

Minutes – 8th March 2017

7pm The meeting opened

17/033 Attendees: Chairman B. Sugg, Cllr. J. Bennett, Cllr. D. Mead, Vice Chair. M. Shepstone, Cllr. N. Hopkins, Cllr. P. Hodge, Cllr. D. Goddard, Cllr. C. Henocq, Cllr. J. New, Cllr. M. Mead, Cllr. P. Chant. **Public attendance:** Mrs A. Bennett, Mr M. Stowerbuts, Mr M. Clark, Mrs L. Whitsun-Jones, Mr M Keating. **Apologies:** C.Cllr. M.Fysh has given his apologies until April 2017, D. Cllr. C. Bakewell, D. Cllr. G. Seaton, Cllr. S. Snelling, Cllr. B. Hartley.

17/034 No **declarations of interest** were received.

17/035 The minutes were approved as an accurate and correct record of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th February, 2017. Proposed by Vice Chairman M. Shepstone and seconded by Cllr. D. Mead. All agreed

17/036 Public Question Time

(1) Mrs L Whitsun Jones addressed Council regarding the **Housing & Economic Land Availability Assessments (HELAA)** - SSDC latest housing and employment review and recent article in the local papers. The full report can be found at the following link. <https://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-buildingcontrolplanning-/policy/early-review-of-local-plan-2006-2028/project-management-monitoring/south-somerset-housing-employment-land-availability-assessment>. **Action:** Clerk to order a large copy of the Map for further discussion at the next meeting.

(2) Mrs A Bennett and Mr M Sowerbuts felt people should be made aware of the sale of the Vicarage and Glebe Field and of the Benefice structure. Concern was shown that a House for Duty Assistant Priest had not been advertised for. In February a meeting by invitation only was held and a vote was taken as a guideline to sell East Coker vicarage, although no minutes were taken. The Vicarage had been on a rolling 20 year lease with the PCC (Parochial Church Council), unfortunately no formal lease or legal agreement had been signed. There is some uncertainty as to who owns the Vicarage and Glebe Field. It was suggested by Clerk that they should be registered on the Assets of Community Value, although the assets would need to be regularly used and they should ascertain as to who the owners are through land registry.

(3) **County / District Councillors Reports** were received prior to the meeting and distributed via email.

17/037 To discuss and make observations on SSDC - Planning Applications

a. 16/02376/ADV – 16/02378/LBC

Applicant: Punch Taverns

Proposal: The display of 2 no. externally illuminated fascia signs, 1 no. non illuminated fascia sign, 1 no. externally illuminated projecting sign, 9 no. non illumined signs and 1 no. internally illumined sign (retrospective).

Location: Helyar Arms, Moor Lane, East Coker, BA22 9JR

Resolution: East Coker Parish Council had no objections or observations to make. Proposed by Cllr. M .Mead and Seconded by Vice Chairman M. Shepstone.

SSDC – Planning Determinations – For your information.

16/05414/FUL

Applicant: E D Dunning & Son

Proposal: Proposed erection of a single detached dwelling

Location: Land off of Moor Lane, Main Street, East Coker

Application approved with conditions.

Permission (Full) with conditions.

16/05513/COU

Applicant: TJB 500 Ltd

Proposal: The change of use of ancillary garage/workshop to allow MOT testing (repairs and servicing) for members of the public (Use Class B2)

Location: White post Garage.

Application approved with conditions.

16/05373/FUL

Applicant: Mr & Mrs B Delves

Proposal: Improvements to access into the site, erection of a new garage to existing house, erection of a dwellinghouse, construction of new driveway and three bungalows (Revised application)

Location: Coker Firs 141 West Coker Road, Yeovil BA20 2HH

Permission refused.

17/038 Memorial Approvals

None received

17/039 To receive the Clerk's report.

1. An old **rodent** has been found to be living in the conference area kitchen. Traps have been laid, out of reach of humans, and the SSDC will be back in a month to check on the situation. **Action:** Clerk to monitor situation.
2. Representative from the East Coker Parish Council, Cllr. J. New, will complete the required **Village Hall Committee forms**. **Action:** Clerk to inform Village Hall Committee.
3. **Pre School Contract.** The contract is due for renewal, with an increase of rent in line with inflation and as noted on the previous years contract. All council agreed to increase rent. **Action:** Clerk to arrange a meeting with Pre School and Council.
4. **Christmas Tree.** Cllr. J. Bennett confirmed that Palmers Nurseries will provide and install, free of charge, a *Picea pungens* Super Blue. **Action:** Cllr. D. Mead and Cllr. M. Mead to install a post for the new tree and Clerk to inform Palmers Nurseries and when the tree is installed a thank you note should be written to Palmers Nurseries, plus a notice of thanks in the East Coker Society Newsletter.

17/040 To receive correspondence from the SSDC

None Received

17/041 To receive and discuss Parishioner Correspondence

- (1) Proposed sale of the Vicarage and the Glebe Field – discussed earlier in the meeting.

17/042 To discuss Working Group issues and resolve

- (1) The Neighbourhood Plan
 - a. Planning Tick List – Cllr. P. Hodge / Cllr. N. Hopkins – this item will be discussed at the meeting in May.
 - b. Open Day March 11th. Chairman B. Sugg asked if Council had any copies of the Footpath maps as she would like to give them out at the Open Day. Cllr. D. Mead would give his copies.
 - c. Proof Reading Invoice – There was no need to pursue the issues as the NP will need to be proof read again at the later stages of completion.

17/042 Group Representative Reports

- (1) **Village Hall**
 - a. New School Parking. A meeting has been arranged for the 27th March at 11am with the relevant parties to discuss the New School Car Park proposal put forward by Cllr. D. Mead.
- (2) **Primary School** – Cllr. N. Hopkins gave Clerk a copy of the School Newsletter which details the request to use the Village Hall car park and the request to avoid parking on the yellow and white lines outside the school. Cllr. N. Hopkins has also spoken to the School Head with regards to the teachers using the car park and not the road outside.

17/043 To discuss and identify Highways Issues and resolve

- (1) Highways – **Shadow Pathways/ Speeding/Bollards**. Highways have agreed that the village area should have speed restriction signs on the roads and is sending the information to Clerk for discussion and agreement at the next meeting. Clerk is still waiting for confirmation regarding the bollards and speeding questions put forward at the last meeting. **Action:** Clerk to chase Highways.
- (2) **Pot Holes** to be reported at Darvole, on the bend between A37 and Darvole Cottages. **Action:** Clerk to report.
- (3) **Tellis Bridge** (by the Primary School) repair. It is on the Highways repairs list and they are working through the list but no repair date can be given yet. **Action:** Clerk to email an update to Parishioners.

17/044 To discuss and identify items for the Village Ranger

- (1) Cattle signs at Darvole need cleaning and the drain at the sign needs clearing. **Action:** Chairman B. Sugg to put on the ranger list.

17/045 To discuss and resolve the following topics;

- (1) **Coker Forum Debrief**. Chairman, Vice Chair and Clerk attend the Forum. Sue Mountstevens, Police Crime Commissioner for Avon and Somerset gave a briefing regarding the police and the issues within the area. Summary as follows; 8,000 people go missing a year, 86% of police work spent on non crime 22k fewer officers across the UK, £8.5 million a year to keep the custody suite open in Yeovil, which is closing 3rd April. Front line officers will shortly have laptops so they can do the paperwork whilst out on the streets. BME is 7%, although this will increase with the new census. There isn't a funding formula at the moment, so they don't know what the funding will be.
Dave Fade - Rural Crime Team (Farming) - has a PC and a PSO based in

Bridgewater. He encouraged people to call Crime Stoppers (which is a charity and not part of the police) 0800 555111 to report any crime or if they have intelligence. Farm Watch is a system that farmers are texted when intelligence has been received, or they can text back on 81899 - although this number is changing in April. Kate Marston - Volunteer Manager gave an overview of volunteering for the Police and the different roles available. They rely on the public being volunteers and run many programmes from police puppy fostering, road closures and history and heritage cataloguing. Cadets - aged between 14-17. 10 units across the force, WSM, Street and Taunton are recruiting until the end of March. Special Constables have to do a minimum of 16 hours. Neighbourhood Watch scheme is proving very successful. **Action:** Clerk to join for East Coker.

The sharing of facilities with the Fire Brigade will start from May. Dave Fade informed the group that he has new beat managers, one of which will be for East Coker, her name is Georgie Critington.

- (2) **Church Signage.** It was agreed by all to let the Church Committee install a temporary notice board at the top of the path at the Paddock on the road side, facing the road.
- (3) **West Dorset, Weymouth & Portland local plan review** – Cllr. J. Bennett reviewed the plan. He noted that the Local Plan may need updating and how important the NP will be. He showed Council the plans which might impact the traffic going through Yeovil. Although no response from Council was required, Cllr. J. Bennett advised the Council to be aware of the plan. Chairman thanked Cllr. J. Bennett.
- (4) **East Coker Scouts Challenge Badge Suggested Projects.** It was suggested by Chairman B. Sugg for the Scouts to walk all the Parish rights of way, litter pick and report any problems or breakages. All agreed. **Action:** Clerk to advise Mr Webber, Scout Leader.
- (5) **Cemetery Hedge. Resolution:** It was agreed by all to accept the quotation from KM Dike for £260, plus VAT to cut and trim the long large hedge at the Chapel Cemetery. **Action:** Clerk to instruct contractor to commence the works.
- (6) **Cemetery Bank Quotations.** Only one quotation had been received from KM Dike, despite efforts to get other contractors to quote. Clerk assured Council that they could instruct KM Dike, although Standing Orders states 3 quotes should be attempted if cost is over £500, but this is not always possible and if best efforts had been fruitless, then you can just take the one quote. **Resolution:** All agreed to accept the quotation from KM Dike for £990, plus VAT. **Action:** Clerk to instruct contractor to commence the works.
- (7) **Website Photo Competition.** It was suggested to have the theme 'What do people love about living in East Coker'. Suggested judges to be Mr J. Snelling and Mr G. Trott. A calendar of photos was also suggested. **Resolution:** it was agreed Under 16's and Adults prizes of £25 and £50 respectively. **Action:** Cllr. C. Henocq to put the details together and give to Clerk for the Newsletter piece, deadline 22nd March.

- (8) **Speakers and Amp. Resolution:** it was agreed by all for Cllr. J. Bennett to collect the free speakers and Amp and put into the store room. **Action:** Clerk to arrange PAT testing.
- (9) **East Coker Rights of Way Maps** – discussed earlier.
- (10) **Annual Parish Meeting** – 18th May 7-9pm (Hall 6-10pm)
- a. Invitation List. **Action:** Clerk to email Parishioners regarding the Annual Parishioner evening. A notice should also go into the Newsletter. The list of societies, group and committees in the Parish was updated and **Action:** Clerk to invite, ensuring that nobody is missed out. Further logistics to be discussed at the next meeting.

17/046 Agenda items for the next meeting, Wednesday, 12th April, 7.00pm at the Pavilion

Postman - John – Parishioner Donations for leaving present – August 12th.

Football Pitch Positioning and Fixed Fees

Parishioner Annual Meeting Logistics

Cllr. P. Hodge gave her apologies for the next meeting

17/047 Finance

Full Council approved the following items of expenditure and those paid under delegated powers. Proposed by Cllr. D. Goddard and seconded by Vice Chairman M. Shepstone.

Description	Amount	Vat
Current balance	£35,251.48	
Outstanding cheques not drawn 3142(94.20) 3145 (29.90)	(£124.10)	
Clerks Expenses /Office Rent	(£29.80)	
Clerks Salary February	(£773.28)	
Claire's Cleaning Services February	(£180.00)	
SSDC – Ranger - Amended invoice	(£2,609.40)	£ 434.90
NP – Footprint Futures	(£3,772.50)	
BT – Internet	(£108.00)	£ 18.00
KM Dike January	(£922.26)	£ 153.71
Wessex Water	(£114.58)	
SLCC – Practitioners Guide Governance & Accountability pub.	(£23.00)	
KM Dike February	(£922.26)	£153.71
EDF Energy – Pavilion Electric	(£344.05)	£16.38

The meeting closed at 9:35pm.

Chairman, Bridget Sugg *(Signature)*