

Hinton St George Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 20th March 7.30pm at

St George's Hall, Hinton St George

Present: Cllr's A. Cavendish (Chairman), R. Lewin, M. Herbert, Michael Phillips, Barry Tyler, C Le Hardy (County Councillor) A. Dance (South Petherton Councillor) I. Godfrey (Parish Clerk).

Members of the Public: 13 Members of the Public

60. Public Forum:

- a) AC introduced Tim & Claire Percival who own land, approx. 1 acre, in the village (next to Jubilee Woods and the allotments) and they would like to create a Village Heritage Development on the land of 10 Ham stone properties ranging from 3 x 2 bed cottages which will be private rented affordable houses and 3 / 4 bedroom houses. They feel there is a need in the village for younger families which will support the school, create a nicer entrance to the village and be a beautiful development. Lots of questions were raised by members of the public including the right of way on the land (Mr Percival is currently in discussion with the land owner it effects), possible parking issues in and around the new estate (each house has parking spaces and the 4 bed houses have 4 parking spaces, no garages just car ports, a Transport consultant is being used) Is the road going to be an adopted road (can't answer yet) Who will look after the proposed Village Green (No definite answer, still in early stages of planning but possible a community levy, ground rent or Mr Percival keeps up the upkeep) Who would control who goes into the Affordable housing (Mr Percival said it could be a private arrangement between himself and the occupants, possible only for stipulated people) Has a CLT (Community Land Trust) being thought about keeping the houses in the parishes ownership like Seavington. (Mr Percival was open to ideas) Bin storage, if the road isn't adopted refuse would not be collected from around the estate but an area would need to be created on the roadside. The houses would be faced with Ham stone (Mr Percival said if costs don't prohibit they intend too but again he is still in the early stages of discussion with his architect, James Armytage, who is a conservation architect. Will there be any thatched roofs (Mr Percival hadn't thought about that but thatch isn't encouraged on new builds, possible clay or slate tiles) Is 10 the maximum houses to be built (Mr Percival said yes, his architect says he is under developing the land, 10 is financially viable. Is there any constraints on the houses being 2nd homes (Mr Percival said he would look into that as he would hate to see what has happen to Port Isaac happen to Hinton) The rough value of the houses would be £200,000-£250,000 for the 2 beds, £300,000 - £350,000 for the 3 beds and £400,000 - £500,000 for the 4 beds. Mr Percival will give a full presentation along with his colleagues on Monday 10th April at 7.30pm, to be held at St Georges Hall and he will provide posters and flyers to be delivered to every house in the village promoting this.

61. **Apologies for Absence:** F. Voss, C. Wookey, P Maxwell (District Councillor)

62. **Minutes of last Meeting:** Approved as a true and proper record and signed by AC.

63. **Declaration of Interest:** RL owns land next to Mr Percival's but AC thinks this will only be affected should the allotments be incorporated.

64. Matters Arising

- a) Legal advice has been sought regarding the retrospective application for extra caravans. It was suggested, if agreeable, that David Mole would be the most appropriate person to give representation on behalf of the village when this matter goes before SSDC Area West Committee. This is due to be held on 19th April.

65. Planning

- a) No planning applications.

66. Highways and Footpaths update

- a) A letter was sent to Mike Fear regarding the road surface in the village and an email reply was received stating that the surface has been inspected and there is a need for further sweeping.
- b) RL proposed that Hinton Parish Council pay for the verge markers.
- c) The pothole on Lopen Road has been marked and the one on South Street has been infilled. There is a pothole by Derryman's but this comes under Dinnington.
- d) The entrance by Ruells needs attention on the verge.

67. P Cllr's, C Cllr's and D Cllr's Report

- a) D Cllr. P Maxwell no update was supplied in his absence. But Councillor Adam Dance mentioned a Jetting machine has now been purchased which can be loaned out at £12 per pot.
- b) C Cllr. C Le Hardy reported the following:
 - February's Full Council have endorsed plans to deliver a balanced budget despite huge pressures on finances. The proposals look to deliver £18m of savings in the next financial year while protecting frontline services and meeting the rising demand for services. Like all local authorities, the council has faced a dramatic reduction in funding over the last six years and has made more than £120m of savings. This year alone the key funding from Government is falling by a further £16m. The 2017/18 budget has also balanced. Council also agreed a revised approach to managing our finances through the creation of 6 cross cutting themes, bringing an end to the 'salami slicing' approach. The future savings targets for 2017/18 focus on increased efficiency, better use of technology, getting more from contracts and reducing

agency staff contracts. “We have to find savings and are committed to doing so in a way that allows us to carry on delivering services we can continue to be proud of. An emphasis will be on bringing our spend in certain key areas into line with other good performing authorities, to make sure we are getting the services we want at a price we can afford.”

- The savings for 2017/18 set out in the reports include:
 - £1.5m from the return of South West One services to the authority.
 - £400,000 from reduced spend on agency staff
 - £1.6m from better contracting.
 - £10m from redesigning services and bringing down spend in some key areas - such as care placements for children and adults - into line with good performing authorities;
- SCC continues to draw down the inherited debt of £350 million, costing £100,000 a day in interest incurred by the previous administration.
- Having protected residents for 6 six years from tax increases, Council also authorised a Council Tax increase of 1.99%, a further 2% ring-fenced for Adult Social Care along with keeping the Somerset Rivers Authority precept at last year’s level of 1.25%.
- Somerset County Council has granted over £72,000 to 22 youth clubs across the County to help run popular activities. The grants from the County Council are being matched by over £151,000 in locally raised funding and hundreds of hours in volunteers’ time – all for the benefit of Somerset’s young people. Somerset youth clubs are so valuable for our young people and we are really pleased we have been able to offer them some support through grant funding, boosting the continued hard work of numerous local volunteers and fundraisers who help these youth clubs to thrive.

The clubs in South Somerset which will receive grants are: ArchiesXtra in Somerton will receive £3440, The Charltons Youth Club in Charlton Adam will receive £3,470, Hambridge & Westport Youth Club will receive £2,000, Hamdons Youth Group in Norton sub Hamdon will receive £1,960, Hamdons Youth Group in Stoke sub Hamdon will receive £3,550, Martock Youth Club will receive £3,800, Tintinhull Youth Club will receive £1,500. Sport England has opened its £7.5m ‘Community Asset Fund’ which is designed to enhance community spaces that provide people with an opportunity to be active. If members are aware of an organisation that wishes to take over a sports facility; a club that wishes to expand or just something missing in a community, it might be worth considering this fund which will provide capital grants of between £5,000 and £150,000. The Fund is not just about facilities, and doesn’t have to be based around a traditional sport, but really anything that promotes activity and wellbeing. Sport England say they “want to hear from all kinds of community organisations and social enterprises that have a great idea that’ll get people moving”.

A major engineering scheme in Yeovil which was rescheduled from before Christmas at the request of the community is now set to take place in the summer. Somerset County Council had been looking to take advantage of a gap between other schemes to carry out vital drainage improvement works on the A30 Sherborne Road in November. Work would have been completed before December when there is a County Council embargo on roadworks to avoid disruption to traders in the run-up to Christmas. However, following discussions with local business groups, it was agreed to put the scheme on hold until other works in the area are completed. Somerset County Council is now looking to carry out the work in the summer holidays, potentially starting on Monday 25 July.

The stretch of Sherborne Road in question is showing significant signs of deterioration and highways teams have made 49 visits to temporarily repair cracks and potholes over the past 18 months. In order to tackle the fundamental structural issues, it will be necessary to first upgrade the drainage before full resurfacing at a later date (likely to be in winter 2018 with night-time working).

Details are still being finalised and further information will follow as the extent of the scheme becomes clearer. You can keep up to date with the latest on the roads including live incidents and planned roadworks at www.travelsomerset.co.uk or follow @TravelSomerset on Twitter.

- We urgently need people who can offer a safe home to unaccompanied asylum-seeking children arriving from the Middle East, Africa and Eastern Europe. Somerset County Council has accepted more than 17 unaccompanied children already and more are expected. Most of the children arriving in Somerset are aged 15 or older, travelling from countries including Afghanistan, Albania and Eritrea. One couple have already taken one child “We are so lucky to have the young man living with us that we do, he is hard-working, respectful, kind and even takes our grandchildren out to play football. He has a thirst for knowledge and is really enjoying being at school – it’s been a pleasure to help him learn new skills and to be able to facilitate a new life for him here.”
- c) RL reported that a letter from Mary Cooke’s Chambers will be sent to Mr Gunn and would like to know when

Mr Gunn going to give his recommendation.

- d) BT reported that the lentsman is going to be stimming next month and he will check the Merriott Road entrance. Various areas of the village need treating with weed killer.
- e) Chairs Report – AC reported that the bin by the Pineapple Gates needs planting with something fast growing to disguise is, possible Portuguese Laurel as has flowers and berries on it in winter, the lentsman will be asked to maintain it and RL offered to pay for it.

68. Finance

- a. **Review of receipts and payments schedule.** Expenditure remains within budget.
- b. **Bank Statements** – signed by AC
- c. **Invoices for payment** – Village Hall Insurance approved.

69. Correspondence information.

No further correspondence to be considered.

Meeting Closed 9.10pm

70. Next Meeting Date –The next meeting will be held on Monday 24th April 2017 at **6.30pm**, in St Georges Hall.

Signed.....
A Cavendish (Chairman)

Dated.....