

Parish Council Meeting –Tuesday 25th February 2014
SEAVINGTON ST MARY/MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE 414th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SEAVINGTON MILLENNIUM HALL
On Tuesday 25th February 2014at 7.00 pm

1894.ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

PRESENT

Mr S Madge - Chair

Mrs E Edwards

Mrs B Lake

Mrs P Parsons

Christopher Le Hardy - County Councillor

Paul Thompson – District Councillor

Barry Walker – District Councillor

APOLOGIES

Mr P Ashley

Mrs S Cooper

Mrs R Turner

- 1895. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** – Chairman – Councillor Madge – welcomed Mr & Mrs M Simmins to the meeting. Mr & Mrs Simmins wished to share with Councillors their plans and ideas for the development of Pond Farm before formal submission to District Planners. The plans have been significantly changed from those that were granted on Appeal to Mrs Paul. Councillors appreciated the changes made and felt they would have no problems in supporting the scheme.

- 1896. REPORT FROM POLICE** – No formal report received but Councillors were not aware of any local problems.

1897.REPORT FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S

District – PT – Councillor Thompson reported that Area North were due to meet in the Millennium Hall the next day. Recommendations had been made that there would be no increase in the District part of the Council Tax.

District – BW – Councillor Walker confirmed that Budget had been agreed in principle. Hopeful that next year there would be a change in non-statutory payments as these represented quite a high percentage of the Council's payments.

County – CleH – Councillor Le Hardy advised and County's Budget for the coming year had been agreed. Capital spending was well funded but the Revenue Budget was being cut. County were on target to reduce this Budget by £106m by 2017. Key services would be kept with no cuts. However, there would be no increase the County's part of the Council Tax. Changes had been made to some Committees due to the changing allegiance of a UKIP member to Independent.

Health and Well Being Budget – monies had been approved and Seavington Community Shop to get £1,500.

A303 Feasibility study – Still no detail but it is felt that the dualling will happen. However, there are fundamental issues that need to be resolved with regard to traffic matters in South Petherton including the A303. Councillors raised their concerns that access should be made for Branstons directly from the A303 when it is improved.

Speeding Cameras – Somerset and Avon Police had purchased cameras from the SCC for a nominal sum. All fines would now go to the Police but they would be responsible for maintenance etc of the cameras.

- 1898. MINUTES OF THE 413th ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Tuesday 28th January** were agreed as correct and signed.

1899. **REPORT REGARDING HIGHWAY AND FLOODING ISSUES** – Councillor Parsons reported on the meeting Councillor Ashley has had with Paul Watkins (County Highways). All blocked drains and potholes had been reported to County Highways, but to date no works had been carried out. Councillor Ashley also advised Mr Watkins that residents had indicated that much of the water that flowed into David's Lane came from the A303. Councillor Le Hardy asked for details as it would appear we are not the only Parish in his area suffering from this. Water coming off of the A303 is the responsibility of The Highways Agency and not County Highways.
1900. **REPORT ON WORKS COMPLETED BY LENGTHSMAN** – Councillor Edwards advised that the Lengthsman is working in Church Lane and continuing with Litter Picking. She is to attend a meeting shortly with regard to the continuation of the Scheme. Councillors agreed that should it become necessary as a Parish Council we would not be willing to manage the Scheme or even a smaller similar scheme.
1901. **POSSIBLE USE OF COMMUNITY PAYBACK TEAM** – Councillor Lake reported that this had been put on hold as the best time for the Teams to work is at a weekend and as the SPFA are not sure of football bookings then we would need to wait until the football season had finished.
1902. **REPORT ON VILLAGE FOOTPATHS** – Winter work continuing but footpaths seem in good order
1903. **REPORT ON VILLAGE CAR PARK** – Sub-Committee to be set up to take this forward. Parish Council still awaiting Deed of Easement regarding access over the area.
1904. **REPORT ON SPFA** – Councillor Parsons reported that an application is about to be made to Awards for All for a grant towards the tarmac path as consulted on last year. SSDC have already indicated they would be prepared to support the scheme in this grant was received and if the Parish Council and SPFA put some monies towards it. SPFA Committee members are to meet with David Froome regarding the on-going issue of Broadband in the Hall which at present is not working.
1905. **REPORT FROM COMMUNITY SHOP** – Things progressing well. Cafe still the main source of income but unfortunately this is the most difficult area to man at times. No further news on the appointment of a paid cook. Councillor Parsons indicated there were some concerns regarding the storage of cardboard in the SPFA garage but that this was being monitored at present.
1906. **PROGRESS RE BLUE PLAQUE FOR VOLUNTEER INN** - No further information
1907. **SUNDRY MATTERS OF REPORT** – It had been reported that several of the apple trees in the orchard behind St Mary's Close had either fallen down or limbs were broken off. Councillor Parsons to contact SSDC Streetscene to try and ascertain who would be responsible for this area. It was suggested that the Parish Council would be in favour of new apple trees being planted and could probably help with finance and maybe planting.
Concerns had also been raised with regards to one of the bungalows in Rowdells Orchard. Councillor Parsons to contact Yarlington Homes regarding this.
1908. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS** – Still awaiting results of the last Survey.
1909. **ENDORSEMENT OF NEW TREASURER FOR SEAVINGTONS' NEWS** – As the Seavingtons' News is now affiliated to the Parish Council Councillors were asked to endorse the appointment of Mr Tony Beresford as the new Treasurer in place of Heather Scott. Endorsed unanimously. Councillor Parsons to write a letter confirming this and also ascertain who will be responsible for the Skip.
1910. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**
13/04535/FUL – Mr & Mrs Farrington – Hamstone Cottage – approved
14/00175/FUL – The Layzell Partnership – Change of use and extension to form 1 no dwelling at The Barn Yard, West Street. – Parish Council could not agree with the proposal as Councillors have

concerns over the size of the extension and feel the design, size and suggested materials could have a detrimental impact on the adjacent Listed Building – Thatchway House.

14/00596/FUL – Mrs Karen Day – Erection of a port over front door – Amherst 6 The Pheasant – no objections.

1911. ACCOUNTS

Current A/c - £250.26 credit

Business Reserve - £14,280.49 credit

Payment request – Somerset Levels Appeal – Unanimously agreed not to send any Parish monies

Appointment of Internal Auditor – Mr Tony Beresford has been appointed in place of Helen Astley

1912. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 25th March 2014 – ALSO ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed

Date