

35. Appointment of Clerk

The Chairman reported that the post had been advertised both on the Noticeboard, with all adjacent Parishes & on the Website. To date there has been one application. It is intended to have an interview on 19th July with a start date of 1st September, if the selection is made.

36. County & District Councillors' reports

As Mr. Lewis had not arrived, it was agreed that his report will be taken when he arrived.

37. Police & Safety matters

a) Police Matters – In the absence of PCSO Mead, on leave, the Council noted that there had been 49 recorded incidents for the Castle Cary Ward in June.

b) A letter from Sue Mountstevens, Police Crime Commissioner, asking for nominations for Policing awards was read and noted.

c) Safety Group

The Council were informed that the Safety Group under the Chairmanship of Mr. Bailes are to meet on July 25th and following a suggestion from Mr. Pender- Cudlip, it was agreed that the Safety Group will consider the issues raised by the Chairman of Mudford. It was agreed that the Parish Council, following their report, will then discuss the issue at the September meeting. Mr. Bennett felt that the initiative should be supported.

There was nothing to report reference the SID.

Mr. Lewis, County & District Councillor arrived at this point.

Mr. Lewis reported as County Councillor, he has a small sum of money to finance a small initiative Highways scheme. He has received two schemes from other Parishes for consideration and asked if Queen Camel Parish Council would have any suggestions.

Mr. Lewis as District Councillor that SSDC Area East Committee had considered two applications from the Parish, but as the meeting had been very long, ending at 5.00pm, he had not been present, due to other commitments.

38. Highway matters

a. Highways Drains – Mr. Hewlett reported that County Highways have the drains in Bindwell Lane on their list for rodding. It was noted that further works may need doing.

b. There was nothing to report reference the review of the number of signs within the Parish.

c. The Council were read a letter received from a resident of South View, which highlighted parking problems in the area of the Tin Shed when parents are dropping children off & picking them up from the School. The letter stated that clearing an area by the Tin Shed to allow off road parking would not enhance the parking that already exists. The suggestion being better parking as used at present. The Council noted an unsigned letter from a Parent on the same issue, which indicated that there have been photographs taken in that area. After discussion, it was agreed that PCSO Mead is made aware of the situation.

39. Planning matters. To note -

12/03288 COU Steart Hill Farm, West Camel - appeal ongoing

12/02094/FUL Steart Hill Farm, West Camel - appeal on going

13/01345/ADV for Mr. & Mrs. C. Garrard on land behind grass verge opposite Camel Hill Farm for advance directional for the Red Lion Public House, Bab Cary - granted

13/01897/COU – for Mr Peter Oxley, at Land & buildings to the east of Queen Camel House, High Street for change of use of buildings and land to Equestrian for continued use of racehorse training on a commercial basis. - no decision to date.

13/01697/FUL- for Mr. P. Maclaren on land OS 4200, Sutton Montis Road for Solar PV development and associated works. To include the installation of ground based racking systems, mounted olr panels, power inverter stations, transformer stations, sub station and

comms building, fencing, associated gates and tracks, and CCTV security cameras mounted on free standing support poles. This had gone SSDC Area East Committee and the Chairman reported that the application has been referred back to applicant - waiting for MOD response.

13/02014/FUL at Hazelgrove Preparatory School for erection of an extension to existing Grounds Department storage building to incorporate Maintenance Department - no decision to date

13/01124/FUL on Land OS 2926 West Camel Road for the erection of 20 Affordable local needs houses together with associated roads, parking & landscaping. This had been considered at Area East Committee and the Chairman reported that the application had been approved. The Chairman reported that a meeting of the Community Land Trust is to held with Hastoe.

To consider -

The Council considered application 13/02308/FUL for Mr. R. Chivers at 4, Church Path for the demolition of existing ground floor bathroom extension and replacement with new Shower room and bedroom extension and internal alterations to first floor accommodation, and after discussion agreed to support the application, adding that, as it is within the Conservation area that all materials used should be in keeping with the area.

40. Parish Group reports

- a. Additional Dog Poo Bin – As Mr. Millard was absent, there was nothing to report.
 - b. Broadband - Mr. Lewis reported that the rollout for some rural areas is to be delayed until 2016. This was noted.
- There were no other reports.

41. Chairman's training

Mr. Hewlett reported that he and the Chairman had attended Chairman Training and had found it very useful. It was noted that a report from the meetings had been sent to each member of the Council for information. Arising from this, it was noted that an informal meeting of Councillors is planned to be held in the autumn - 'Tea & Buns'.

42. Financial matters

It was reported that the External audit with Grant Thornton LLP is proceeding. Mr. Stevens, former Clerk, has replied to the queries raised.

The account balances were reported as £33,562.35p.

The Council received the payments & receipts from April 1st up to June 30th. These had been circulated to each member. There was a query on Budget variance. Discussion took place reference whether the Council should buy a lap top computer & printer for use by the new Clerk. After some debate, it was agreed to discuss these matters with the new Clerk following the appointment, as it may prove not necessary. It was agreed to make the decision as to whether the expenditure has to be made, once the situation is known, this being delegated to the Interviewing panel.

To adopt amended Financial Regulations & to adopt the Grant/Donation awarding policy & procedure –

The Chairman reported that there had been a meeting on 12th June to address issues raised by Mr. Bennett and agreement was reached, with the exception of VAT reclaim. The Chairman reported that SALC had responded to the VAT queries and this had been circulated to all Councillors. The issues reference the timetables in Appendix 1, were agreed to be left for amendment until the new Clerk is in post, as well as Appendix 4, Risk assessments, to be reviewed with the new Clerk.

After some considerable discussion, during which Mr. Bennett stated that he now had

further concerns, Mr. Turner proposed, seconded by Mr. Pender- Cudlip that the Financial Regulations & Grant/Donations awarding Policy & procedure documents are formally adopted and on a vote of four in favour, with two voting against, these were adopted. There were no amendments.

The Council discussed the Telephone kiosk and, after discussion, on the proposition of Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Turner, it was agreed to authorise £120 for materials to improve its condition, specifically replacement of panes. It was noted that this had been included in the 2012/13 budget, but not within 2013/14. The Council noted that a request from the Memorial Hall for funding had been withdrawn.

Payments received -

£103.51 HMRC VAT reclaim 2011/12
£779.83 HMRC VAT reclaim 2012/13

Cheques approved –

£184.20 PAYE for L. Stevens former Clerk
£100 Scouts
£100 Girl Guides
£100 Sparkford Copse Trust
£ 75 SALC – for Training (amended by SALC from £50)

The Council approved and signed these cheques for payment.

43. Matters of Report or for the next Agenda

- a. Mr. Bennett asked that management of the Financial reserves be noted for a future agenda item.
- b . Other Matters of report – none.

44. Date of next Parish Council Meeting –

The Council approved Monday September 9th 2013 at 7:30 pm in the Marples Room of the Memorial Hall. There being no other business, the Chairman thanked all for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Signed:

Date: