

**SEAVINGTON ST MARY/MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE 442nd PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SEAVINGTON MILLENNIUM HALL
On Tuesday 27th September 2016 at 7.00 pm**

2459.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

Adam Dance – District Councillor

Crispin Raikes – District Councillor

APOLOGIES

Mr C Turner Christopher Le Hardy - County Councillor

2460.PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – 2 members of the public present

Questions were asked regarding the tractors and trailers that have been in the village transporting matter to and from the anaerobic digester and Frogmary Green. Concerns were raised in particular with the damage caused at the junction with Meade Lane. It was noted that the damage had already been repaired but Councillors were asked to make representations and ascertain that this sort of thing would not happen in the future. Concerns were also raised regarding Rookesmeade Lane and the state of the ditch. Councillors reported that they had been advised that the maintenance of the hedge and ditch were the responsibility of the adjacent land owner and that he had been asked to carry out the necessary works. However, it was further reported that the land owner had concerns with regard to the digging out of the ditch as he felt the road may well subside into the ditch/stream. Councillors agreed to contact County Highways with these concerns. The condition of the footpath in Church Lane was also raised. Councillors agreed that the time had probably come for discussions with County Highways to find a way forward. A question was raised regarding electric fencing across some of the footpaths on Manor Farm land. Councillor England agreed to speak to Footpaths Liaison Officer

- 2461. REPORT FROM POLICE –** Notification has been received that the owner of the caravan parked outside 7 Rowdells Orchard has been given until the 12th October to remove it.

2462.REPORT FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S

County – Councillor Le Hardy was unable to attend the meeting but his usual County Briefing has been sent and can be seen on village web-site. Headlines are:-

Hinkley Point C now confirmed.

SCC Budget – Over the last six years County Council's revenue budget has been reduced by central government by some £100million. Consequently it has become more difficult to deliver key services. However, the reporting of a £24million overspend were inaccurate. Action has been taken to deliver the 2016/17 budget on target.

Residents can now keep up-to-date with the conditions of Somerset Road by logging on to www.travelsomerset.co.uk or Twitter @TravelSomerset.

District - Councillor Dance reported as follows:-

Alex Parmley will join SSDC on 03 October 2016 as the new Chief Executive.

Refuse Collection and Recycling - The fleet of both main refuse collection and recycling vehicles are now approaching the end of their active life and this summer has some missed collections and vehicle breakdowns. SSDC is loaning half the cost of the replacement vehicles which will be owned by the Waste Partnership and not the contractor. In addition the contractor has had problems with staff, both permanent and temporary which has specifically affected South Somerset and seen an increase in missed collections. Hopeful that revised management arrangements at the Lufton depot will resolve the matter.

Financial Settlement – to take the Government deal or not?

The Councils derive the income need to maintain public services partly from Council tax and partly from the Government in the form of a Revenue Support Grant (RSG). Government has decided to phase out all RSG by 2020 and has offered all Local Authorities a 4 year deal on the run up to that phasing out which will at

least provide year on year financial certainty if the 4 year deal is taken rather than waiting TO FIND OUT AROUND Christmas of each year what the settlement will be. Whilst the principle is sound, the 4th year sees a number of Councils adversely affected. For South Somerset the Government has calculated that in year 4, rather than not receiving any grant as we had expected, SSDC should instead pay the Government £380k. We have until October 14th to decide whether to accept the deal or reject it. To date 168 other Councils have not yet made their minds up. SSDC will decide on October 13th.

2463. MINUTES OF THE 441st ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26th July 2016 were agreed as correct and signed.

2464. PROGRESS RE LIFT WEST DEVELOPMENT AND CLT SUB-GROUP

CLT has now been formalised. However, there is nothing further to report with regard to the progress of the development. Councillors trying to contact Andrew Whitehouse.

2465.REPORT REGARDING HIGHWAY/SPEEDING ISSUES

- Maintenance of Flood Alleviation Drains that cross Private Land – It would seem that SSDC do not have the drains that cross Hunts House on their maintenance plans. However, Councillor Dance to continue discussions to get this regulated.
- Rooksmeade Lane – please see Public Question Time
- White lining of C5021- Agreed to raise concerned with regards to the white lining carried out since the road was surface dressed, the state of the drains as loose grit has been washed into them and the collection of the warning signs.

2466.RANGER SCHEME – Still going well

2467.REPORT ON VILLAGE FOOTPATHS – See public question time. Otherwise nothing to report.

2468. VILLAGE CAR PARK/PARKING IN GENERAL IN VILLAGE – Once again concerns have been raised with regard to parking issues on the village car park. In light of this Councillors agreed that the white lining would be carried out in the near future so that rules for the use of the Car Park could be in place by February 2017.

2469. COMMUNITY ORCHARD – Two new seats now in place. Thanks once again go to Karen Sutton who has been managing this project on behalf of the Parish Council. A formal opening date will be announced shortly.

2470. SPFA – Second Open meeting well attended and Chris Gough confirmed that he has taken on the role of Chair. However, the Committee still require new members. As a gesture of support the Parish Council agreed to ask the Ranger to cut off some of the low hanging branches in the play areas and around the field. At the open meeting a discussion took place with regard to the provision of a Defibrillator for the villages. Councillors agreed that the Parish Council would fund this but hand responsibility of siting and maintenance to the Community Shop and the SPFA.

2471. COMMUNITY SHOP – AGM at beginning of August well attended. Financial situation is good. New Committee elected but Mark Ellis stood down as Chair. At Committee meeting on 6th September a Chair was still not appointed but hopeful that one would be appointed in the not too distant future.

2472.SUNDRY MATTERS OF REPORT

- Village Notice Boards – Ash Bros asked to carry out necessary works
- Maintenance of 3 village seats – Ash Bros asked to carry out necessary works

2473. UP-DATE ON PROGRESS RE PARISH/NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – Councillor Loxton to forward Plan so far to other Councillors. Decision made that it should go on the village web-site asap even though there may be no photos. Residents will be ask to request a hard copy if they so wish.

2474. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

16/01568/S73 – Variation at Pond Farm. Granted with numerous conditions one of which reflects and should address the Parish Council concerns regarding flooding issues.

2475. ACCOUNTS

(a) **Balances** – Current A/c - £481.27 credit Business Reserve - £25,802.84 credit -Interest of 0.74 and £1.21
Accounts paid since last meeting - £1,105 – village maintenance £478.18 – seats for orchard area
£452.88 x 2 – SSDC for Ranger Services

(b) **Payment requests – none received prior to meeting**

(c) **Quotes for playing field grass cutting for 2017/18** – Agreed that Councillor Parsons would obtain at least 3 quotes for this work.

(d) **Capping Consultation** - Information received regarding possible new procedures to be introduced by Central Government. Initial thoughts are that they will not affect The Seavingtons.

2476. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 25th October 2016

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed

Date