



SOUTH PETHERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Parish **Kate Alford**
Unit 1, Frogmary Green Farm, West Street, South Petherton TA13 5DJ
Tel: 01460 241002
E-Mail: clerk@southpethertonparishcouncil.gov.uk
www.southpethertonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Public Session

A member of the public spoke regarding the closure of the Methodist Church and the huge impact that the closure will have on the many groups who used the building – in particular the Luncheon Club who will struggle to find a workable replacement, and made a plea to the council for support progressing the Hub, and possible support for groups using this building going forward.

Persimmon gave a small presentation and took questions in relation to the application (Resolution 3.6(6) – moved to item 3.6(7) in the meeting).

A member of the public spoke regarding a gate which has been locked at the end of West Street.

Cllr A Dance gave the Somerset Council update, with a written report shortly to be sent through.
Cllr J Roundell – Green sent apologies.

The Minutes

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting of South Petherton Parish Council held at William Blake Memorial Hall on Monday 4th March 2024 when the following business was conducted.

PRESENT Councillors N Wakely (Chair), S Carp, A Dance, L Baker, S Spiers, C Bragg, K Jones, D Steel, D Hodson-Wright, B Elliott, B Swainson, along with the Clerks Mrs K Alford & Mrs R Swift.
10 members of the public were also in attendance.

Cllr Wakely asked the Council if they would be in agreement to hear Resolution 7 on the agenda before Resolution 6. All in agreement.

3.1 To receive and agree any apologies for non attendance.

Apologies received Cllr Chitty & Cllr Brown
Absent – Cllr New

3.2 To receive any declarations of interest.

Cllr Wakely – item 3.7(6)

3.3 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council from 5th February 2024.

Received and agreed

3.4 Clerk updates:

- Resolution updates given
- Clerks report – March 2024
 - SPIB Flowers – struggling to find options to replace the withdrawn Somerset Unitary service.
 - Lights at Bridge Road steps – fixed
- Councillor Vacancy – vacancy advertised – Co-option will be at the May meeting (Thursday 9th May 2024)

3.5 Chairman's Announcements

None

3.6 Reports:

- (a) Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC) – emails sent out throughout the month.
- (b) Councillors - none
- (c) Village Agent - Village Agent, Suzy Coombs gave a verbal report on current work within the Parish.
- (d) Reach Youth - Dan Palmer gave a verbal report on current work & areas of concern within the

- Parish.
- (e) Avon & Somerset PCSO
 - (f) Community Hub Group – update from Cllr Elliott

3.7 Resolutions

- (1) To resolve a response to the request for funding from Somerset Council regarding the Cartgate Information Centre.**
Resolved not to forward any funding towards the Cartgate Information Centre
Proposed Cllr Dance, seconded Cllr Jones, all in favour.
- (2) To resolve to instruct Wellers Hedleys to produce the draft lease between the Parish Council and Reach Youth Ltd in respect of the Youth Building.**
Resolved to instruct Wellers Hedleys to produce the draft lease.
Proposed Cllr Dance, seconded Cllr Baker, all in favour
- (3) To resolve to investigate applying for Tree Preservation Orders on a number of the Parish Council's trees.**
Resolved to go ahead and investigate applying for Tree Preservation orders – initially within the Cemetery.
Proposed Cllr Hodson-Wright, seconded Cllr Jones, all in favour
- (4) To discuss the stone carpark wall bordering Prigg Lane following councillor assessments and to resolve a way forward.**
Resolved to repair the wall now and investigate other options for fully repair or replacement fully before budget setting 2025/26
Proposed Cllr Dance, seconded Cllr Elliott, all in favour
- (5) To resolve to:**

 - (a) make decision on the Village Ranger position supplied by Somerset Council for the financial year 2024/25**
Resolved to give notice on the Village Ranger role to finish 31/3/24
Proposed Cllr Jones, seconded Cllr Carp, all in favour
 - (b) To agree the draft tender for a Parish Maintenance role and to look for quotes for this role to start in the beginning part of the financial year 2024/25**
Resolved to agree the tender for Parish Maintenance role, and for the Clerk to proceed with the tender process
Proposed Cllr Spiers, seconded Cllr Steel, all in favour.
- (6) To resolve to accept the survey quote received by the Community Hub Group (4 quotes sought and 1 received) in respect of the Coke Methodist Church.**
Resolved to accept the survey quote by Nigel Pearce and instruct him to carry out the initial survey, including the extra services quoted for.
Proposed Cllr Bragg, seconded Cllr Hodson-Wright, all in favour.

Cllr Wakely left the meeting.

Cllr Dance took up the Chair position for the rest of the meeting & advised he will not vote on the following resolution to the possibility of it being presented to the Planning South Committee.

- (7) To consider and respond to the following planning application & Consultation on Potential Leisure Planning Obligations:**
Outline application all matters reserved for the erection of up to 60 dwellings with associated works and formation of car parking area for the adjacent medical centre.
Hams Ground Hamsfield Lane South Petherton Somerset TA13 5EJ
Ref. No: 24/00326/OUT

 - (a) Proposal to object based on the amount of housing already supplied in South Petherton linked to the Neighbourhood Plan.
Proposed Cllr Hodson-Wright, seconded Cllr Jones, 3 for, 5 against – proposal failed.

Resolved to accept the application, on the basis that the Council feels any objections they have/raise will be ignored - however to strongly appeal to Persimmon that they listen to the concerns of the Parish, and work with the Council to overcome any issues that are raised with them,

Proposed Cllr Swainson, seconded Cllr Steel, 5 for, 3 against, (Cllrs Hodson-Wright, Jones & Elliott – named vote requested) 1 abstention.

- (b) Resolved to request from Somerset Council that the financial Leisure Planning Obligations be amended as contributions that were in areas of need for the parish – as the existing suggestions are areas that are consistently contributed towards and there is no ability to spend them or space left in the Recreation Ground to install leisure facilities.

Areas such as transport /bus funding, changing room contributions to be used in the schools, or other funding areas would be of much more use to the Parish.

Proposed Cllr Dance, seconded Cllr Bragg all in favour.

3.8 Finance & General Purpose Committee

- (a) To receive and note the minutes of the Finance & General Purpose Committee made on 4th September 2023. No meeting was held on the 4th December 2023.

Received and noted

- (c) To note & agree the items of expenditure and approve payments for February 2024

Resolved to agree

Proposed Cllr Bragg, seconded Cllr Swainson, all in favour

3.9 Planning Committee

- (a) To receive & note the minutes of the Planning Committee made on 5th February 2024

Received & noted.

3.10 To note the reports received on the following (if any):

- (a) Allotments and Whitfield Lane – Cllr Jones
- (b) Cemetery – Cllr Wakely & Cllr Jones
- (c) Footpaths and Bridleways – PPOs Mr Nigel Kinsman & Cllr Wakely
- (d) TWIG – Cllr Jones & Cllr Hodson-Wright
- (e) Roads & Transport – Cllr Swainson
- (f) Recreation Ground/SPRUG – Cllr New , Cllr Swainson Cllr Steel & Cllr Carp
- (g) TA13 – Cllr Spiers
- (h) Blake Hall – Cllr Carp
- (i) Community Land Trust (CLT) – Cllr Hodson-Wright, Cllr Chitty & Cllr Elliott
- (j) Library / LIC / Community Hub – Cllr Elliott & Cllr Carp
- (k) Mere Lynches – Cllr Jones
- (l) Youth – Cllr New & Cllr Steel
- (m) Patient Participation Group (PPG) – Cllr Steel & Cllr Baker
- (n) Local Community Review updates – Cllr Steel, Cllr Carp & Cllr Chitty

3.11 Other business referred to the Clerk

- Vexatious complainant correspondence received.

3.12 Date of next meeting – Annual Parish Meeting - Monday 8th April 2024 at The David Hall

Payments authorised on 4th March 2024

		Net	Vat	Total	
1.	Somerset Council	Village Ranger – January 2024	528.14	105.63	633.77
2.	Microshade	IT Support – inv 18901	99.60	19.92	119.52
3.	Mrs K Alford	Clerks Expenses – mobile	13.99	0	13.99
4.	HMRC	PAYE	812.75	0	812.75

5.	MACS Printing	TA13 – Printing Winter 2023 edition	799.00	0	799.00
6.	David Hall	TA13 – Delivery Winter 2023 edition	150.00	0	150.00
7.	Knight Electrical	Christmas Lights put up and remove 2023	1147.90	229.58	1377.48
8.	Reach Youth Ltd	Youth Provision – February 2024	2691.00	538.20	3229.20
9.	Hags	Mobilus parts – Play Equipment	340.36	68.07	408.43
10.	Play UK	Mobilus – replacement labour	75.00	15.00	90.00
11.	Play UK	Mobilus – rust removal & repair	125.00	25.00	150.00
			6,782.74	1,001.40	7,784.14

Received after the agenda:

12.	Kevin Harris	Parish Maintenance – February 2024	527.50	0	527.50
13.	Reach Youth Ltd	Youth Provision – March 2024	2691.00	538.20	3229.20
14.	K M Dike Nurseries	Grass Maintenance – February 2024	1722.92	344.58	2067.50
15.	Somerset Council	Blake Hall Winter Troughs 2023/24	337.50	67.50	405.00
			12,061.66	1,951.68	14,013.34

To note the Standing Order/Direct Debit payments made in February 2024

1.	SSDC	Library – Rates	458.00	0	458.00
2.	SSDC	Cemetery – Rates	299.00	0	299.00
3.	SSDC	St James St car park – Rates	75.00	0	75.00
4.	SSDC	Lightgate Lane car park – Rates	100.00	0	100.00
5.	SSDC	Parish Office – Rates	52.00	0	52.00
6.	EDF Energy	Library Gas	43.82	2.18	46.00
7.	EDF Energy	Library Electricity	51.54	2.46	54.00
8.	Reyland Properties	Library rent	2062.50	0	2062.50
9.	Barnstore	Parish Storage	117.50	23.50	141.00
10.	Biffa	Waste Removal	64.82	12.96	77.78
11.	Plusnet	Blake Hall Broadband	18.00	3.60	21.60
12.	Merlin Telecomm	Parish Office telephone calls	12.29	2.46	14.75
13.	Opus Energy	MUGA Lights	33.02	1.65	34.67
14.	NBC	Library Broadband	21.32	4.26	25.58
15.	HR Salaries/Pension	February 2024	3730.51	0	3730.51
16.	Frogmary Green Farm	Office Broadband	25.00	5.00	30.00
			7,164.32	58.07	7,222.39