ABBAS AND TEMPLECOMBE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held on the
13th March 2018

PRESENT Councillors M Batchelor (Chairman), R Cave (Vice Chair), J Grierson, C James, G Wilson, Paula Batchelor, C Hukins, A Haskell, A Kerry

IN ATTENDANCE
Mr Hayward Burt (District Councillor)

Chairman welcome everyone to the meeting and expressed Member's condolences to the family of the late Bob Saunders, who had been a Member of the Parish Council in excess of 40 years. Some past and present Members had attended his funeral.

Mr Hayward Burt reported the following matters:-

- A grant of £400.00 had been secured for the 'In Bloom' group
- As a result of the recent Boundary Consultation it is felt that the Parish Council need to link with Henstridge Parish Council in relation to the A357 and any developments that may increase the volume of traffic
- SSDC may be able to offer SIDS (Speed Indicator Devices)
- Development at 18 to 24 Westcombe is on the Agenda for the Area East meeting on the 14th March
- Paul Blowfield is submitting an Asset of Community Value (ACV) in relation to the Templars Retreat. The property had been made less attractive for sale with the loss of the skittle alley and car parking space.
- SSDC had increased the Council Tax by 3.1%

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
C Mintern, Sarah Webb, Mr William Wallace (District/County Councillor)

2 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 13th FEBRUARY 2018
It was proposed by C Hukins and seconded by C James that the draft Minutes, as previously circulated, be agreed as correct and signed by the Chairman.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS
A Haskell declared an interest in Agenda item 7) Templecombe Scout Report.

4 CORRESPONDENCE
Received since the last meeting as discussed:-
1) SSDC – Annual Town and Parish Council Meeting – notice of provisional date 23.4.18. Chairman reported the provisional date. Chairman and Clerk would be attending.

5 PLANNING

1) Determination of Applications
None.

2) Notification of Area East Committee Meeting to be held on the 14th March 2018 at 9.00 am at The Council Offices Churchfield Wincanton (R Cave)
R Cave reported that Application no 17/04047/S73A – Land rear of 18 to 24 Westcombe would be discussed in connection with the changes proposed. Complainants would have to seek their own legal opinion.

3) Notification of inclusion at Area East – Application no 17/04047/S73A – Application to vary condition no 2 (approved plans) of planning approval 09/03037/FUL, 11/02147/S73 and 16/03330/S73A to substitute revised plans – Land rear of 18 to 24 Westcombe Templecombe
Noted. Parish Council comments, made previously, would be taken into account. It was noted that the Planning Officer recommended approval.

4) Application no 18/00097/FUL – Erection of single and two storey extension, raising of roof, insertion of dormer window and roof lights and the conversion of loft and garage to additional living accommodation, refacing of building with buff shearstone – The Piggery Lily Lane Templecombe
Members noted Sarah Webb's comments. No objections were raised. Clerk would reply and include the usual comment on the road condition.

5) Slades Hill development/Slades Hill 106 Agreement – update
Chairman reported that the section of track way, from Church Hill to the burial ground gate, was no longer in Mr L Bennett's ownership. If the Scouts wished to pursue its use they would now have to contact Mead Developments.

6 ACCOUNTING MATTERS

1) To approve accounts and sign cheques

It was proposed by R Cave and seconded by A Kerry that the following cheques be paid:-

Nigel Ferguson – Website expenses	500.00
J Pratt (Groundsman) – Salary/Expenses February 2018 Churchyard/Burial Ground/Recreation Ground	141.00
T Chapman (Clerk) – Salary/Expenses March 2018	428.06

2) Other

Clerk reported receipt of the following interest:-

NatWest Business Reserve Account	-	0.74p
NatWest Business Reserve Account (Play Equipment Appeal Fund)	-	0.02p

The following monies had been received:-

Templecombe Sports and Social Club – Water refund	£473.20
Templars Tennis Club – Electric refund	£ 65.82
R Saunders deceased – Purchase of Plot and Reserved plot, burial fees (Received from Peter Jackson Funeral Services)	£472.00

a) **Review of electric supplier to Changing Rooms, Recreation Ground**

Clerk circulated comparisons of four suppliers. Members discussed the various rates and it was agreed to remain with Utility Warehouse.

7 TEMPLECOMBE SCOUT GROUP REPORT/SCOUT HUT – C HUKINS

1) Scout Hut proposals – update

C Hukins reported that he had attended the recent meeting. He circulated comments made by the Scout Group on the draft lease. It was noted that if the Scout Group folded the Scout Association would look to take over the property. This could only be the building and not the land. It was felt this point needed clarifying by Mr Rutter. Also the Scout Group, on reviewing the proposed draft lease, felt some of wording in section three relates to either the existing use of the building, the new proposed building or both. They proposed splitting the "Additional Clauses" and apply a "New Build Agreement Clause". This would mean that no additional clauses will have to be amended or removed, relating to the New Build, when the lease is up for renewal in 60 years. Chairman would have a further look at the comments in relation to the draft lease before going back to Mr Rutter.

8 VILLAGE HALL – A HASKELL/C HUKINS

1) Proposed replacement of oil tank – Quotation from Ford Fuels Heating and Plumbing – update

Clerk reported that Ford Fuels had attended and looked at what was involved with moving the flue. It was felt that it would be difficult to obtain certain parts and consideration may need to be given to re-positioning the replacement tank. Ford Fuels had suggested meeting up again. Clerk would set up a meeting and the Chairman would also attend. Chairman referred to the end of year accounts.

9 TEMPLECOMBE COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN – UPDATE (J Grierson/R Cave)

J Grierson reported that he would be circulating a questionnaire. The recent snow had raised the issue of dispersal and replenishing supplies of road salt, this information would go into the Emergency Plan along with the possible flooding of public rights of way. As previously reported a separate document would be needed to identify vulnerable people. J Grierson would update the plan and supply a copy for the website.

10 PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE – UPDATE

It was reported that the website was not functioning on some phones and devices. Chairman would look into this and take the matter up with Nigel Ferguson. It was suggested that when the draft minutes are available on the website notification could be put on the Templecombe Voice to let people know. There is also Templecombe Viewpoint operating in a similar nature to the Templecombe Voice. It was also noted that the ability to contact the Parish Council via e mail, as detailed on the website, had been disabled.

11 TEMPLECOMBE IN BLOOM

a) Update – if not reported during the open session

Clerk read out the report provided by Eileen Bate. Various dates had been set to carry out more work and a litter pick has been scheduled for the 15th April, supported by SSDC.

It was thought that the litter pick would not just cover the route agreed for the In Bloom competition. Toby Edwards has made the planters up and they have been painted. The next meeting takes place on the 26th March.

b) Proposed work to Stocks – letter dated 27.2.18 from Eileen Bate

Chairman read out the letter detailing the work the In Bloom group wished to carry out to the stocks. G Wilson recommended that whoever is to carry out the work should speak to him initially. He did not recommend painting, but cleaning with acetone, soft wire brush on metal parts, buffing and coating with wax.

c) Other tasks referred to in e mail dated 26.2.18 from Paula Batchelor to Clerk

The following tasks were reported:-

Bench on Slades Hill and railings by the pedestrian entrance to Lily Lane – The group had asked to paint the bench with wood preservative and paint the railings. Members were happy for them to carry out the work to the bench. The railings are not the responsibility of the Parish Council. P Batchelor reported that Highways had no objections to the work to the railings.

Painting Grave railings/Lamp post in closed Churchyard – Clerk would mention these works at the PCC meeting. Permission would probably have to be obtained from the Archdeacon.

Tustin Hall site – Clerk had made contact with the owner of the site, who is happy for his contact details to be passed to the group.

P Batchelor hoped to be able to paint the fingerpost at the entrance to Bowden Road.

12 CONSULTATIONS

a) Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs – Crime and poor performance in Waste Sector (closing date 26.3.19)

It was noted that fines for fly tipping would be increased.

b) SSDC – Draft Somerset Strategic Housing Framework 2018-2022 (closing date 30.4.18)

Noted.

13 VILLAGE INFORMATION BOARD (Paula Batchelor)

P Batchelor reported that a suggestion had been put forward for a Village information board. She had contacted Vale Signs and Print and obtained a quotation for a board 3ft by 2ft, on poles, amounting to £290.00 excluding VAT, installation would be £45.00 per hour. Various locations had been suggested such as by the Parish Council noticeboard in School Lane car park, grass verge by Railway Bridge, at the Railway Station and on the bank at 1 Station Road. G Wilson pointed out that if the noticeboard would be on poles a licence would be needed and this would cost in the region of £600.00. If it was affixed to a wall no licence would be required. It was felt that the wall by the noticeboard would not be suitable due to its state of repair and uneven surface. The information board could have details of the stocks on it so a sign by the stocks would not be needed.

Members felt that the board should be larger and were in agreement to fund it as a contribution and set a budget of £500.00.

14 HIGHWAY MATTERS

1) Road Scheme – update

A Kerry referred to the questions he had asked of Somerset County Council (SCC) as follows:-

1) Why does this project require Traffic Calming?
2) Why was this type of Traffic Calming chosen?

The reply received from SCC is as follows:-

'Thanks for your e mail.

I am familiar with the history associated with the scheme and will endeavour to answer your questions as clearly as I can.

It is often possible to site format pedestrian crossings within 30mph limits in locations with sufficient visibility without traffic calming, but in Templecombe the speed data indicated that the 30 limit was not being adhered to sufficiently so supporting physical traffic calming measures were required. The use of the A357 by HGV's and as a bus route limited the options available; ruling out vertical measures in the form of speed humps and tables, and speed cushions is generally ineffective at reducing speeds where HGV's are concerned. Horizontal measures in the form of build-outs/chicanes were therefore identified as the preferred option.

Updated guidance on Small Improvement Schemes can be found on our Traffic Choices website:

Home|Traffic choices – aiding traffic scheme decisions

Regarding the query on road classification and use of appropriate guidance documents, the simple answer is that both could apply. DMRB should be applied to all trunk roads and primary routes. A357 may not be a primary route but it is our practice to apply DMRB to all A roads where possible, using MfS (2) where it is not.

I hope my response answers your questions'

Members discussed the feasibility of having the traffic calming system independently assessed to see if it is an appropriate solution for our Village. A Kerry agreed to investigate and obtain an idea of costs involved.

It was noted that the Small Improvement Scheme meeting had taken place and is still under consideration.

a) SCC – update on condition of build out 3

Clerk had reported the condition of the four bollards at build out 3, at Church Hill. Two of them had been dislodged on a number of occasions and the actual post holders are damaged. There is no visible reflective tape on the bollards and they merge into the 'grey background' of the road. There is evidence of the hits as damage has been caused to the kerb. It was also reported during a recent speed watch session the actual build out was hit on five occasions in the space of an hour. SCC had replied indicating that the enquiry had been passed to the Small Improvements Scheme Managers for reply in due course.

2) Community Speed watch in Templecombe – Update if applicable

R Cave reported that Templecombe has the biggest speeding issue in the Somerset area. It was also felt there is less help from the Police and in particular an actual police presence.

3) Speed Indicator Device (SID) – Future costs/SID Briefing Event – rearranged date 14.3.18 – 2 to 4 pm – Edgar Hall Somerton

Consideration may need to be given to purchasing our own SID or perhaps sharing costs with an adjoining Parish. It was felt one should be incorporated in the 20mph limit so the data could be used as evidence of speed within the traffic scheme. Clerk would be attending the briefing event.

4) Broken guttering on bus shelter – adjacent to Templars Barton – update

G Wilson to deal with in due course.

5) Other

a) Condition of Dog Bin – Bowden Road – update

Members were in agreement for Clerk to go ahead and purchase replacement dog bin. J Grierson reported that a number of the litter bins were also in a poor condition and may need replacing in due course.

b) Defect of road surface High Street – update

Clerk reported that an inspection had been carried out by SCC Highways and defects have been identified as not within safety deterioration criteria but would benefit from some patching at a future date. The guarantee period for surface material has now expired.

15 FOOTPATHS

No matters to report.

16 TREE WARDEN'S REPORT

a) Group of trees adjacent to garage block opposite Brines Orchard – update if applicable

C James reported that the two remaining trees were dead and would be dealt with.
He would take out the dead tree in the Recreation Ground and could provide a walnut tree as a replacement.

17 BURIAL GROUND MATTERS/CLOSED CHURCHYARD

1) Maintenance of closed Churchyard and Burial Ground – update

No matters to report.

2) Other

a) E mail dated 6.3.18 – Eileen Bate – Adopt a Grave Scheme

Clerk referred to the e mail. During the recent clearance work it was suggested that it might be a good thing if an 'Adopt a Grave Scheme' could be instigated for those graves that have neglected due to a number of reasons but mainly that family members have moved away from the area. Members suggested that this matter should be considered by the PCC.

18 NEWSLETTER

Chairman reported that the United Reformed Church had indicated that they would not be able to carry on delivering the newsletters and the March edition would be the last they could deliver. It was suggested that the Scout Group be approached to see if they would consider taking on the delivery or alternatively it may be possible to ask the Church to include the newsletter with their monthly newsletter. Copies could be left in the shops.

19 RECREATION GROUND MATTERS/CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

A) Play Area

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

Noted. Paula Batchelor would apply iron sulphate to the safety surfaces to kill the moss.

2) Cone Climber – loose bolt (Paula Batchelor)

Paula Batchelor reported that she had tightened up the loose bolt on a number of occasions and had reported the matter to Proludic . It may still be under the warranty.

B) Social Club

1) Social Club Report (C James)

C James reported that the Social Club was financially sound and planning ahead. The fete would be on 14th July.

2) Proposed extension to buildings at Recreation Ground – Letter dated 27.2.18 J Milton)

Chairman referred to the letter and plan received from J Milton. Full planning would be required for the proposed extension between the existing changing rooms and Sports and Social Club. Members are in agreement for a planning application to be submitted. The Parish Council would have ownership of the extension.

C) Other

Clerk reported that J Pratt, Groundsman, may not be able to collect up the bin bags at the Recreation Ground due to an injury. If he is unable to carry out the work Clerk would notify Members.

20 COMMEMORATION OF THE 100 YEARS ANNIVERSATY OF THE END OF WW1 in November 2018 – update

G Wilson reported that he had received the wood and the name banners had been completed. There are still four names he has been unable to trace and he has included the ones from the memorial.

21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING ON THE 10TH APRIL 2018

It was proposed that some form of memorial should be considered as a tribute to Bob Saunders. It was suggested that perhaps the information board could be a possibility or a bench.

Chairman reminded Members that this would be the last meeting in the URC hall and as from April the meetings would take place in the Village Hall. The Members wished to thank the URC for the use of the hall. Clerk would write to them accordingly.

Meeting closed at 9.50pm signed M Batchelor dated 10.4.18 Page 5 of 5