

Parish Council Meeting –Tuesday 23rd February 2016
SEAVINGTON ST MARY/MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE 436th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SEAVINGTON MILLENNIUM HALL
On Tuesday 23rd February 2016 at 7.00 pm

2340.ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

PRESENT

Mr N Loxton - Chair

Mr D Smith – Vice Chair

Mrs E Edwards

Mr N England

Mrs P Parsons

Mr C Reyland

Mr C Turner

Christopher Le Hardy - County Councillor

Adam Dance – District Councillor

PCSO

APOLOGIES

Crispin Raikes – District Councillor

2341.PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – No members of the public present

- 2342. REPORT FROM POLICE** – E-mails had been sent to Police and Highways regarding the Caravan that has been parked outside 7 Rowdells Orchard for some considerable time. The PCSO advised that as far as the police were concerned there was nothing they could do unless they actually saw that the caravan was causing an obstruction. The question of vehicles being parked on the pavement [dropped kerb] adjacent to Village Car Park was also raised and the answer was the same as above. Parking on pavements has recently been de-criminalised. The question of what would happen should there be a major incident on the A303 [Ilminster by-pass] whilst Station Road Ilminster was closed was also raised. PCSO promised to get an answer. [Day after meeting it was confirmed that a diversion plan had been put in place].

Member of public arrived at this point but was informed that Public Question Time had passed but elected to stay for remainder of meeting.

2343.REPORT FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S

District - Voted to increase the amount collected in Council Tax. There will also be increase from SCC and Somerset Rivers Authority.

Westlands Sports and Social – No deal yet between SSDC and Augusta Westland but talks are still on-going.

Devolution down to Parishes – more likely to be done on this front as both District and County short of monies

County - Ambitious plans for the future had been agreed at the February meeting of the full Council. Several new initiatives are included. Full Council agreed budget proposals for 2016/17 that set around £8m of savings and capital investment of £75m on roads, schools and economic development. There will be an increase in Council Tax but 2% has to be ring fenced for Adult Social Care 1.99% for other essential services and a further 1.25% for Somerset Rivers Authority. However, there are still concerns of the ever increasing pressures on the Budget.

For further information see Councillor's Brief for February on web-site.

Hinkley – still awaiting final income decision.

- 2344. MINUTES OF THE 435th ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19th January**
were agreed as correct and signed

- 2345. UP-DATE ON LIFT WEST PLANNING – Creation of CLT** – Councillors advised that progress is being made with regard to creation of CLT. To this end another Open Village Meeting will have to be called and this had been agreed as Monday 4th April – 7.30pm in the Millennium Hall. The sub-group will meet prior to this to agree on the format of the meeting.

- 2346. REPORT ON SITUATION REGARDING FROGMARY GREEN PLANNING APPLICATION**

Application back with SSDC but concerns had been raised regarding flooding issues. However, information regarding this had come as a letter to Councillor Parsons when she was away and the deadline date had been missed. However, it was unanimously agreed that the comments we had already made regarding the application were sufficient.

2347.REPORT REGARDING HIGHWAY/SPEEDING ISSUES

- Blocked Drains – Still awaiting contact with Jetting Company. However, Councillor Le-Hardy indicated that County could be getting monies from Central Government to be spent on highway issues.

2348.REPORT RE RANGER SCHEME - Still working well

- 2349. LITTER PICKING IN VILLAGE – Saturday 5th March** - Several villagers have indicated that they will be taking part and the offer of lunch at The Volunteer was gratefully accepted.

2350.REPORT ON VILLAGE FOOTPATHS – Nothing outstanding at present**2351.UP-DATE ON VILLAGE CAR PARK/PARKING IN GENERAL IN VILLAGE**

- Parking on pavements has been decriminalised and Police Officers can only act on obstruction if they actually see the offence themselves.
- Posts to be erected on verge adjacent to Playing Field – still in hand.
- Marking of Village Car Park – quotes being obtained

2352.UP-DATE ON ENHANCEMENT OF LAND BEHIND ST MARY'S CLOSE

- Working Party – Saturday 12th March. Tree Warden already marked out positions for new trees and SSDC contacted regarding the tree that came down during the recent storms.

- 2353. UP-DATE ON BT ADOPT A KIOSK SCHEME** – Suggestion made as to whether the Gardening Club would like to use it as a 'greenhouse'.

- 2354. REPORT ON SPFA** – Councillor Loxton advised that he had attended the last meeting of the Association and felt that there were issues that were not being addressed.

- 2355. REPORT FROM COMMUNITY SHOP** – Grant Application has been submitted for 'Power to Change' and a decision is expected later this week.

2356.SUNDRY MATTERS OF REPORT

- **Village Notice Boards** - Councillor Loxton to inspect and repair if possible
- **Entrance Stones** - will be cleaned when weather is suitable

2357. UP-DATE ON PROGRESS RE PARISH/NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

- Councillors Turner and Loxton still working on this.

2358. QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Councillor Turner was hopeful that The Volunteer would do something regarding this

2359. UP-DATE ON VILLAGE WEB SITE

Work is being done on creating a more modern, easier to access, web site and Councillors to meet with web master in the near future.

2360. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

15/05018/S73 – Pond Farm - Agreed that Councillors Loxton and Parsons would visit the site and make comments. Concerns were raised that the ditches and drains are not sufficient to deal with the amount of water that comes onto the site. There was flooding at the site and into Swan Thatch following the recent spell of severe weather.

2361. ACCOUNTS

(a) **Balances – Current A/c - £515.06 credit Business Reserve - £19,797.07 credit [80p interest]**

(b) Payment requests – Talaton Trees £193.50 and £44.10 re Orchard Project SSDC Ranger £150.96

(c) Grants and Donations to village organisations – As a question had been raised by a resident Councillor Parsons advised Councillors that the £1,000 paid to the Community Shop for the first 5 years of trading has now finished. £500 is paid to Shop for rent due to SPFA and £300 paid to Shop for provision of WiFi Broadband. Continuance of any village grants will be further discussed in April.

(d) Confirmation to SSDC re continuing with Ranger Scheme and Cutting of Playing Field

Agreed to increase amount for Ranger Scheme to £5,000 and to continue paying for cutting of playing field.

**2362. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 22nd March 2016 [Also Parish AGM]
Meeting closed at 9.10pm.**

Signed

Date