

**Minutes of the Sourton Parish Council meeting held at 7:30pm  
on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at Sourton Village Hall.**

**Council Member Present:**

Cllr Eberle (Chairman),  
Cllr Fogerty,  
Cllr Jewel  
Cllr Humphrey  
Cllr Firth

**In Attendance:**

Mrs A Horn (Clerk). Cllr Southcott WDBC 2 Members of the Public

35 **Chairman’s Report-** Cllr Eberle reported on the issue of dog fouling along the Granite Way, Trescott Way and in the Churchyard. She mentioned that the PCC were looking at installing signs asking people to keep your dog on a lead and pick up after your dog. It was also reported that the speed watch group had been out and were looking for volunteers in Lake as this was the latest area to be added to the system. Cllr Eberle reminded councillors that they would need to walk all the footpaths in the parish soon and asked the clerk to use the new parish map to find all the footpaths needing to be walked. It was also reported that the track up to Prewley waterworks was being resurfaced and the clerk was asked to thank the responsible ranger and Southwest Water. Cllr Eberle reported that as Broadband champion she was working with a local broadband provider to see if top up funding could be found to get better broadband to some of the hamlets of the parish. The process was being delayed slightly as West Devon needed to check that the providers they had suggested were competitively tendering their services.

36 **Apologies for Absence-** Apologies were tendered by Cllr Leonard due to a Covid isolation and Cllr Stone on ill health were approved on the proposition Cllr Eberle, seconded Cllr Fogerty . Cllr Mott WDBC apologies were also noted.

37 **Public Forum-** A member of the public sent a question by email due to Covid which the clerk read out. The Council decided to postpone the discussion as to whether to add the item to March’s agenda until item 15. The Chairman as the DNP representative offered to liase with the DNP over the issue.

38 **Declarations of Interest** None

39 **Minutes of the previous meeting** The minutes from the meetings held on 10<sup>th</sup> January were approved on the proposition of Cllr Humphrey and seconded by Cllr Firth.

40 **DCC, WDBC, DNP& Sourton Hall Reports-** Cllr Samuels report which had been circulated prior to the meeting was noted. Cllr Southcott report that West Devon were in Purdah due to the upcoming election in Tavistock and so there was little to report. Covid 19 Omicron fund was open for applications. Cllr Jewell reported that the Village Hall had received a second grant which would be used to replace the back door.

41 **Planning**

41.1 **4565/21/FUL** On the proposition of Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr Firth it was **resolved** to support the application. The applicant answered some questions on the internal layout for the Council. The Council noted how much work the applicant had done at the property for bats.

General views on compliance with relevant planning policies e.g., within or outside a development boundary.	<b>Complies</b>
Beneficial and adverse impacts of a development on the local community.	<b>N/A</b>

Action

Clerk

Clerk

Effects on surrounding buildings (e.g., loss of privacy or light) and environment.	<b>No outside windows</b>
Acceptable design, scale, materials and landscaping to fit in with site and/or adjacent buildings.	<b>Yes</b>
Problems with site access or parking.	<b>No</b>
Adequacy of highway network to cope with additional traffic and related safety issues.	<b>Yes</b>
Adequacy of local services and/or infrastructure to cater for a development.	<b>Yes</b>
Particular features existing onsite which should be retained.	<b>No</b>
Problems with noise, dust, smell or fumes or any other adverse impact on the amenity of local residents.	<b>No</b>
Any suggestions to improve the proposed development.	<b>No</b>
Local Knowledge / Previous History	<b>N/A</b>

41.2 **4200/21/FUL** On the proposition of Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr Fogerty it was **resolved** to give a neutral response as it could not support an application that had been retrospectively submitted.

Clerk

General views on compliance with relevant planning policies e.g., within or outside a development boundary.	<b>No</b>
Beneficial and adverse impacts of a development on the local community.	<b>N/A</b>
Effects on surrounding buildings (e.g., loss of privacy or light) and environment.	<b>No</b>
Acceptable design, scale, materials and landscaping to fit in with site and/or adjacent buildings.	<b>Yes</b>
Problems with site access or parking.	<b>No</b>
Adequacy of highway network to cope with additional traffic and related safety issues.	<b>Yes</b>
Adequacy of local services and/or infrastructure to cater for a development.	<b>Yes</b>
Particular features existing onsite which should be retained.	<b>No</b>
Problems with noise, dust, smell or fumes or any other adverse impact on the amenity of local residents.	<b>No</b>
Any suggestions to improve the proposed development.	<b>No</b>
Local Knowledge / Previous History	<b>N/A</b>

## 42 **Finance**

42.1 **Finance Report** The clerk reported that she had finally managed to access the Unity bank account and the 2 signatory councillors confirmed that they had also managed to log in. The Council was not happy with the service that Unity Bank was providing and asked the Clerk to look into other options and the possibility of closing the Unity account.

2 Members of the public left at 8:13pm

42.2 **Payments** On the proposition of Cllr Firth and seconded by Cllr Jewell it was **resolved** to approve the schedule of payments

Clerk

42.3 **Grants**

- CAB On the proposition of Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr Firth it was **resolved** to award them a grant of £25 and the add the back payment of £50 which failed to reach them last year. Clerk
- Community Transport Group On the proposition of Cllr Fogerty and seconded by Cllr Humphrey it was **resolved** to award them a grant of £75. Clerk
- 42.4 **Internal Auditor** On the proposition of Cllr Humphrey and seconded by Cllr Eberle it was **resolved** to appoint Penny Clapham as the Internal Auditor.
- 43 **Jubilee Celebrations**
- 43.1 **Platinum Jubilee in Sourton-** The Council discussed some of the events that are happening in the area and how best they could support them. Cllr Jewel volunteered to looking to a granite stone to mark the occasion and a gas beacon.
- 43.2 **Queens Green Canopy-** In the absence of Cllr Leonard the clerk read the report sent and the Council noted it.
- 44 **Meeting Dates**
- 44.1 **Annual Parish Meeting-** It was **resolved** to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May by Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr Firth. It was agreed not to invite a speaker to this years meeting but to ask the Mayor of West Devon to present gifts to the 3 Councillors who stepped down but due to Covid had not had an official presentation.
- 44.2 **Meeting dates** On the proposition of Cllr and seconded by Cllr it was **resolved** to accept the meeting dates as proposed by the Clerk.
- 45 **Highways Issues-** It was **resolved** by Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr Fogerty to add the Highways Reporting page link to the parish council website but to also add that if a parishioner was not confident in reporting it to contact the clerk who would report it on their behalf. Clerk
- 46 **Policy Review**
- 46.1 **Asset Register and policy** It was **resolved** on the proposition of Cllr Jewel and seconded by Cllr Firth to accept the changes proposed by Cllr Humphrey Clerk
- 46.2 **Site Visit Risk Assessment** It was **resolved** on the proposition of Cllr Fogerty and seconded by Cllr Firth to adopt the risk assessment as proposed by Cllr Eberle Clerk
- 46.3 **Grass Cutting Risk Assessment** It was **resolved** on the proposition of Cllr Fogerty and seconded by Cllr Eberle to adopt the risk assessment as proposed by Cllr Jewel Clerk
- 46.4 **Health and Safety Policy** It was **resolved** on the proposition of Cllr Fogerty and seconded by Cllr Jewel to accept the changes proposed by Cllr Firth Clerk
- 46.5 **Financial Risk assessment** It was **resolved** on the proposition of Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr Eberle to accept the changes proposed by Cllr Humphrey. Clerk
- 47 **Councillor Reports-** Cllr Fogerty reported on being a police advocate and noted that the meetings were during the day making it difficult for working people to attend. Cllr Eberle reported on the CPRE and had shared the notes from the last meeting to the rest of the Council.

## **PART TWO**

***Items which may be taken in the absence of the press and public. The Committee is recommended to pass the following resolution: 'Resolved that under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items as they involve the likely disclosure of sensitive and confidential information.'***

- 48 **WDBC Enforcement** a discussion about enforcement was had between the Council and Cllr Southcott who offered to look into the list anomalies.

A motion to suspend Standing Order 3 (bb) to permit extension of the meeting was proposed by Cllr Eberle, seconded Cllr Fogerty, and agreed.

49 **Items Brought Forward-** It was **resolved** to create a consultation policy to review at the next meeting in regard to the question put to the Council by a Member of Public. It was **resolved** to discuss the location of the bin currently in the Highwayman Carpark to see whether a better position may make it more useful to the parish.

50 **Date of Next Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

The meeting was closed at 9:38pm

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Cllr S Eberle

Chairman