

LITTLE SOMERFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 7th September 2021 Little Somerford Village Hall

Minutes

Present

Cllr P Cameron (Chair)
Cllr D Orchard
Cllr J Fairbairn

Cllr J Frayling
Cllr S Orchard
Cllr C Minshell

In Attendance

R Nuttall (Clerk)

One member of the
public

Public Question Time

A member of the Speedwatch team was present and gave an update on the current situation. The equipment is now shared with Lyneham and Dauntsey, so will be used by the Little Somerford Team for 2 weeks in every six weeks.

During the first two weeks of August, 881 cars were recorded by the team, with 39 speeders (4.4%). The system for recording and uploading information to the police has changed and now involves more computer work. Those found to be speeding are sent a letter by the police, persistent offenders are visited by the police.

It was requested that the Willowherb growing in the cemetery and allotments be cut down as it is self-seeding onto the allotments.

Action: Cllr Cameron

Reports from Unitary Councillor and Council Representatives

Cllr Threlfall was not able to attend the meeting. The Councillors requested that the clerk contact her for an update regarding a planning issue raised with her at a previous meeting.

21/09/1 **Apologies for Absence** – Wiltshire Cllr Threlfall

21/09/2 **Declarations of Interest** There were no new declarations of interest.

21/09/3.1 **Minutes and Matters Arising** the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 6th July 2021 were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.
Proposed: Cllr D Orchard; Seconded: Cllr J Fairbairn

21/09/3.2 It was agreed that all items shaded green on the Action Register were completed.

19/10/10.3 Cllr Frayling will contact the grave digger to see if there is a more accurate map.
Action: Cllr Frayling
Cllrs Cameron, Fairbairn, S Orchard, Frayling to work on updating map, current map documents and registers to be cross-referenced.
Action: Cllrs

20/04/10.2 Defibrillator training arranged for October 20th, 7.30pm
Action: Cllr Cameron

20/06/10.4 Website instructions - Complete and circulated to Councillors and Clerk.

21/03/9.2 Raised Walkway - Company visiting this week to quote for the work

All other items shaded amber are in progress.

21/09/4.1 Planning Matters

Planning Applications - No applications for consideration.

21/09/4.2 Applications Determined by Wiltshire Council since the last meeting.

PL/2021/06441 Manor Cottage – fell 1xtree – No Objection

PL/2021/05410 – The Old Rectory – fell 2xtree – No Objection

PL/2021/05233 – Spring House – proposed stables – Approve with Conditions

PL/2021/05556 – Somerford House – fell 3xtree – No objection

21/09/4.3 Applications determined since the issue of this Agenda. None

21/09/5 Finance & Audit

21/09/5.1 To approve Payments & Receipts

The Finance report was received, and the Parish Council ratified and approved payments of £2165.38 and £86.00 . It was noted that there was an invoice for £1167 for works to the Community Orchard. This work had been agreed at the March meeting 21/03/9.1, and the invoice received in April, but the work was not signed off by the Councillors as complete until July.

Proposed: Cllr Cameron; seconded Cllr Frayling

21/09/5.2 The Receipts and Payments to the end of August were noted and the bank reconciliation for July and August signed by the Chair.
The current account stands at £13248 and the year-to-date surplus is £5132.

21/09/5.3 Early Budget Considerations 2022/23

Special Projects to be considered for the next budget include raised walkway to Great Somerford and fencing requirements at the allotments and paddock.

21/09/6 Governance

21/09/6.1 Financial Regulations were reviewed, agreed and signed with no changes.
Proposed: Cllr D Orchard; seconded Cllr Fairbairn.

- 21/09/6.2 **Grass Cutting Contract Specification** was agreed. Tenders will be invited to be submitted by early December so that a decision can be made at the January meeting. The contract will start in April 2022 and run for 24 months. To be advertised locally on-line and in Signpost. **Action: Clerk**
- 21/09/6.3 Cllr Frayling reported that all road signs were in good order, with any issues being reported and actioned over the past 12 months, as they have arisen. Exception is Meadow Lane sign. **Action: Clerk**
- 21/09/6.4 Cllr D Orchard has reviewed the contract and service provided for website hosting and all agreed that it was good value and an excellent service.
- 21/09/6.5 The Cemetery charges were reviewed and it was agreed to increase the charges by 10% rounded-up, last increase was 2018. Cemetery charges will be reviewed every 3 years.
Proposed : Cllr Fairbairn; Seconded: Cllr D Orchard **Action: Clerk**
- 21/09/6.6 Paddock - The Clerk confirmed that the current tenants plan to renew their tenancy for a further year, and that the tenancy will be offered to Little Somerford residents every two years.
- 21/09/7.1 **Highways Matters**
The Parish Steward will be asked to clear all road drains of grass, leaves and debris. **Action: Clerk**
- 21/09/7.2 **Drains**
Flooding at Mill Lane railway bridge, Cllr Cameron reported that Wiltshire Council are writing to the landowner to progress clearing this blocked drain.
Drains at St Annes have been jetted again, but it is not known if this has solved the issue of tree root blockage.
It is not known if the blocked drain outside Yew Tree Cottage has been cleared.
- 21/09/8 There were no items brought by Councillors
- 21/09/9 Clerk's Correspondence which had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.
- 21/09/9.1 An email from the Environment Agency concerning Illegal Waste had been circulated to Councillors. Property owners are reminded of the laws concerning bonfires and that only garden waste should be burned. If a bonfire of industrial or commercial waste is emitting black smoke it is dealt with under the Clean Air Act 1993 – this includes the burning of such material in your garden. Under section 34 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 it is illegal to dispose of waste that is not from your property – for example from your workplace or from a neighbour. For example, small tradesmen must not burn waste from site at home. The Environment Agency have powers to issue large fines.
Fly tipping should be reported to Wiltshire Council and Crimestoppers. This will be promoted on Facebook and the website.

- 21/09/9.2 Wiltshire Council are currently holding a Climate Strategy Consultation, and all members of the public are encouraged to engage with it, to be promoted on Facebook and website.
Action: Cllr D Orchard
The Councillors were disappointed to note that 6% of Wiltshire recycling is still being sent abroad for processing.
- 21/09/9.3 PEAS – The Salt Bin at the top of The Hill needs to be replaced. Adequate supplies of salt.
Action: Clerk
- 21/09/9.4 The Parish Council are keen to be involved in the Jubilee Beacons and are investigating having other celebratory events in Little Somerford over the weekend of 2nd to 5th June 2022.
Action: Clerk
- 21/09/9.5 Operation London Bridge was noted, and it was decided that no action was required.
- Update on Standing items.**
- 21/09/10.1 **Allotment and Paddock** see 21/09/6.6. Water tanks have been removed.
- 21/09/10.2 **Cemetery** see 21/09/3.2
- 21/09/10.3 **Emergency Plan** has been updated and will be circulated with copies available in public locations in Little Somerford.
- 21/09/10.4 **Website** no updates.
- 21/09/10.5 **Footpaths & Rights of Way** – The report prepared by Cllr Minshell was noted, some stiles are still in need of repair.
- 21/09/10.6 **Defibrillator** – all working, training to be held 20th October 2021.
- 21/09/10.7 **Play Park** – Burma Bridge requires repair, cost is £143.29, all agreed for this to be actioned asap
Action: Clerk
Painting will be carried out week commencing 13th September, weather permitting.
Covid Signs can be removed
Action: Clerk
- 21/09/10.8 **Telephone Book Exchange** – no updates.
- 21/09/10.9 **Wildlife Friendly Village** – The Open Garden to show how to have a wildlife friendly garden received 42 visitors. The Councillors would like to thank Clare & Kit Beazley for opening their garden.
The Council considered 2 areas of the village which could be adopted from Wiltshire Council, by the Parish Council – grass area in Vale Leaze and grass area at the bottom of Clay Street.
The Parish Council would like to thank Rachael Fairbairn for designing the logo for the Wildlife Friendly Village.
- 21/09/11 **Dates for Future Meetings**

2nd November 2021, 11th January 2022

Approved *Raven* Chair *2/11/2021* Date