

Minutes of a meeting of West Crewkerne Parish Council held at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall on Tuesday 11th September 2012.

Present:- Mrs J Borland (Chairman), Mr J Wyatt, Mr H Ploszek, Mrs S Swaffield, District Councillor Mrs S Osborne and Mrs A Ploszek, co-opted to take the Minutes. There were four members of the public.

Apologies:- Mr S Wetherall, Mr F Broom, and the Clerk Mr C D Payne

Absent:- Mrs K Turner

Public Open Forum:-

Mr R Franklin was concerned about a new road being made off Hewish Lane, and was worried a new housing estate was being built. Mr J Wyatt explained that this was temporary and was for work being undertaken by Network Rail in stabilising the embankment at the tunnel cutting.

Mr M Wilson mentioned that the flooding on the Clapton road is as bad as ever, although there is some improvement by Clapton Mill.

Declarations of Interest:-

Mrs S Swaffield – Planning – Clapton & Wayford Village Hall & 3 The Cottage, Hewish.

Mrs J Borland – Planning – Clapton & Wayford Village Hall.

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th July 2012, having been previously circulated, were approved and signed as a true record.

Matters Arising:- Nil

Traffic Speed Through Clapton:-

A Traffic Police Camera Van had been sited five times, and Mrs J Borland asked the Police for the results, but they are not as yet forthcoming.

Planning Applications:-

A) 12/01758/FUL – Maincombe House, Maincombe – Demolition of a garage and the erection of a garden room. – Approved by SSDC.

B) 12/02244/CPO – Highlands Dairy Farm, Hewish. – Deposit of inert stone & soil. – No objections by SSDC.

C) 12/02291/FUL – Clapton & Wayford Village Hall – Alterations to include replacement of roof, windows and doors to the front entrance and lobby. – Approved by SSDC.

D) 12/02268/FUL – Coombe Farm, Roundham – Installation of ground mounted photovoltaic array & switch room. – Approved by SSDC.

E) 12/02381/FUL – 3 The Cottage, Hewish – Part change of use of land from agricultural to residential and the erection of a single storey extension. Original application withdrawn and replaced by 12/03298/FUL – No objections

Mr R Franklin complained that plans were not available online. Mrs Julie Hislop (representing the applicant, Mr Barry Beeson) explained that the Planning Department required a re-application to include the planting of a hedge. *For clarification an extract of SSDC Landscape Architect's comments in the application is included below:*

"Noting also that the domestic boundary to the south of the cottage has been removed, and there has been some 'creep' of domestic expression into the field, then this application seeks to remedy the current situation, with the proposal of hedgerow planting, to better define and contain the domestic area. I am satisfied that this proposal will do this in a credible manner, hence if you are minded to approve, please condition the planting to be implemented in its entirety in the first planting season (mid-November - mid-March) following completion of building works".

F) 12/03089/ADV – Yarcombe Woodland Products Ltd – Display of 2 non illuminated signs on land at the junction of A30 Mangle Cave Hill. – No objections, but a suggestion from the floor by Mr R Franklin that signage should include directional arrows, was supported by the committee and noted.

G) 12/02854/S73 – Furland Cottages, Merriott. – Application to vary condition No2 of planning permission 11/00265/FUL dated 10.03.2012. – No objections

H) 12/00839/FUL – Ivy Cottage, Hewish. – The erection of a 2 storey extension to the south elevation – revised and retrospective application. – No objections

I) 12/03248/FUL – Land at Watery Lane, Clapton Road. – The erection of an extension to existing agricultural building and the erection of 2 further agricultural buildings. – No objections. Mr R Franklin was worried that the new buildings may house pigs and goats – but sheep would be acceptable. The District Councillor Mrs S Osborne advised him to contact the appropriate authority should a nuisance occur.

Mrs J Borland raised with Mrs S Osborne, the matter of retrospective application 12/00407/FUL, the Purtington Equestrian Centre. Mrs S Osborne said she had meetings with the owners and Mr Andrew Gunn, who said they were waiting for plans to come through. Mr A Gunn is asking the agent to speed matters up.

Mr J Wyatt asked Mrs S Osborn to look into the retrospective planning application on the traveller's site, Clapton road. Mrs S Osborne had already asked Mr Andrew Gunn to find out what has happened.

Highway Matters:-

The vehicle in the ditch at Woolminstone. Mr H Ploszek had contacted Mr P Watkins of the SCC Highways Department, who inspected the ditch site but advised that new bollards could only be erected if monies were available at the end of the financial period. Mrs S Osborne felt that something should be done before winter, and Mr H Ploszek agreed to contact the department for cheaper plastic bollard solution. (*Note:- subsequent to meeting, monies were found and bollards promised*)

The New Code of Conduct for Councillors:-

Mrs J Borland stated that a New Code of Conduct has been introduced, and two training courses are to be held – one on 4th October and one on 9th October. The Chairman would be able to attend on the 4th and Mr H Ploszek would attend on the 9th.

The Council Tax Support Scheme – 1st April 2013

At Chairman's invitation, Mrs S Osborne explained the Council Tax Benefit reduction scheme. This is a 10% cut in funding for this benefit, paid for by central government, which is worth £1.2 million to South Somerset. The consultation is on the option/principles open to us in order to cope with this cut.

Reports from Councillors:-

District Councillor Mrs S Osborne briefed the meeting on SSDC matters.

- a. Local Plan. The consultation has now closed and responses are being collated so the plan can now be submitted to the planning inspector. At the time of reporting around 1500 responses had been received, with 195 from Ilminster alone.
- b. Neighbourhood planning workshops - An invitation has now gone out to all the parishes. Up to three representatives per parish can be sent, and there is a list of dates to choose from with the invitation.
- c. Economic Development Strategy 2012 - 2015 This is in the process of being finalised and also covers agriculture and the rural economy as well as the market towns and larger business

- d. Clapton and Wayford Village Hall Community Grant application will be before the Area West Committee on Wednesday 19th September 2012. The Community Regeneration Officer is recommending approval of the grant, but it is still important that a representative from the VH Committee attends the meeting, (to be held at 5:30pm at Tatworth Memorial Hall, Kents Road, South Chard, TA20 2QA), to promote the application. She wished the VH Good luck with the application and offered to speak at the meeting if required. (*Note:- Grant Secured*)
- e. Boundary Changes have moved West Crewkerne and Wayford parishes into the Crewkerne Division for the forthcoming County Council elections. The District Council ward boundaries remain unchanged for the foreseeable future.

Mrs J Borland reported on the Annual Open Day of the Townsend Cemetery, Crewkerne, which was interestingly busy with the few visitors locating graves of past family members, from records on display. She also continued to report potholes and blocked road drains.

Finance:- Cheques were issued and countersigned for the clerk's salary and expenses of £498.93 for the last six months until 30th September 2012, and the income tax of £96.20 for the same.

Correspondence:-

The Bulb Planting Scheme 2012 to which Mrs J Borland would apply on behalf of the Parish.

The next meeting was arranged for Tuesday 13th November 2012 at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall at 7.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.04 pm.