are still in the feasibility stage, 44 are either in the design stage awaiting design commissioning, 3 schemes are complete with 8 at construction stage and 8 are either on hold or abandoned. In relation to the feasibility report work 9 reports are being prepared, 12 requiring additional surveys, 2 are with the Councillor, with 4 being reviewed prior to issue.

Transporting Somerset

- Bus subsidy consultation completed with 1360 responses plus petitions. Analysis completed and discussed with Cabinet Member. Extra funding secured to ensure Shepton Mallet and Frome routes remain.
- Restructuring the Management of in house fleet operations (Bridgwater, Glastonbury, Frome, Taunton and Yeovil).

Flood and Water Management

- Somerset Rivers Authority comes into being from 31st January following agreement of the Memorandum of Understanding between the parties involved. The SRA Board will take over from the Leaders Implementation Group in overseeing the delivery of the Levels and Moors Flood Action Plan. There is a lot of work to take place to get ready for 2016/17, which is currently unfunded
- Discussions with partners in Brittany, Wales, Belgium, France and Holland about potential bids for funding that will supplement the work of SCC, partners and the SRA.

Leisure

- SCC has been supporting Frome Community College in its discussions (with MDC and Fusion Lifestyle) in relation to securing the college's future affordable use of facilities at Frome Leisure Centre.

Libraries

- Consultation closed on 11 January and had an excellent level and quality of response. All headline proposals were supported and scrutiny committee were also supportive.

Traded Services

Progress last month:

- The Registration Service, the first half of the month saw a very high volume of death registrations across the County. The post-Christmas period is always a busy time, but this year seems to have been exceptional; staff have been working flat out to accommodate demand and we have prioritised certain appointments, however there has undoubtedly been an impact on appointment waiting times and this will have been frustrating for customers.
- Archaeology – launch of the Landscapes of Power Exhibition at the Museum of Somerset took place this month. The exhibition shows the finds from the Hinkley Point C archaeology mitigation programme. The exhibition runs for 12 weeks.
- **Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS)** – Over 400 cabinets are live, serving 100,000 homes and businesses. 2,500 individuals and businesses have attended events as part of the Get up to Speed programme, to get the most out of faster broadband. Discussions ongoing to mitigate the flooding impact and additional relief events between the CDS, BT and BDUK.

Looking forward

- **Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) programme.** CDS will be publishing the tender for the second stage of the superfast broadband programme in February. The Government's national procurement framework will be used for most of the area and an open procurement process in Dartmoor and Exmoor National Parks.

Civil Contingencies/Emergency Planning

Post flooding activities

- Continue to assist communities to develop local flood plans.

Waste

Polite Reminder for Residents

- Somerset Waste Partnership have recently sent out a polite reminder to residents reminding them that they are there to help:
 - *Somerset Waste Partnership looks after household recycling and waste matters for all our councils and we're here to help. If there is a problem in your community that you would like us to look into please feel free to discuss the matter with one of our officers either by e-mailing enquiries@somersetwaste.gov.uk or calling 01823 625700.*

- *If you spot a problem while collections are being made please don't confront crew members directly (unless you see them acting in a way that may cause immediate harm). They may not be able to resolve the problem and, importantly, it may not be their fault. What you see may be a one-off or a recurring problem. Either way we will investigate thoroughly, take the necessary action and let you know the outcome.*

Garden waste renewal letters

- The 42,000 customers of the garden waste collection service will receive renewal reminders and invoices over the next few weeks.
- Renewal invoices are sent out in advance for the coming year. For those not renewing, collections will stop without further notice from 31 March.
- The fortnightly service is based on 25 collections through the year. The service is only suspended for the two weeks following Christmas or, very occasionally, in severe winter weather.