

**Minutes of a meeting of the Fivehead Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Stowey Road Fivehead on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2009 at 8pm.**

Present Mr M Cavill (Chairman) Mr G Balmer Mrs K Beacham Mrs N Cameron Mrs H Clarke  
Mr R Fielding Mr K Male Dist. Cllr. S Steele Mrs M Knox (Clerk) and one member of the public.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Council was told that a child had been hit by a car whilst walking on the grass verge between the two bus stops on the A378 west of Mullion Cottage. Council was asked to support and promote the need for a footpath. Members agreed this was not an isolated accident. There have been other pedestrian accidents near the lay-by and there was a vehicular accident the previous week.

**1490. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from C. Cllr. D Nelson, our beat PC Toni Lines and the Police (via SS who arrived during this item).

**1491. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> January 2009 having been circulated were taken as a true record of what took place and duly signed by the Chairman, with the alteration of "sender" to "sent" at Minute 1486.

**1492. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES AND RAISED BY MEMBERS.**

- a) **Langford Corner.** No action will be taken until the spring due to ground conditions.
- b) **MUGA.** The full grant of £12.5K has been awarded, with conditions, by SSDC. SS had promoted the project at Area North Committee, telling members of the positive village survey. She had heard already potential users saying they hoped lighting would be installed to enable use during winter evenings. KM would relay this to the PFMC at a meeting later in the week.
- c) To receive the result of the **Stillbrook Woodyard Appeal.** All members were aware the Appeal had been upheld. There was relief that condition four stipulates that the north end of the field, beyond the area designated for development, is to remain grassed and not used for buildings, caravans or storage.
- d) Possible **Land Purchase** adjacent to Playing Field. MC & HC had met with the PFMC & the VHMC. It was apparent no consideration as to size and shape had been given. Another meeting with KM present was needed to quantify. Those present had told MC & HC they thought the PC would finance the purchase. The proposed use of the land was not settled. The demand for purchase was queried. To counter balance this the opportunity to purchase adjacent land is rare. SS said there is some hope of some funding via SCC.
- e) **Projects to improve community safety**, utilising SSDC funding. Members were unable to identify a project to meet the submission criteria.
- f) **Fivehead Playgroup.** An update had been received but it was unanimously agreed to wait for the outcome of the outstanding application for external funding.

**1493. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.**

- a) From Mrs P English re **flooding of properties at the west end of Silver Street.** The letter requests clarification regarding responsibility for the road, stream and ditches at the west end of Silver Street. The stream runs through many individual gardens and some farm land as it passes through the village. MC &

KM would walk as much as was accessible of the length of the stream to assess the problem areas. GB said there is the potential for a major blockage east of Butchers Hill where a retaining wall is falling in the stream. Clerk to write to Mrs English.

b) From **Somerset Art Works** re request for a contribution of £30. HC heavily supported this request stating that Art Week is an excellent event which promotes Somerset. It was **resolved** (prop. HC sec. KB) to donate £30 in April under sec. 137 from the grant allocation (other) in the 2009-10 precept.

c) From Came and Co. re their **insurance policy**. Clerk authorised to send only the schedule minus any figures to obtain a quote.

#### **1494. CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS. response sought.**

- a) Somerset Partnership NHS re Proposals for the **development of Mental Health Services in Mendip and Bridgwater**. No comment.
- b) **Communities In Control**: real people, real power. Response - this Council does not wish to take on any additional powers or duties.

#### **1495. REPORTS.**

- a) **Playing Field** KM reported.
- b) **Village Hall** GB reported.
- d) **Cemetery** Sub Committee Book to MK.
- e) **Highways** MC reported. Clerk to report water unable to get away on Cathanger Lane and at its junction with Stowey Road.
- f) **Rights of Way** MK reported.
- g) **Police** The parish crime stats were received.
- h) **Joint Area Committee Meeting**. SS reported that there was inadequate representation from SCC at this meeting the format of which will henceforth replace Area North Committee meetings. This was particularly disappointing as it had been especially structured at SCC's instigation to facilitate representatives from all levels of local government to work more closely together.

#### **1496. PLANNING.**

Decisions: approved (s.t.c.)

08/03753/FUL **17 Millers Orchard** Fivehead. The erection of a conservatory to rear of dwelling.

08/04950/FUL **The Playing Field** Stowey Road Fivehead. The construction of a multi-use games arena.

#### **1497. CEMETERY. To approve or amend alterations to the Policy for the Erection of Headstones.**

It was **resolved** (unan.) to amend item 5. to read "**Headstones are to have a maximum height** of 2ft 6inches (76.5cm) and are to be placed within the curtilage of the grave in line with adjacent gravestones. The ID (e.g. initials and or post code) of the stonemason is to be included on the stone. Headstones are to be fixed using the approved NAMM fixing system (either a ground anchor and/or a shoe with a bolt)." An additional item 10. to read, "Details of the holder of the Right to erect a Memorial are to be supplied to the Clerk. The same shall be kept in a register. Problems with memorial security will then be initially referred to the registered holder."

#### **9. RENEWAL OF THE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT.**

Four quotes had been compared. Mr Pettitt's was the most competitive. It was resolved (unanimously) to

award the contract to him. Clerk to write to him, all those who tendered and to the under bidder, Parsons, informing the latter that their quote was competitive and that we would approach them in the future. SS left the meeting.

#### **1498 FINANCE**

The financial position of the Council was received.

##### **a) Payments authorised during the month**

i) Fivehead Village Hall MC	Rent Dec.	£11.00
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##### **b) Payments authorised at the meeting**

ii) Mrs M Knox	Salary	£205.80
iii) Mrs M Knox	Expenses	£3.17

#### **1499. MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING.**

- c) **Clerk.** Letters of thanks for donations had been received from Curry Rivel VC Primary School and Age Concern. A letter received from the Planning Office stated that the planning application for Ashgate, The Old Forge has been approved. The notification was because Council had objected to the application.
- d) **Councillors.** The problem for pedestrians on the A378. The current unsafe situation does not encourage the use of public transport. Does the siting of a mobile home behind the garage at Mile Hill House comply with current planning conditions?

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm

Chairman

Dated