ABBAS AND TEMPLECOMBE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held on the
11th February 2020

PRESENT Councillors R Cave (Chairman), Sarah Webb (Vice Chair), C James, G Wilson, Paula Batchelor, A Kerry, G Kerry, D Seares, Sue Pumphrey

IN ATTENDANCE
5 Parishioners, Mr W Wallace (District/County Councillor), Mr H Burt (District Councillor)

Chairman commenced the open session. W Wallace reported that Somerset County Council's budget is well balanced. H Burt reported following matters:-

- Somerset Waste Partnership (SWP) would be launching the Slim My Waste campaign
- West Street planning application would be coming before the Area East Committee meeting to be held on the 12th February at Churchfields Wincanton
- South Somerset District Council (SSDC) would increase Council Tax by 2.99%

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
C Hukins, PCSO Jan Sparkes

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS
G Kerry declared an interest in Agenda item 6 5) Thales – Slades Hill Development Site – Light Pollution – 15.1.20. P Batchelor declared an interest in Agenda item 16 C) Templars Tennis Club – Agreement of Usage – update. S Webb declared an interest in Slades Hill.

3 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON THE 14th JANUARY 2020 AND 29TH JANUARY 2020
It was proposed by S Webb and seconded by S Pumphrey that the draft Minutes dated 14th January 2020, as previously circulated, be agreed as correct and signed by the Chairman.
It was proposed by C James and seconded by S Webb that the draft Minutes dated 29th January 2020, as previously circulated, be agreed as correct and signed by the Chairman.

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON THE 14TH JANUARY 2020 AND 29TH JANUARY 2020
Chairman read out an e mail, dated 6.2.20, from Jo Manley – Origin 3 in connection with the Minutes dated 29th January 2020. The Council commended the work put in by Origin 3 in seeking to heed the community's views and include them where ever possible.

5 CORRESPONDENCE,
Received since the last meeting as discussed:-
1) Somerset Waste Partnership (SWP) – January briefing 2020. Noted.
2) South Somerset District Council (SSDC) – Future of Local Government in Somerset. Noted
3) Citizens Advice South Somerset – letter. To be taken into consideration when discussing further donations. A previous donation was made in 2018.
4) SSCAT Funding – e mail dated 6.2.20. Chairman summarised the e mail, the article indicated that future funding would be needed within the next year to secure the CAT bus.
5) Crime Figures – Templecombe – Jan/Feb 2020. Noted. Clerk would let A Kerry have a copy for the website.

6 PLANNING

1) Determination of Applications

Application no 19/03154/COU – Change of use of land to garden to be used in association with 1 Warwick Close Templecombe – Land to the rear of 1 Warwick Close Templecombe **(Granted)**

2) Notification of Area East Committee Meeting to be held on the 12th February 2020 at 9.00 am at The Council Offices Churchfield Wincanton (S Webb)

S Webb reported application no 19/01604/OUT – Outline application for 49 dwellings at West Street, would be on the agenda for discussion. G Wilson and D Seares would be attending and are aware of the comments made by the Parish Council.
This would be the last meeting at Churchfields, future meetings would probably take place in the Memorial Hall but this was yet to be confirmed. The Villages will be informed in due course.

a) Notification from SSDC dated 4.2.20 – Application no 19/01604/OUT – Outline application with all matters reserved save for access for residential development for up to 49 dwellings including landscaping, drainage and new vehicle access from West Street – Land at Coombe Farm OS Plots 4300 Part and 4613 Pa West Street Templecombe – to be discussed at Area East Meeting – 12.2.20
See above 2).

3) Application no 19/03409/REM – Reserved Matters application following approval 18/03322/OUT for the erection of 2 dwellings and construction of vehicular access thereto – Land opposite The Orchard Combe Hill Templecombe – reply to recent comments to SSDC
Noted, circulated to Members prior to the meeting. The Planning Officer commented that legally both accesses can be provided to serve both developments. The existing access proposed to serve the 80 dwellings is in situ and the new access, yet to be constructed, to serve the 2 new dwellings has been granted under ref 18/03222/OUT.

4) Application no 20/00183/FUL – Erection of equestrian storage building – Temple Lane Stables Temple Lane Templecombe
S Webb reported that she had looked at the above application and made the following comments:-

- No planning concerns as it links to existing use
- The site has a history of obtaining planning for a house tied to an equestrian worker and this application meets these conditions
- The application would contribute to the equestrian economic function on site

It was proposed by D Seares and seconded by A Kerry that the application should be supported. It was good to support a local business. All Members present were in agreement.

5) Thales – Slades Hill Development Site – Light Pollution – 15.1.20
Chairman read out the letter from Thales in reply to the Parish Council's letter dated 4th December 2019. Thales confirmed they were undertaking all action to comply with the planning conditions placed upon the construction of the new industrial facility and enhancing areas where they can.

6) Other
Clerk reported receipt of additional information in respect of Planning Application no 18/01597/FUL – Diversification to allow campsite with associated infrastructure – Land at Templars Farm Temple Lane Templecombe. As the application was only received on the 11th February, and not on the Agenda, Clerk had requested an extension of time to meet the reply date, for observations, of the 24th February. The Planning Officer had indicated that this was not possible as this is a longstanding application and a decision needed to be made as soon as possible. He would be grateful if Members could consider the revised drawings at the February meeting.
The Applicant was present and informed the meeting that the campsite was only for ten tent pitches along the lines of glamping tents and two part time permanent jobs would be created. He explained that the diversification is needed to support the farming business and he had supplied justification for the site in respect of tourism.
Paperwork was circulated to Members. S Webb made the following comments:-

- Some material changes had been made
- Moveable toilet blocks are now permanent buildings

A Kerry commented on the short time frame given and whether a decision should be made. Members acknowledged that they felt local business should be supported. S Webb proposed that the Parish Council should support the application for the provision of up to 10 pitches for the sole use of tents on the site but not for the parking, stationing of placing of any motor homes, static or touring caravans or campervans on the site. All Members present were in agreement.

7 ACCOUNTING MATTERS

1) To approve accounts and sign cheques
It was proposed by A Kerry and seconded by C James that the following cheques be paid:-

T J Young – Servicing of mowers/strimmers – Churchyard/Recreation Ground	280.69
Wessex Electricals (Shaftesbury) Ltd – Balance due for completion of electrical Work to Changing Rooms/Sports and Social Club	1,510.36
South Somerset District Council – Operational playground inspection 2019/20	31.80
J Pratt (Groundsman) – Salary/Expenses January 2020 – Recreation Ground/Burial Ground/Churchyard	130.00
T J Chapman (Clerk) – Salary/Expenses February 2020-02-11	452.77

2) Other
Clerk reported that the Utility Warehouse electricity account for January amounted to £ 27.22
The following interest had been received as at 31.12.19

NatWest Business Reserve Account	-	3.41(£19,452.61)	
NatWest Business Reserve Account (Play Area)	-	0.11(£631.84)	**Page 2 of 5**

Cheque for £140.00 (received from PCC of Templecombe) has been paid in Re Headstone for C B Willcox dcd

8 TEMPLECOMBE SCOUT GROUP REPORT/SCOUT HUT (C HUKINS)

C Hukins had circulated his report prior to the meeting; he and S Webb had attended the Executive Committee meeting on the 21st January. Next meeting 18th February.

9 VILLAGE HALL

1) Proposed new Lease/Charitable Status – update

C Hukins reported that the next meeting would take place on the 17th February.

Chairman reported that he and the Clerk had attended Battens Solicitors to discuss a possible way forward with regard to a new lease and charitable status. The Solicitor felt that there was no reason to change the Charity and it could carry on as it was. With regard to the Lease it could be left until it ran out and then the Parish Council could take back the Village Hall from the Management Committee of the Village Hall. Alternatively, the current Lease could be surrendered and then the Management Committee of the Village Hall could become a sub-committee of the Parish Council. Consent to dispose would have to be obtained from the Diocese. This would enable the Parish Council to apply for any grant aid towards future improvements. Members felt this was a satisfactory way forward and the Chairman indicated that he would put this to the Village Hall Management Committee at their next meeting.

10 PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE – (COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP)

The Communications Group had circulated their report prior to the meeting. They had made contact with Nigel Ferguson, with the various quotations required, and he had indicated that he would deal with the information required in the near future.

11 ENVIRONMENT

a) Role of Environment Champion

Noted. Clerk handed a copy to G Wilson. Chairman pointed out that there can be more than one Environment Champion and D Seares indicated that he would be happy to help G Wilson.

b) Great Parish Tree Giveaway – update

G Wilson and C Batchelor would be able to collect the trees. P Batchelor circulated sketch maps showing possible locations for the trees at the recreation ground and burial ground. Any remaining trees could be offered to the School. It was thought a date could be advertised to the Village for volunteers to help with the planting. Members were happy for P Batchelor and G Wilson to choose a date and liaise with G Kerry so that it could be included in the next monthly highlights.

12 HIGHWAY MATTERS

1) Road Scheme/Draft A357 Templecombe Scheme Traffic Review – update

A Kerry had not issued a report as the Parish Council had not yet received written confirmation of the meeting outcomes, from Somerset County Council (SCC).

SCC informed the meeting, held on the 6th February 2020, that they were of the firm belief that the 20 mph zone resulted as a request from the community and not linked to the needs of the light controlled crossing. In 2014 the Parish Council was asked to look at incorporating a 20 mph speed limit for Yarn Barton. This was agreed to prevent Yarn Barton, which had a 30 mph limit at the time with speed bumps, from being used as a bypass of the traffic calming on the A357. The Parish Council understood that without the calming scheme the light controlled crossing could not have been implemented.

SCC did consider some improvements could be made on the High Street to build out 4 and the possible removal of build out 2 on Church Hill. They would be happy to work with Cotswold Transport Planning (CTP). To achieve this, the Parish Council would need to engage CTP to develop a scheme which would be acceptable to SCC. If the scheme is not suitable any costs would fall to the Parish Council. SCC indicated that build out 1 would need to be retained as part of the 20 mph zone. This is because it is the start of the necessary physical calming measures required by the Police in such a zone.

2) Other

Clerk commented that it had been reported that a member of staff, from the Co-op site, had been parking on the pavement at the entrance to Station Road. It had been suggested that this action should be reported to the PCSO but A Kerry had now spoken to the foreman at the Co-op site and alternative parking would be sought.

Clerk reported that the Bowden Road sign had collapsed and would now be added to the list of signs that SSDC would be dealing with.

13 FOOTPATHS

P Batchelor reported that Darren Wilson, from Thales, had agreed to a site meeting. She had also spoken to A Morgan and D Haskett. It was noted there is three years left to get footpaths on to OS maps.

14 TREE WARDEN'S REPORT

C James had no matters to report.

15 BURIAL GROUND/CLOSED CHURCHYARD

1) Maintenance of closed Churchyard and Burial Ground – update

Following matters reported:-

- G Wilson reported the capping was crumbling on approximately 20 feet on the wall adjacent to the Village Hall. It was suggested a quote be obtained to rectify it. Clerk would contact Tom Trouton.
- Spoil heap – G Wilson would remove this when the weather was better.
- Clerk reported that a hole had appeared in the bottom of the wall, along the drive and Church Garth. Some of the stones were loose and it was thought this could have been done by a badger. Section of wall to be monitored.

2) Review of burial ground fees

Chairman reported the current rates and it was agreed that the fee for interment of ashes should be increased to £50.00 and the other fees unchanged. Clerk would let A Kerry have information on the Burial Ground for the website.

3) Other

No other matters to report.

16 RECREATION GROUND MATTERS/CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

A) Play Area

1) Weekly/Quarterly/Annual Play Inspection Reports/Maintenance Action Plan

Weekly reports were noted. P Batchelor reported that the chestnut fence, by the bungalows, is in need of re-staking and nine stakes would need to be purchased. Members were happy for this action to be taken. It was noted the fence in the corner of the Play Area was down.

The Recreation Ground Working Group had circulated their monthly report prior to the meeting. The following matters were noted:-

- Mowing equipment had been serviced and returned. The tractor would be serviced and new battery installed when the ground had dried up.
- A response to Manor Farm Leisure obligations had been agreed and submitted.
- Motorcycles are being ridden on the Recreation Ground. Clerk would inform the PCSO

2) Other

The Recreation Ground Working Group put forward a suggestion of the Parish Council setting up a "Multi Year Projects" savings account that money could be transferred into each year towards bigger projects. Members discussed targeting reserves and budgeting for replacement play area equipment. Currently expenditure on the Play Area is met by the 106 monies received from the Hillcrest development. Clerk explained that one of the Business Reserve Accounts was set up when the original play area was constructed and the monies presently in it are for future equipment.

Although the Parish Council reserves are good in case of unexpected expenditure it was felt wider issues should be identified, for example pathways in Churchyard/Recreation Ground car park, and quotes obtained for future budgeting purposes.

B) Social Club

1) Social Club (C James/C Hukins)

C Hukins had circulated his report prior to the meeting. Monthly Statement of Accounts and detailed Minutes, from the previous meeting, were made available to C Hukins. No problems noted since the last meeting. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday 3rd March at 7pm. D Seares had concerns on the following points:-

- Reduction in Membership – is the reduction continuing or is the membership now recovering
- When is it felt the Social Club is generating enough profit that funds can be spent in the Recreation Ground
- More use should be made of the facilities that can be utilised openly by all the Village

A Kerry stated that the Social Club is a major asset that is not used by many from the Village but acknowledges that the Committee want to expand activities to attract more members.

2) Quotations for Emergency lighting – update

Chairman reported that Wessex Fire and Security had been provided with a copy of the Asbestos Report and as a result of work needed to be carried out in the bar area they will need to use approved non licensed asbestos working procedures (NLAW). The additional works amounted to £200.00, excluding VAT. It was proposed by R Cave and seconded by A Kerry that the quote for the additional works should be accepted. All Members were in agreement.

3) Quotations for Fire Alarm – update

Chairman reported that three quotes had now been received in connection with the work to the fire alarm. R Cave proposed that the quotation from P D Fire and Safety, amounting to £480.00 plus VAT be accepted, seconded by S Webb. All Members were in agreement. It was also felt that the Annual Fire and Safety package deal – Bronze package for £180.00 per year should be accepted and the annual payment met by the Social Club.

C) Templars Tennis Club – Agreement of usage – update

The Templars Tennis Club are happy with the draft Agreement of usage and had signed a copy. Chairman signed on behalf of the Parish Council and the agreement will be dated as from the 11th February 2020. Clerk will let Templars Tennis Club have a copy.

D) Other

No other matters reported.

17 ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING ON TUESDAY 10TH MARCH 2020

G Wilson reported that he had forwarded a copy of the Time Team film to the Planning Officer, in connection with the proposed Manor Farm development. He also reported that he had been approached by Parishioners living close to the proposed Manor Farm development saying that they feel intimidated by some actions by the land owner in an attempt to stop their criticism of the scheme.

S Pumphrey reported that the turning bay, at the end of Manor Close, is being used for parking vehicles. It was suggested that Highways could be asked to mark this area "for turning only"

a) Co-option of one Parish Councillor

Chairman read out the letters received from the two applicants. A vote was taken and the majority decision was not to co-opt either applicant. Clerk would reply accordingly.