

Sourton Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held immediately following the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Monday 13th May 2019 at Sourton Hall.

Members present: A. Horn (Chair), P. Deacon, S. Eberle, M. Fogerty, J. Hockridge, A. Jewell & G. Jury,

Also present: Cllr C. Mott (WDBC), Cllr T. Southcott (WDBC), 3 members of the public & M. Leonard (Clerk)

1. Welcome by the Chair

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Members of the Public - no matters raised

3. Declaration of Interests in items on the agenda

3.1 Cllr Eberle declared a personal interest in planning application 0689/19/FUL, being a neighbour of the applicant.

4. Apologies for absence None

5. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st April were approved as a true record & signed by the previous Chairman

6. Matters arising from any items in the previous minutes which are not on the agenda

6.1 Litter at Sourton X food outlets - Letter sent to the Site Manager but no reply received. However it has been noted that the area is much tidier.

6.2 Hardhill X postbox - This has still not been replaced or returned. Clerk continuing to try and establish what Royal Mail intend to do about the post box and the hole left by them in the wall. Agreed that the more members of the public and councillors who visit Royal Mail in Okehampton to ask for the postbox to be replaced, the more effect it may have.

6.3 Request to DC Highways for deer signs on the A386 at Prewley - DCC has responded that signs would not be justified, due to the random nature of the grazing of the type of deer being observed in the area.

6.4 Request for additional signage at the bottom of the sliproad onto A386, indicating Sourton Services - The Highways Locality Officer will try and get a sign put there.

6.5 Request for speed limit on road past the Cycle Hire shop up to the Prewley Arms.- Highways have no plan to put a speed limit here.

6.6 Beech Tree on the Green - Brian Beasley, DNP tree officer, has confirmed that the beech tree is not protected by a Tree Preservation Order and the Green does not lie within a designated Conservation Area, which means consent is not required from DNPA to carry out works on the tree. In principle the Authority would support appropriate remedial works to the tree to prevent it damaging passing tractors. He advised that the canopy would only need to be trimmed to leave a clear 4 metres for tractors and cars.

Clerk to write to the Chairman of the Commoners to ask them if they would take a look at this.

6.7 Hedge opposite Beatdown. The co-ordinator of the contract between the parish councils on the West Devon Drive and Devon County Council has confirmed that the contract covers grass cutting only, no hedges. DCC's policy is not to trim hedges to give views. Owner of Beatdown has been informed.

7. DCC, WDBC, DNP - To receive reports and updates from those representatives present Cllr Mott reported that the new waste contract seems to be going well, but asked members to report any issues if they occur. Following the local elections there are fifteen new Borough members now.

8. Planning

New Applications

0689/19/FUL Creation of all weather area for horse exercise. Charlwood, Thorndon Cross, EX20 4NG

Proposed by Cllr Hockkridge, seconded by Cllr Deacon that the application is supported.

The application is for personal use only, and poses no issues. Agreed.

0870/19/CLB Application for Certificate of Lawfulness of proposed works to a listed building - to replace the corroded and deteriorating corrugated metal roof, repair the stone and cob walls and any roof timbers as necessary in order to maintain the building.

Palmers Farm, Sourton Down, EX20 4HJ

Cllr Eberle proposed supporting the application, seconded by Cllr Hockkridge. The building appears to badly need improvement. Agreed

1055/19/FUL Erection of single-storey agricultural building for general agricultural storage using existing access.

Field at East Linnacombe Farm, Sourton Down, Okehampton EX20 4HR

Cllr Jewell declared a personal interest.

Cllr Deacon proposed objecting to the application, seconded by Cllr Eberle. The scale of the building is out of proportion to the size of the field. It is too high. It would be visible from the A30 and A386 and from the moor. It is an inappropriate site with poor access. Agreed.

Updates on previous applications

Enforcement List - it was agreed to move this item to Part 2 at the end of the meeting.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Eberle reported that the awaited response from West Devon has been received and is positive. However, Natural England has raised concerns about the proposed site adjacent to Bridestowe Cemetery. This is to be discussed next Thursday.

10. Clerk's report - Correspondence and any other item raised that is not on the agenda

10.1 DNP - update on progress of the Dartmoor Way walking route. Noted

10.2 Invite to Chairman to the Civic Ceremony of Mayor Choosing. Noted

11. Finance

Report of Financial Officer:

Current Account at 15th April - 6849.55

Deposit Account at 15th April - 1372.53

The following accounts were agreed for payment:

Cllr Eberle - reimbursement of costs to attend CPRE seminar	7.50
Andrew Barton Grass cuts, March and May	160.00
WDBC Emptying of Highwayman bin, 26 weeks	15.60
Insurance	369.51
Mrs M Leonard Clerk's salary April	212.50
Mrs M Leonard- admin expenses	58.20

It was agreed to hold an informal, non-decision making, finance meeting on Tues 28th May at 7.30pm

12. Churchyard - to consider quotes received for cutting of the grass.

Four quotes received. Agreed to move this item to Part 2

13. Council for the Protection of Rural England - to consider proposal to become a member

Cllr Eberle proposed that the council should join the CPRE for the cost of £35. The chief advantage will be free planning advice. Discussed. Agreed to defer until after the budget meeting.

14. Members reports

14.1 Cllr Eberle - potholes between cattle grid and A386 at Prewley. Clerk to report to DC

14.3 Cllr Horn reported a loose drain cover on A386 at end of Coombe Farm lane. Clerk to report to DC.

15. Items for the agenda of next meeting

CPRE Membership

16. Date of the next meeting - Monday 3rd June

Members of the public were asked to leave as the meeting was moving into Part 2

Cllrs Mott and Southcott offered to remain through discussions on planning enforcement. Agreed.

Part 2

The meeting came out of Part 2 and was closed at approx 9.50pm