



## Queen Camel Parish Council

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 10 February 2014 AT 7.30 PM IN THE MARPLES ROOM OF THE MEMORIAL HALL

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**Present:**

Chairman	<b>Rosemary Heath-Coleman (RHC)</b>
Vice-Chairman	<b>Dan Hewlett (DH)</b>
Councillors	<b>Chris Bennett (CB)</b>
	<b>Angus Davidson (AD)</b>
	<b>Andrew Hoddinott (AH)</b>
	<b>Steve Millard (SM)</b>
	<b>Patrick Pender-Cudlip (PPC)</b>
	<b>Ben Turner (BT)</b>

**In Attendance:**

County/District Councillor	<b>Mike Lewis (ML)</b>
Clerk	<b>Laura Paul (LP)</b>

Members of the public 7

- 1. Apologies for absence – David Biggart (DB) and Thelma Mead (TM) (PCSO).**
- 2. Public Session** – A resident raised concerns with the planning process and how it worked within the Parish Council. In their experience, it was felt that not enough importance was placed on site visits and discussing applications with neighbouring properties. The Parish Council's role of taking a view of the application and then relaying those to the Planning Officer was explained. The resident and her neighbour then referred to the application with which they had particular concerns and listed these to the council for their consideration. RHC thanked the residents for their input. The state of Blackwell Road was raised with potholes which are increasing in size and depth being a safety concern. RHC and SM concurred.

#### Meeting opened at 7.55pm

- 3. Declarations of Interest** – PPC declared an interest in the Solar Farm planning application and AD declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in the PCC grant.

**0214.01 Minutes of meeting 13 January 2014 to be approved and signed** – AH asked that the addition of the statement made by RHC "that there is no suggestion, by anyone, that anything will happen to the PF land" be included in section 0114.07 7.3. This and the remaining minutes were agreed and signed with the amendment to be inserted.

Inils.....

Chairman

**0214.02 County & District Councillors' reports** – District and County Council will see a 0% increase in Council tax, for the 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row. There is no anticipated borrowing for the County Council although this could be subject to change following the recent flooding as costs are still to be determined. ML advised that the County Council are taking part in Gold and Silver Command which is run by the police, and explained that this is where a number of organisations are working 24/7 on the flooding issues being faced on the Somerset Levels. An action plan for the Somerset Levels and its future is being devised by the Government and is due within 4 weeks. ML asked that any support that could be offered to flood victims from the PC and the community would be appreciated.

**0214.03 Police & Safety matters**

**03.1 Police report** – forwarded by TM for January 2014 with figures compared to January 2013 – Camelot Ward, in TM's absence AD delivered the report.

**Recorded Crime**

2013	2014	
0	0	Non Dwelling Burglary
0	0	Violence against the person
3	0	Other
1	2	Criminal Damage
0	1	Shoplifting

**Calls to Force Services Centre**

2013	2014	
0	3	Anti-Social Behaviour
3	2	Crime
10	6	General
10	6	Public Safety/Welfare
1	13	Transport/Traffic

ML advised that the vehicle number plate recognition camera on the A303 near West Camel may be the reason behind the large increase in the transport/traffic number.

**03.2 Safety Group** – A Safety Group meeting was held on Thursday 6 February with RHC, DH, AD and TM present. Andy Bailes (AB) sent his apologies on the night as he was unable to attend. Due to this a Neighbourhood Watch Meeting is still to be arranged. There has been no contact from AB since the meeting.

**0214.04 Highway's matters**

**04.1 Drains, Signs & Poles and other Highway matters** – Nothing to report – awaiting new financial year.

**0214.05 Planning Applications**

**05.1** New applications to consider –  
13/05191/FUL – Mr R Fenwick, Ansteys, Church Path, Wales – Replace garage with single storey extension. Further to the concerns raised by the neighbours of the applicant, Councillors deliberated the application at length. The proximity to the adjoining property's boundary was of particular concern. The size of the extension, the potential for loss of light to the neighbour's property and the intended colour of the stone were all discussed. PPC proposed that the PC object to the application due to the extension's proximity to the boundary, DH seconded with 5 agreeing and 3 abstentions. BT proposed, RHC seconded, 4 voted for, 2 against and 2 abstentions that concerns be raised to the Planning Officer over the loss of light due to overshadowing, the size in relation to plot and the stone colour.

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Chairman

**LP to forward PC's recommendation to the Planning Officer.**

For information – 14/00425/TPO – Mr C Tearle, Rockleaze, Church Path, Wales – To fell 1 Holly Tree.

For information – 14/00215/FUL – Land at Southfield Farm, Yeovilton – Revised Scheme for Solar Park. 13/01192/FUL – Land at Southfield Farm, Yeovilton – Appeal on previous application for Solar Park.

**05.2** Updates received since last meeting –

12/02094/FUL & 12/03288/COU – Mr N Hopkins Steart Hill Farm, West Camel – Allowed subject to conditions. Letter sent to SSDC Planning Department registering disappointment.

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 solar 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. – Approved with conditions. CB advised that he attended the Area East meeting and asked that local views be considered. RHC thanked CB for attending on behalf of the PC and reiterating the reasons for objecting to the development. The minutes of the meeting can be viewed via the SSDC website. Further to the approval of the application two documents, The Bribery Act 2010 Compliance Form and Draft Community Benefit Deed have been received from TGC Renewables, in respect of a Community Benefit Payment. The Bribery Form and Deed both need to include 'and successors' against 'TGC Renewables'. ML had suggested that the Bribery Form should also include wording to the effect that 'although Mike Lewis, County & District Councillor, was present at our Parish Council meetings he was 'in attendance' and did not recommend or vote', and RHC noted that clauses 2.2 and 2.3 of the Deed needed review and there may be other omissions/amendments required. RHC proposed, BT seconded and all agreed that SSDC's legal department (via Ian Clarke) should be asked to review both documents and meanwhile **LP should acknowledge their receipt with thanks**, advising TGC that the documents were being passed to SSDC's legal department for comment.

**05.3** Applications ongoing – None

**0214.06** **Parish Group reports**

**06.1** **Communications** – A Communications Group meeting was held on 8 February. RHC currently preparing report which will be circulated in due course.

**06.2** **Environment** – SM, a number of EG members and additional helpers have installed two new gates in the field behind the Memorial Hall. Eve Wynn to obtain two further quotes for the cost of renewing the gravel track at Henshallbrook as the original quote was very high.

SM referred to the previously circulated letter from Arthur Thring (AT) to the PC with regards to the minutes of the previous meeting. SM asked if anyone had any questions. DH asked if the letter was from all of the Flood Committee, SM confirmed that it was, as was the case with the letter to the Chief Constable. AH queried that the points raised in this letter and previously by TM were to be actioned, RHC confirmed that they are on the agenda for the next Flood Committee meeting. RHC proposed that LP writes to AT, thanking him for his letter. The statement that a trial scheme to enable volunteers to close the road was to be run in Queen Camel was noted with interest. **LP to send letter.**

**Post Box** – LP advised that she had been in contact with Royal Mail to determine when the boxes would be scheduled for maintenance. Royal Mail confirmed that the works for all 3 post boxes would be completed before the end of this financial

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year and apologised for the delay.

**06.3 Frontrunner** – RHC produced and read a report on the drafting of the Neighbourhood Plan detailing who was responsible for each section. DH asked if there is a draft plan to view. RHC reiterated the aim for the draft to be started this month with the intention to present the draft at the AVM. Following further questions from CB and AH to clarify the content and thoughts behind the plan, AH asked that as there is the ‘backbone’ of a plan in place with ideas for community facilities, these be shared with the community to start discussion.

**0214.07 Other reports**

**07.1 CLT** – RHC reported that a sample wall of stone from the new quarry within the Parish has been built on site with a CLT viewing planned for Thursday.

**07.2 Telephone Kiosk** – Nothing to report.

**07.3 PFC Lease** – A letter was received from R Soper (RS) post agenda regarding the history of the Playing Field. RHC requested agreement from the PC to read. RHC asked that LP sent a letter of thanks to RS and request a copy to enable it to be emailed to all Councillors. After much discussion as to whether a separate meeting was required to discuss the lease and what the aim of that meeting would be it was agreed 6 for, 2 against that a meeting be held with the PC and PFC. A date for the meeting is to be arranged with suggested dates of Monday 24 February or Thursday 27 February. **LP to send letter.**

**07.4 Heritage Trust** – Due to the absence of DB, PPC proposed that this item was deferred to next month’s meeting in order to hear DB’s report before the nomination of Trustees. RHC seconded the proposal with 6 for and 2 against.

**07.5 Policies and Procedures, to agree authors** – Deferred to March meeting.

Council’s Grievance and Disciplinary Procedure  
Council’s Health and Safety Policy  
Council’s Equal Opportunity Policy  
Council’s Data Protection Policy (DPA 1998)  
Council’s Freedom of Information Policy (2000)

**0214.08 Financial matters**

**08.1 Payments received** – Playing Field peppercorn rent 14/15 £1.00

**08.2 Payments made** – None

**08.3 Payments approved:**

Clerk’s expenses	£4.70
SM – EG expenses	£160.92
Jo Pender-Cudlip – Website expenses	£50.56
& computer protection (awaiting Sterling amount)	\$99.99

**08.4 Budget 2014/15** – PC to agree ring fenced reserves for School Swimming Pool and EG facilities – deferred to March.

RHC proposed, AH seconded with 7 in favour and 1 abstention (due to declared interest) that the PCC grant request was agreed following the receipt of Income/Expenditure statement.

**08.5 Banking** – Nothing to report

**0214.09 Incoming Correspondence - not included above**

28 January 2014 – Letter, Deed and Bribery Compliance Form from TGC Renewables in respect of Community Benefit Payment in relation to Solar Farm at Sutton Bridge.

2 February 2014 – Letter from Arthur Thring Chairman QC Flood Committee.

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**0214.10 Advance Notices - of external and Parish meetings**  
SSDC Area East Committee Meeting 12 February 2014

**0214.11 Matters for report or for the next agenda**  
The Mildmay Arms

**0214.12 Date and time of next meeting - Monday 10 March 2014 at 7.30 pm, Marples Room.**

RHC thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 10.18pm.

**Signed:**

**Date:**

DRAFT

Inils.....

Chairman