

**SEAVINGTON ST MARY/MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE 485th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM UNDER COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS**

3208.ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

PRESENT

Mr N Loxton - Chair

Mrs J Ash

Mr A Doble

Mrs E Edwards

Mr N England

Mrs P Parsons

Mr C Reyland

Adam Dance – County and District Councillor

Crispin Raikes – District Councillor

APOLOGIES - None

3209. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – No members of the public attended

3210.PLANNING APPLICATIONS –

18/02609/FUL - Kingstone Parish – Buildings to aid the construction and storage of Carnival Carts – Concerns were expressed that because of the cancellation, for the next two months, of Area Meetings this application could be approved by just the Planning Officer and Chief Executive. Councillors hopeful that this will not be the case and will keep looking at the planning web-site to see if the Planning Officer's report is posted. Advice from Kingstone Parish is that there are several outstanding issues still regarding this application which have to be resolved before any decision is made.

20/01232/REM – Landscaping around site re Outline Planning permission granted for 8 houses at the top of Upton Lane – Approved

20/03134/HOU and 20/03135/LBC – Replacement windows at Swan Thatch. Awaiting approval

3211.REPORT FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S

AD County - No further information available on County's application for a deferment of the Local Elections in May as no decision has yet been received regarding One Somerset or Somerset Together.

CR District – District have agreed in principle to the up-grade that is being planned for The Octagon Theatre. Monies will be coming from The Arts Council. This up-grade will make the theatre more accessible.

3212. MINUTES OF THE 484th MEETING AGREED AS CORRECT - These Minutes will be signed when Covid-19 restrictions allow

3213. SID – Will be moved to the lower village at a new site opposite Rowdells Orchard. The new SID sited at Falcon Close will be moved as soon as Covid-19 restrictions allow. Councillors to find other suitable sites so the SIDs can be moved on a regular basis.

3214.HIGHWAYS ISSUES –

Frontage at Falcon Close – No information received regarding Planners taking enforcement action

Pavement to the west of the Village Car Park - has been repaired

Increased signage on Scotts Hill and in Water Street – Still waiting for meeting with Traffic Management

Condition of Highway in many areas of villages - e-mail to be sent to County Highways highlighting the areas of concern.

3215. RANGER SCHEME – Unanimously agreed that we would continue with the Ranger Scheme for the coming year. Councillor Parsons to advise SSDC accordingly. Ranger to be asked to try and clear hedge trimmings that have been left in Dark Lane. Concentrating on ensuring drains are running free. Work was carried out to the ditch adjacent to the playing field.

3216.VILLAGE FOOTPATHS – No further contact made with Meade Farm regarding various issues raised.

- 3217. VILLAGE CAR PARK** – No information has been received regarding why the back spaces of the car park are not being used at present. Note to be put in The Newsletter suggesting that the Parish Council may have to re-think the parking and asking residents for suggestions.
- 3218. SPFA** – Councillors Loxton and Parsons joined a Zoom meeting with the 3 remaining Trustees of the SPFA and representatives from The Community Shop. It was agreed at this meeting that a way forward could be for the Parish Council to become Sole Trustees of the Charity. After discussion Councillor Loxton proposed, Councillor England seconded and it was unanimously agreed that Seavington Parish Council would become Sole Trustees of the SPFA with effect from 1st April 2021 and would work with a small group in connection with The Millennium Hall. This means that the 3 existing Trustees will stand down on 31st March 2021. The Assets of the SPFA, both property and finances, will remain in the name of the SPFA Charity. The management of the field will be taken on by the Parish Council. Field maintenance ie grass cutting of all the areas will be paid from Council funds [saving 20% VAT]. The Chair of the SPFA – Chris Gough – has promised to continue working with Solicitors to ensure that the Land Registry details are correct. Work will continue to ensure a smooth handover on the 1st April 2021.
- 3219. COMMUNITY SHOP** – Due to the third Lockdown the cafe has had to close once again. However, takeaways are still being offered on a Friday. This has obviously had an effect on profits. However, the shop is still being well supported by villagers. Councillor England gave assurances to the Shop Committee that the Parish Council would not be looking to that Committee for help, in the first instance, with regard to the reorganisation of the SPFA.
- 3220. WEB-SITE UP-DATE** – Councillor Doble has taken over the up-dating of the web-site. This has had to be done for two reasons. One to ensure the site is compliant as far as the Parish Council is concerned and Two because there is a possibility that the old site will fail in the near future. Councillors have viewed the preliminary suggestions for the site and some village organisations have been asked for their views. The next step will be to call a meeting of the organisations who use the site to show them how to up-load their information on a regular basis.
- 3221. OTHER MATTERS OF REPORT** – e-mail received from a concerned resident regarding the parking at and opposite the junction of West Street and Water Street. This has been getting worse over a period of time. Agreed that we would e-mail the Police to try and find a way forward. County Highways cannot help unless we agree to some kind of road markings
- 3222. ACCOUNTS**
(a) **Balances C/A - £3,467.61 cr [che for SALC £145.13 O/S] Business Reserve - £16,888.36 cr**
(b) **Payment requests** SSDC Ranger - £657.12, Traffic Technology [new SID] - £3,024.00 [£1,260 received as grant from CLT re this purchase] £302.40 – WiX.Com – Website fees for three years.
(c) **Precept for 2021-2022** – Councillor Doble proposed, Councillor Loxton seconded and it was unanimously agreed to set the Precept at £17,250. This will result in a slight increase for residents but may not completely pay for the increase in costs regarding the management of the playing field.
- 3223. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – **Tuesday** 16th February 2021 via Zoom. Joining information will be posted on the village web-site.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed

Date