

**SEAVINGTON ST MARY/MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE 464th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SEAVINGTON COMMUNITY SHOP/CAFE
On Tuesday 18th September 2018 at 7.00 pm**

2851. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

PRESENT

Mr N Loxton – Chair

Mrs J Ash

Mr N England

Mrs P Parsons

Mr C Reyland

Adam Dance – County and District Councillor [arrived at 7.45pm]

Crispin Raikes – District Councillor

15 members of the public

APOLOGIES

Mrs E Edwards

Mr C Turner

2852. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME –

Councillor Raikes was asked if the changes in SSDC had been successful and would there be a credible planning service in future that would make the envisaged savings. Councillor Raikes acknowledged that planning was a particular problem at the moment with up to 4 weeks being taken to get applications started. However, it is hoped that within 6 – 9 months the new system will be working. Councillor Raikes also confirmed that the delays are not allowing things to be passed that would not normally be. All retrospective planning approvals will be followed up. Area workers are to be appointed and they will be out and about checking on planning approvals and issuing enforcement notices. At the end of the period the changes will be cost effective.

[Most members of the public were present in connection with the outline Planning Application for 8 houses at the top of Upton Lane. See under Planning 2866 point 4]

2853. REPORT FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S – Also see Public Question Time in connection with the numerous changes that have taken place recently within the District Council. New leader of Council is Val Keitch – councillor for Ilminster

County Councillor Dance – advised that the County Council finances are in dire straits and this has led to the £13m cuts announced recently. However, these cuts had been approved by only 8 councillors and a full County Council meeting will have to be held to ratify the cuts suggested. The County has reserves higher than necessary but are not using any of these funds at present to stop cuts.

2854. MINUTES OF THE 463rd ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17th July 2018 were agreed as correct and signed

2855. UP-DATE - SMALL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME REGARDING C5021 – Nothing further.

2856. IMPLICATIONS OF COUNTY COUNCIL CUTS – Winter gritting - Notification given that the C5021 will not be on the gritting routes for the coming winter. Also the cutting of roadside vegetation will probably not be carried out.

2857. INFORMATION RE 12 MONTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR ILMINSTER BY-PASS BEING DEVELOPED BY HIGHWAYS ENGLAND – ARTICLE BY MARCUS FYSH – Carried forward to next meeting

2858. PROPOSED WORKS TO GULLIES ALONG THE C5021 – Four sites have been indicted along the C5021 from Hunts House to junction with Water Street where remedial works are to be carried out in connection with dropped gullies. Some funding for this work has been offered by Frogmary Green.

2859. MOVING OF 30MPH SPEED LIMITS ALONG THE C5021 – TO INCLUDE DAVID’S LANE

Following the moving of the 30mph sign northwards up David’s Lane and its subsequent knock by a farm vehicle, as it had been placed on a gate entrance, a meeting has been arranged with Gary Warren [signs and lines SCC] to discuss 30mph limit on C5021, and extra white lining.

2860. UP-DATE ON MEETING WITH MIKE FEAR RE HIGHWAY ISSUES

- (i) – Condition of Rookesmeade Lane – Agreed clearing of the ditch is the responsibility of the landowner. However, should the road fall into the ditch then it would become the responsibility of County Highways to rectify. Ditch has since been cleaned. Blocked drain opposite Rookesmeade Lane has been marked for CCTV investigation.
- (ii) Silt in Rookesmeade Lane and Longforward Lane – responsibility of landowner of adjacent land to clear. Parish Council has informed relevant persons. Once done County Highways will attend to potholes and road edge erosion.
- (iii) Concerns were expressed regarding beech tree at top of Water Street. This will be passed to County arborist.

2861. **RANGER SCHEME** – Working very well. Councillor Reyland liaises with Ranger each week.

2862. **VILLAGE FOOTPATHS** – Agreed to invite Phil Gordon-Smith to next meeting so that it can be clarified what works he does, what is done by landowners and what by County.

2863. **SPFA** – Reported at the AGM. New overflow Car Park is working well. Reserves have been reduced due to works carried out to the hedges and trees around the playing field and the overflow car park. Improvements will be made to the play equipment but advice is being given by SSDC. There will not be a total revamp but equipment will be replaced as and when necessary. Hopeful that S106 monies from Falcon Close will pay for some new pieces of equipment. One of the Millennium Oaks is showing signs of disease and advice is being sought.

2864. **COMMUNITY SHOP** – Reported at Shop AGM that turnover for the year had increased, cost of sales has reduced, gross margin has increased and there was a surplus for the last trading year. However, it would seem to most users of the shop/cafe do not live in The Seavingtons. There is a need to pay staff and these costs have increased partly due to NI and Pension payments. Enquiries are still being made with regard to the solar panels on the shop roof.

2865. **SUNDRY MATTERS OF REPORT** - A request had been received from the Community Shop for Parish Council meetings to start at 6.30pm. Agreed for a trial period.

2866. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

18/02239/FUL – Upton Barn – Erection of single storey garden room – no concerns

18/02360/FUL – Branstons Potatoes – Extension and alterations to existing factory, demolition of existing stand-alone building and extension to existing service yard area – agreed no concerns

18/02361/ADV – Display of 1no. Non-illuminated new totem sign to be located at entrance to site, 1 replacement non-illuminated directional sign and new non illuminated fascia signage – agreed no concerns

18/02320/OUT – Land at Upton Lane – Outline application for the erection of 8 dwellings – A number of Upton Lane residents attended the meeting as well as representatives for the applicant. Concerns were expressed with regard to the times used to ascertain the amount of traffic entering and exiting Upton Lane. Other concerns raised by all were:-

Surface water drainage from the site, proximity to the Ilminster By-pass [A303], number of vehicles generated by 8 new houses, impact on the poor junction of Upton Lane with the C5021 [New Road].

It was also reported that the site had been investigated, along with a number of other sites in The Seavingtons on the SSDC Local Plan dated 2011. At that time the inspector had indicated that the site was not suitable for development because of the poor visibility at the junction of Upton Lane with the main road. It was agreed that this would be the prime reason for the Parish Council not supporting the application.

16/05356/FUL 16/05357/LBC – Concerns at 2 Southernaways – Further concerns raised with regard to the new shed that has been erected recently without permission. This has already been referred to SSDC Planners and a Retrospective Plan has to be submitted. However, it would seem that further works were carried out on the shed after the works had been halted by a Planning Officer. Agreed to notify the planner with these further concerns.

2867. ACCOUNTS

(a) **Balances** – Current A/c - £1,277.95 Business Reserve - £24,814.25 Int July 0.76 Aug £1.05

