



## Queen Camel Parish Council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING** of the **PARISH COUNCIL** held in The Marples Room at the Memorial Hall on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016** at **7.30pm**

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**Present:** Councillors **John Brendon (JB)** – Chairman  
**Chris Bennett (CB)**  
**Andrew Hoddinott (AH)**  
**Kate Oram (KO)**  
**Jo Pender-Cudlip (JPC)**  
**Terri Plummer (TP)**  
**Simon Stapely (SS)**  
**Simon Thornewill (ST)**

**Apologies:** Councillor **John Carnegie (JC)**

**In attendance:** **Patrick Pender-Cudlip (PPC)** - Clerk  
**Mike Lewis (ML)** - County and District Councillor

**12 members of the public**

### Procedural Items

- 1. Welcome and Introduction.** Before welcoming members of the public and Councillors JB read out a letter from ST informing the Council that he and his family were planning to move to another part of the country and would therefore be resigning from the Council after the end of the meeting. ST wished the Council well and hoped that it would co-opt another member quickly to help it deal with the many challenges it faced.
- 2. Public session.** No members of the public wished to speak at this time.
- 3. Apologies.** JC sent apologies for being unable to attend because he was away.
- 4. Declarations of interest.** CB declared an interest in item 03.1 as a member of the Queen Camel Community Land Trust (CLT). CB and AH declared an interest in item 03.3 as members of the Queen Camel Playing Field Committee (CLT).
- 5. Order of business.** After a short discussion Councillors agreed that where possible important matters should not be left until late in the agenda and draft minutes should be published as quickly as possible after each meeting.
- 6. Incoming correspondence.** It was agreed that the Clerk would use his judgement on correspondence copied to Councillors and only list it on the agenda if it required the Council to reply, take action or give a view.
- 7. Distribution of Agenda and Minutes.** A request was received that where the minutes contained information of interest to Parish Groups, the CLT or the PFC the leaders of those groups should receive them by email rather than downloading them from the website or checking the noticeboards like other members of the public.  
**RESOLVED 8-0-0 [For-Against-Abstained] that minutes containing information requiring or responding to actions by other bodies should be emailed to the leaders of those bodies.**

**8. Recording of Council meetings.** It was noted that in the past the Council had at times made audio-recordings of its meetings and this could safeguard the Clerk when members of the public used their own audio-recordings to challenge the minutes.

**RESOLVED 8-0-0 that in future the Clerk record Council meetings**

**9. Minutes.**

**RESOLVED 8-0-0 that the minutes of the meetings held on 12<sup>th</sup> September and 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 be confirmed and signed as true and accurate records.**

### **Business Items**

Two planning applications relating to **West Farm, Mudford** were moved up the agenda for the convenience of interested residents and discussed at this point.; see **05 [1016]** below.

**01 [1016] Police and Safety report.** There was no Police report but it was noted that PCSO Thelma Mead's return to duty was imminent. CB reported that the latest Crime Map (for July 2016) showed no crimes in Queen Camel.

**02 [1016] County & District Councillor's report.** ML thanked ST for his services to the Parish over the years. He urged residents to make use of the mobile library over the next two months if they did not want to lose it. He reported that Somerset County Council (SCC) had a potential shortfall of £22.4m., mainly caused by overspending in the vital Adult Services and Children's Services departments, but was working hard to reduce it.

**At this point (8.15pm) ML left to attend the meeting of another parish council.**

**03 [1016] Outstanding actions.**

- 1. The old school site (OSS).** Councillors heard that the CLT was collecting data and approaching consultants for a Feasibility study while in a separate initiative a resident was seeking professional advice from property valuers and the Environment Agency. Councillors affirmed the importance of a united approach, stressed the need for a tight programme to meet the bid deadline and highlighted the two main risks or obstacles to overcome – flooding and finance.
- 2. The Neighbourhood Plan (NP).** Councillors were urged to submit their thoughts on the draft NP to the NP Steering Group by 30<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Following the 6<sup>th</sup> October Parish Council meeting JB would be writing to the representative of a local landowner emphasizing that any proposed development would have to take account of the NP and the parish survey.
- 3. The Playing Field.**
  - i. **Fields in Trust.** Councillors took note of a resident's doubts about the usefulness of the Fields in Trust (FIT) scheme for Queen Camel but Councillors saw no reason to resile from their earlier resolution to apply for its protection. JB undertook to look further into the matter.
  - ii. **Footpath.** SCC and their contractors had a meeting with a PFC representative to discuss details of the project. They expect the work to begin in late October and to take c.4 weeks.
  - iii. **New mower.** The mower was delivered at the weekend.

4. **Phone box.** PPC reported that the phone box had been tested by an electrician and declared safe.

#### 04 [1016] Highways.

1. **Speed limits.** PPC read an email from SCC Highways supporting the idea of a 20mph speed the length of the High Street (from the Blackwell road junction to south of the mini-roundabout) and along West Camel road (to beyond South View). Councillors agreed that ML be asked to seek an SCC Small Improvement Grant to fund the work.
2. **Church path.** No significant damage to the cobbles had been identified but Highways had agreed to tackle the blocked drain.
3. **Drains.** Details of any drains known to be blocked would be passed on to Highways who would be asked to let PPC know when they would be cleared.
4. **Street furniture licence.** After a short discussion  
**RESOLVED 7-0-1 that a bench and planter near the mini-roundabout and a bench between the shop and Cleaveside Close be included on the licence for the planter on the triangle if this was practicable.**

#### 05 [1016] Planning Applications: resolutions and updates

16/03873/FUL 31 **The Glebe:** a single storey extension.

**RESOLVED 7-0-0 that this be supported.**

16/04038/TCA **Morven, High Street:** tree surgery works - permitted.

16/03752/TPO **Rockleaze House, Wales:** tree surgery works - pending.

16/02965/CPO **Camel Hill Farm:** use of stone - consent not required.

16/03149/LBC **Camelot Hse, High St - permitted with conditions.**

**West Farm, Mudford: ①16/03738/FUL, ②16/03580/COL.**

① Retention of enlarged site as vehicle haulage contractor's yard and retention of use of workshop for manufacture of concrete products and ancillary office space. ② Certificate of Lawfulness application for the existing use of land and buildings for general industrial use of workshop and vehicle haulage contractors use of yard area.

Two High Street residents stated (one in an email, one in a contribution from the public gallery) that HGVs from West Farm disturbed High St. residents in the early morning, damaged houses and the bridge and were a danger to members of the public, especially children. After a discussion

**RESOLVED 4-1-2 that these representations be brought to the attention of the Planning Authority without further comment.**

#### 06 [1016] Councillors' reports and motions.

1. **RESOLVED 8-0-0 that the Clerk submit representations against the government's plans to impose a cap on precept increases (unless sanctioned by referendum) in accordance with the advice of the National Association of Local Councils.**
2. **Parish Groups.** The Council would wait until it had received feedback from Parish Groups before reviewing their operation and relations with the Council.

#### 07 [1016] Other reports and motions.

1. **The minutes of the Flood Committee meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> June were noted.** PPC

is acting on Emergency contacts, lifebuoy insurance and CRISP funding.

2. **Standing Orders:** Councillors were asked to review the Standing Orders and submit any suggestions for changes before the end of October.

**08 [1016] Clerk's report:** PPC outlined changes in the style and format of minutes.

**09 [1016] Finance.**

1. **RESOLVED 8-0-0 that the following PAYMENTS be made:**

£469.00	John Brendon	Wine cooler for Memorial Hall
£28.00	QC Memorial Hall	Use of Marples Room for meetings
£362.70	P.Pender-Cudlip	September salary
£656.53	P.Pender-Cudlip	Questionnaire preparation and analysis

2. **RESOLVED 8-0-0 that the ACCOUNTS to 30-6-2016 be approved.**

3. **New banking arrangements** will be in place after SS has attended the bank.

4. **Audit.** It was noted that Grant Thornton had certified the 2015/16 accounts.

**10 [1016] Incoming correspondence.**

1. Parking on the High Street (4/10). PPC was asked to request Highways to take action to ensure that parking on the High St. did not impede safe vehicular access.
2. Mobile library (23/9). SCC warned that the mobile library service could be withdrawn from Queen Camel if it was little used.
3. Gytha and Waltham Abbey (1/10). PPC was asked to reply positively to an approach from Waltham Abbey suggesting that closer links between the two communities (which were both associated with Harold Godwinson) might help to boost tourism.

**11 [1016] Advance Notices.** None

**12 [1016] Items for next month's Agenda.** None

**13 [1016] Matters arising post-Agenda.** None

**14 [1016] Next meeting** – 7.30pm on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 in The Marples Room

The meeting concluded at 9.42pm

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (age, race, gender, sexual discrimination, marital status, and disability) Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights. Members are reminded that any significant interests over £25 must be registered.

**Signed:**

**John Brendon**  
**Chairman**

**Date: 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2016**