



Queen Camel Parish Council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY
8th OCTOBER 2012 AT 7.30 PM IN THE MARPLES ROOM OF THE MEMORIAL HALL**

Present: Chairman **Patrick Pender-Cudlip (PPC)**
Councillors **Rosemary Heath-Coleman (RHC)** **David Biggart (DB)**
Dan Hewlett (DH) **Chris Bennett (CB)**
Angus Davidson (AD) **Steve Millard (SM)**
Ben Turner (BT)

Clerk **Les Stevens (LS)**

District Councillor **Mike Lewis** County Councillor **Bob Little**

Apologies for absence **Cllr. Jean Pilgrim (JP) and PCSO Thelma Mead (TM).**

Members of the public - 6

PPC welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if any members of the public wished to speak. A request was made for a Dog Poo bin. After brief discussion regarding whether the emptying was now a chargeable item, PPC asked the clerk to investigate for further discussion at the next meeting. A request was also made for extension of the 20MPH speed restriction to cover High Street from the School to the mini roundabout at the West Camel Road junction. As there were a couple of speed/highways items on the agenda PPC suggested that the matter could be discussed at that point. There were no objections. PPC also mentioned a letter of complaint he had received regarding blocked drains at the entrance to Bindwell Lane and also from the roundabout to the entrance to Camel Farm. This was passed to the clerk to action with other outstanding Highways issues.

PPC formally opened the meeting at 19:35 hrs.

1012.01 Apologies for Absence – received from Councillor Jean Pilgrim and PCSO Thelma Mead.

1012.02 Brief overview of the role of a ‘Village Agent’ – Mrs Andrea de Berker (ADB) introduced herself and gave an overview of her role. She is a part time employee of the Community Council for Somerset and the role of ‘Village Agents’ has been adopted from a successful project in Gloucestershire. Her role is lottery funded until Dec 2014 and she provides a confidential service to anyone needing support in the communities she covers. She attends PC meetings, coffee morning and has made herself known to local clergy etc. CB asked if ADB could provide a regular update on her activities to prevent duplication of effort. PPC thanked ADB for her presentation and offered to pass on any suitable issues.

1012.03 Brief Overview of Broadband for Queen Camel – Peter Naylor (PN) gave an overview of the BT rollout of superfast broadband which should reach Yeovil in December and Sherborne next year; there are currently no plans to cover Marston Magna exchange which serves Queen Camel. A County Council lead consortium ‘Connecting Devon and Somerset have won £30m in government funding backed by £20m from County Councils to improve rural penetration of superfast broadband. PN asked that all the PCs served by Marston Magna (MM) exchange (Queen Camel, West Camel, Rimpton, Marston Magna, Trent and Mudford should lobby for inclusion of MM exchange. PPC thanked PN for his presentation and asked LS to write to the consortium and other Parish Councils **AP LS.** *Update; Feedback from David Hall (SCC Lead Councillor on HSBB rollout) has commented that the consortium BDUK hasn’t agreed a rollout plan or appointed a preferred contractor).*

1012.04 Declarations of Interest and details of dispensations requested / granted since the last meeting (Councillors and visiting Councillors) – SM declared a pecuniary interest in his planning application (item 11) and DH declared a general interest in the same application as an immediate neighbour. There were no other declarations of interest.

1012.05 Declaration of Interest (DOI) – completion of forms – LS explained that all councillors, except BT, should now complete the ‘without spouse’ version of the DOI form and let him have a signed copy by the **end of October please**. BT had already completed the ‘including spouse’ version and sent to LS. Confusion around a possible future total involvement of all councillors in the QC CLT was discussed and LS offered to seek guidance. **AP LS.**

1012.06 Safety and Behaviour – CB stated that only one NHW report had been received since the last meeting (Sept) and that was the theft of two decoy owls from the bowls club. An historic minute raised by RHC regarding relocation of 30 mph signs that had prevented the local ‘Speed Watch’ continuing, required actioning. **AP LS to liaise with RHC and SCC Highways.** The request for extension of the 20mph limit made before the start of the meeting was discussed. BL suggested that the Police would probably not support such an extension. **AP LS to liaise with TM and report back.** An offer to register for inclusion in a future SID (Speed Indication Device) sharing programme funded by SCC was discussed and involvement proposed by PPC, seconded by DB and agreed by all. **AP LS to register.**

1012.07 Police Matters – in TM’s absence CB delivered the police report –
4 Crimes reported and dealt with SEPT - OCT 2012
1 x Fraud and Forgery has been investigated, up dated and filed.
1 x Violence against a person has been investigated and filed
1 x Common assault and battery has been investigated and filed
1 x Domestic still under investigation

There were 7 calls to the force service centre Sept - Oct 2012
1 x Public service/welfare 1 x Disturbance/Nuisance 2 x Domestic
1 x Suspicious/wanted 1 x Theft 1 x ANPR Camel Hill

1012.08 Advanced Notices

- South Somerset Health & Wellbeing event 12:30pm Tue 9th October – attendees AD/CB
- Community Council for Somerset AGM / Showcase 2:00pm Friday 19th October – no councillor is available.
- Local Choices Events SCC – Edgar Hall Somerton 7:00pm 29th November – attendee(s) tbc in Nov. **AP LS to reserve 2 places.**
- Annual Village Meeting – endorse Comms Group suggestion of 17th May 2013 – **Decision – agreed unanimously.**
- Police Crime Commissioner Elections – question time Taunton 6th November – no councillor is available to attend.

1012.09 Minutes of last meeting (10/09/12) to be agreed and signed – The minutes were agreed by all councillors and signed by PPC and LS.

1012.10 Matters of report arising from the last meeting minutes

0712.13 Bush trimming in the Glebe – no action to date. **AP LS has emailed and phoned SSDC Street Scene – no response – ongoing**

0912.04 New Code of Conduct – LS reported that he had obtained advice from SALC regarding striking through the definition of a co-opted member. Apparently inclusion of co-opted members is required by statute; however, as QC Parish Groups have no decision making powers, non-councillor members fall outside this definition. – **Closed.**

0912.05 Amend Standing Orders – LS reported that the agreed changes did not fit cleanly within QC SOs which have been modified. Further work is required. **Ongoing.**

0912.12 LS to approach McDonalds for waste bag hoops – no response to email request – **ongoing.**

0912.12e Telephone Box utilisation ideas – none received – **ongoing.**

0912.12g CB to check whether replacement of bowls is required / buy darts – **ongoing.**

0912.12o JP to pass 'Western Gazette 'Young Star' award info to QC School – **ongoing.**
0912.12r Flooding o/s Rectory Barn – LS to chase SCC Highways – no response – **AP LS to contact Scott Davies and request a site meeting.**

1012.11 Correspondence / Reports / Other matters requiring action.

- a. Localising Support for Council Tax – Response to consultation. LS explained that this government consultation closes tomorrow and did the council wish to respond as it would be to their benefit? **AP LS to respond on behalf of QCPC.**
- b. SALC AGM / Area East Meeting – unfortunately CB was unable to attend.
- c. QEII Fields in Trust – CB gave verbal summary of the current position where the PFC were recommending joining the scheme (by majority vote) and he sought the council's endorsement. After lengthy discussion it was proposed by PPC, seconded by SM and agreed by majority vote that a cost/benefit analysis paper was required detailing the potential benefit in terms of future grant support. **AP CB to provide a cost/benefit paper before Nov meeting.**
- d. Parish Plan Safety Group Terms of Reference Update – RHC/CB/SM have not yet been able to meet – **AP LS to Table to Nov.**
- e. Telephone Box – future use / care arrangements – no response – **ongoing.**
- f. Green Lane – AD mentioned parking / access difficulties in Green Lane north caused by adjoining properties parking their cars in the entrance to Green Lane. After some discussion LS was asked to discuss the matter with TM. **AP LS.**
- g. Health and Wellbeing – BL outlined the scheme where each County Councillor has £10k to allocate in their ward on schemes that promote 'Health and Wellbeing and he gave details of several applications he has already received. AD questioned whether it was appropriate in the depths of a recession for SCC to spend such a large sum of public money in this way rather than giving it to, say, the NHS. BL acknowledged AD's view as perfectly understandable, however, the scheme was centrally funded and SCC will next year assume the devolved responsibility for Health and Wellbeing from central government. PPC asked all councillors to consider schemes for QC and asked LS to table to the Nov Meeting. **AP LS.**
- h. SCC Community Fund – BL outlined the Community Enablement Fund and gave examples of where communities had taken advantage of the 'seed money' on offer. After some debate a possible transfer of SCC land to QCPC was thought to be worthy of further investigation. **AP PPC/CB/LS to investigate further and liaise with BL – LS to table to Nov meeting.**
- i. SSDC Gold Star Awards – dealt with at Septembers meeting (agenda error).
- j. Request for a provision of a bench in High Street near the Post Office – CB had been unable to progress and asked that this be tabled at the Nov. meeting. AD thought that the request was ill advised and CB should speak with adjacent householders. **AP LS to table to Nov. meeting.**
- k. Horse Signage – request to BL (Formal request to SCC Highways from QCPC) – after some discussion it was agreed that the request for additional Horse Rider warning signs should also include removal of unnecessary signs as determined by the Environment Group. **AP RHC to let LS have list of signs to be removed. LS to arrange site meeting with Colin Fletcher SCC Highways.**
- l. Queen-camel.com – url for sale. After some discussion it was agreed not to pursue the acquisition of this additional url.
- m. Parish Online service – LS outlined this service which provides on-line mapping facilities to councils. After some discussion it was agreed to evaluate for the free month trial. **AP LS to arrange access and send details to councillors.**

1012.12 Planning.

New Applications –

12/03506/FUL – 1 Eyewell Cottages – single storey side extension. SM explained his proposed extension and answered councillors' questions before leaving the room. DH remained in the room but remained silent during the debate. PPC proposed a response of No Objection, seconded by DB, agreed majority decision (DH abstained). **Decision No Objection.**

12/03288/FUL – Steart Hill Farm (West Camel PC) – Change of use of grain store and surrounding ancillary hard standing from agricultural use to mixed agricultural, agricultural processing (B2) and storage of agricultural produces (B8) use. Retention of buildings as constructed. (Retrospective). – after brief debate CB proposed that the council uphold its earlier decision of **objecting strongly**, seconded by PPC, agreed all. **AP LS to draft a response.**

Updates

12/03084/FUL – Windsor Farm – single storey extension – **Permission Granted with conditions.**

12/03206/COU – The Repair Shop Bridge Barn Sparkford Hill – Change of Use – **Refused permission (Highways).** PPC read out the formal reasons for rejection which focused on the SCC Highways view that this operation would be to the detriment of highways users. The appeals process was discussed and ML undertook to establish the position with the SSDC Planners. **AP ML.** (*Update – ML has ascertained that the applicant is appealing against this decision.*)

12/00198/CPO - Extraction of Camel Hill Stone and Improvements to the Road Access Camel Hill Farm – **Permission Granted with conditions.**

1012.13 Financial Matters

- a. To review latest budget/performance – LS passed out copies of a combined budget review for 2012/13 and explained the rationale behind the format which combines several separate spread sheets used in the budget build process into a single sheet view. RHC pointed out a duplication in the Parish Plan area which LS said he would correct.
- b. Budget 2013/14 – invitation for grant applications. After some discussion it was agreed to write directly to the PFC, Memorial Hall and PCC and place a notice on PC noticeboards. **AP LS.**
- c. Cheques to approve –

PFC Grant 2012/13 (partial Release of Grant)	£1,811.00
Came & Co Telephone Box Damage cover (mid- term adjustment)	£25.00
HMRC (PAYE)	£234.95

LS explained each cheque and the request from CB (as PFC Treasurer) for partial payment of the previously agreed PFC grant which was backed by a draft interim view of their accounts. PPC proposed approval of the cheques, seconded by DB and agreed ALL.

1012.14 Urgent Matters of Report- Post Agenda (At Chairman's discretion).

- a. Other Matters of report –
 - i. LS had received a letter of invitation to the official opening of the Chilton Cantelo School 6th Form and asked if any councillor wished to attend. RHC volunteered to do so.
- b. Matters for future business –

1012.15 Date of next Parish Council Meeting – Monday 12th November 2012 at 7:30 pm in the Marples Room of the Memorial Hall

1012.16 There being no further business, PPC thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 22:11.

Signed.....
Chairman
Date 12th November 2012

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Clerk
Date 12th November 2012