

## Minutes of Lympsham Parish Council Meeting, 21 December 2015

**Councillors Present:** Mr. J. Hinton (Chairman), Mr. B. Gooding, Mr. R. Hoare\* & Mrs. J. Rosser.

Also attending: Dist. Cllrs. R. Filmer & A. Gilling; Mr. G. Berry & Mr. J. & Miss R. Puddy & family; Mrs. A. Bennett, Ms. H. Allsopp & Mr. G. Bowden.

**Minutes** were taken by the Clerk.

**103/15 Apologies:** Mr. R. Jones & Mr. G. Tuttiatt (Accepted).

**104/15 Minutes of Previous Meeting (16.11.15):** following Clerk's revision of draft re 98/15, they were confirmed and signed.

**105/15 Planning Applications:** *[Moved up the agenda for the convenience of visitors]*

31/15/00018/DRT Mr. J. Puddy & Miss R. Puddy, Beavers Lodge Farm, Lympsham Road, Lympsham: Erection of dwelling, alterations to existing access & formation of access & parking to existing & proposed dwellings, demolition of outbuildings.

*[7.35 p.m. Chairman suspended the meeting in order for Mr. G. Berry to address PC re application; 7.40 p.m. Chairman re-opened meeting. Dist. Cllrs. R. Filmer & A. Gilling left the room.]*

Following discussion it was agreed to support the application as it is within the development boundary & will blend in with the local environment; PC also commended the plan for providing a home for a local family.

*[7.50 p.m. Mr. G Berry & Mr. J & Miss R. Puddy & family left meeting.]*

24/15/00035/STP South West Gas Supplies Ltd., Building at Poplar Farm, Eastertown: Retrospective application for the retention of change of use of an agricultural building to B8 storage & distribution use – No observations except concerns expressed re increasing heavy traffic by Poplar Cottage.

31/15/00021/JAB St. Christopher's Church: Various tree improvements – Supported on basis of reasons in section 7 of application.

N.B. Clerk had also received an application re hedgerow removal at Brean Road / Rectory Way, but had confirmed to SCC that PC had previously endorsed the overall plan which included the above.

*[7.55 to 8 p.m. Chairman adjourned meeting for refreshments during which time Cllr. Hoare entered Hall & Dist. Cllrs. returned to the room.]*

**106/15 Co-option to fill Parish Council Vacancy:** Chairman expressed appreciation that three candidates present were willing to offer their services although sadly only one could be co-opted; Clerk then supervised the recommended voting procedure by paper ballot in three parts: subsequently, due to a tie, the final decision was made by the toss of a coin & Mrs. A. Bennett was duly co-opted & signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office (the General Notice of Registrable Interests to be returned before the next meeting) – all agreed. The Chairman thanked everyone involved & Ms. Allsopp & Mr. Bowden left the meeting; Cllr. Bennett joined the PC.

**107/15 Matters Arising / for report from previous meetings:**

- **Neighbourhood Watch:** Break-ins at First School & Pre-School reported – other local schools had also been targeted; PC supported Clerk's proposal to move Police / PC surgeries to first Tuesday of each month to take advantage of (& support) LEBE's Community Café.
- **Lympsham First School:** Some work had been carried out on the floor of the kitchen.
- **Manor Hall:** Clerk reminded PC of the forthcoming AGM in January.
- **Lympsham Pre-school:** Nothing to report.
- **Highways:** Rectory Way & West Road marked for work in new year; resident had been reassured by Highways that repairs near temp. barriers are also in hand; patching near Hope Farm on-going; Highways personnel were making a record of current road surfaces on planned 'solar farm' delivery route.
- **Play Area inc. inspection report:** Cllr. Rosser to check on proposed date for delivery of new swing.
- **Grounds Maintenance & General Maintenance Issues:** No current issues.
- **Drainage Issues:** Culverting of rhine by First School by landowner not finalised – part by School not to be considered until Summer.
- **Footpaths:** Cllr. Hoare investigating current conditions.
- **Affordable Housing:** Update due at next meeting.
- **Village Events:** Report received re great introduction of LEBE's Community Café – Clerk due to receive return of PC's loan to Café; Cllr. Rosser reported on successful panto performance to pupils: evening performances on 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> Jan. plus licensed bar & tickets on sale; various events in Pavilion as advertised in Lympsham News; School Fayre & 'Christmas Cracker' successful. 'New' Lympsham News very well received – future cost was a cause for concern: Clerk to liaise with Editor. Chairman Proposed grant of £50 to D. Prowton re Christmas Lights Charity, seconded by Cllr. Hoare – carried.
- **County / District Issues:** Dist. Cllrs. discussed Hinkley progress & advised that East Brent has a new Clerk.
- **Clerk:** PC supported Clerk's future attendance at 'Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities' course & application for funding re PC's observance of regulations.

**108/15 Correspondence of Note:** Circulated. Following recent clarification from the representative of Hadstone Energy Ltd., the PC agreed that it would accept its generous offer of a 'goodwill donation' ('a donation made out of goodwill, and not in return for anything') should the planned construction of a solar farm in an adjoining parish go ahead. Any monies forthcoming would go towards the ongoing refurbishment of the Play Area. [Proposed by Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Gooding – all agreed.] The Chairman passed around a card received from retired Cllr. Male.

**109/15 Finance Report:** (inc. cheques listed below)

C/A: £9,471-39

S/A: £2,431-61

VAT to be claimed: £194-16

Player-Mason A/C: £2,393-81 [N.B. £145 to be trans. to C/A; window to be cleaned.]

Petty Cash: £83-83

**110/15 Cheques issued since last meeting:** 101526 Petty Cash £100; 101527 SDC £97-66 (Bin emptying); 101528 Lympsham Manor Hall £216 (Hire); 101529 White House Kennels £120 (Dog bin serv.); 101530 BWW Print Ltd. £464-94 (Lympsham News); 101531 Clerk's salary & quarterly exp. £538; 101532 PGC Contracting Serv. £463-50 (Gr. Maint.)

**111/15 Cheques issued at December meeting:** None.

**112/15 St. Christopher's Church Grounds Maintenance Grant:** [Cllr. Hoare declared a pecuniary interest.] The Chairman proposed a grant of £700 similar to previous year, seconded by Cllr. Gooding – all agreed.

**113/15 Draft Precept:** Following the Clerk's provision of past, current & projected figures alongside various notes & caveats, the Chairman proposed that the status quo be maintained re Precept Request for 2016/17: seconded by Cllr. Rosser – all agreed; the Chairman thanked the Clerk.

**114/15 Items for Discussion / Report at next meeting (Monday 18th January 2016\*):** None

**\*Preceded by Manor Hall Committee AGM & Committee meeting**

**The meeting ended at 9.20 p.m.**