

## East Coker Parish Council Minutes 9th December 2020

### 7.00pm Meeting opened.

**Attendees:** Chairperson B Sugg, Cllr. M. Beckerleg, Cllr H Cowan, Cllr R Comstive, Cllr J Bennett, Cllr P Chant, Cllr T Wilkins, Cllr S Snelling, Cllr P Hodge, Cllr D Mead, Cllr L Mills, Clerk J. Heggarty.

**Public Attendance:** Cllr G Seaton, Cllr N Clarke and 5 members of the public 19/721 To receive any apologies and reasons for non-attendance. None

**19/722** To receive any declarations of interest in items on this agenda. Cllr D Mead and Cllr B Sugg on item 19/725F

**19/723** Minutes from 11th November 2020 meeting were approved as a true account. Cllr Shepstone had requested a start date of the 01/01/21 to be put on item 19/727.6. **Action:** Clerk to amend this. A vote was taken and all agreed minutes were correct. Action Clerk to insert date.

**19/724** Public Question Time Members of the Public: 1 x member of the public spoke on item 19/725F on behalf of the land owners' group and objected to this application. They advised that the path would connect to an existing Bridleway at one end but reach a dead end at the bottom. The path also has a kissing gate at either end and is very narrow. They felt that it would be dangerous to have a narrow path which is used by school children and families opened up to horses. 1 x Member of the public spoke and objected to item 19/725 E 1 x member of the public spoke in favour of Items 19/725 B and item 19/725C. 1 member of the public spoke in favour of item 9/725D . They advised that this would be a self-build and would be a wooden Chalet style with a roof height on no more than 5.5 meters so there would be minimal change to the landscape.

County / District Councillors D Cllr N Clarke delivered a presentation on Stronger Somerset. Cllr Sugg thanked D Cllr Seaton for her kind donation of the Christmas tree which stands in the Paddock.

PCSO Cllr Sugg advise that our PCSO was leaving us. All the PC want to say a very large thank you to her for all she has done to help us in the village over the past few years. **Action:** Clerk to send thank you email.

### **19/725** Planning Applications

**a 15/01000/OUT** Location: Keyford Nothing to report.

**b/c 20/02492/FUL and 20/02491/Out** Location: Land Adjoining Meadow View. Application: Amended Plans Location: Land Adjoining Meadow View. Application: Amended Plans The majority of Councillors where happy that the applicant had acknowledged ECPC previous concerns and had submitted amended plans. Proposal: Amended plans have addressed previous concerns. A vote was taken: 9 for and 2 abstentions. **Action:** Clerk to email planning.

**d 20/02990/OUT** Location: Land rear of Copperfield's, Placket Lane, Application: Demolition of outbuildings and erection of a dwelling and formation of vehicular access. Cllr Sugg advised that she and 3 Councillors conducted a site visit and they all agreed that this would be classed as high-grade agricultural land, and also would be backfill. Both of which goes against the ECPNP. Proposal: The Parish Council object to this application. A vote was taken 1 Abstention and 10 in favour of proposal. **Action:** Clerk to email Planning.

7.42: Member of the public left meeting

**e 20/01317/FUL** Location: 21 Nash Lane, East Coker, BA20 2HN. Application: Appeal against SSDC decision to not give permission to erect a single Storey dwelling. This item was discussed. Proposal: That ECPC still object to this application and would like to echo our previous comments which were emailed to planning on the 16/6/20 but also add that the 5 year land supply has now been met, so this cannot be taken into consideration. All Agreed. Action: Clerk to email planning 7.49 Member of the public left meeting.

**f Application:** To upgrade part of the footpath Y9/35 to a bridleway. As Vice Chairperson was not in attendance, Cllr Sugg asked all Cllrs if they were happy for her to chair this item but not make any comment. A vote was taken and all agreed. Cllr Mills said that she would be keen to see this turned into a bridleway as the narrow roads in the area are busy and dangerous. Cllr Bennett advised that from reading the letter that they do not have to make comment but instead have been asked to provide any evidence that they may have to either confirm or deny that this path is a historical Bridleway. Proposal: Cllr Wilkins proposed that we contact the East Coker Society to see if they have any old maps of that area. A vote was taken and 6 people were in favour, 2 Abstentions and 2 declared interest. Motion Carried. **Action:** Clerk to contact East Coker Society.

7.29 Member of the public left

**g Location:** Land adjacent to Former Methodist Chapel, Moor Lane, East Coker BA22 9JR **Application:** Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use. In order to confirm the completed access constitutes a lawful start to approved development 19/01317/FUL, Cllr Bennett said that he thought that this application was in order to get certification to say that the work had been started within the 3 year time constraint. This would then enable the applicant to hold off the development of the plot until he was ready to do so rather than within the 3 years given. Cllr Comstive advised that to his knowledge the footings would have to be in before the building control would sign things off as started: **Proposal:** Cllr Hodge proposed that it is not ECPC understanding that creating an access constitutes the commencement of development, and defers this back to SSDC who approved the original application. Seconded: Cllr Beckerleg. A vote was taken. 9 in favour and 2 against. Motion Carried. **Action** Clerk to email Planning.

**19/726** Memorial Approvals. None

**19/727** Matters for discussion and resolution:

1. Co-option of new Councillors. Two parishioners were present and had sent in letters of intent to become Councillors and these had been circulated prior to the meeting. Unfortunately, there was only one space. Both applicants were requested to leave the meeting and they were discussed. A vote was taken and Mr Bridgford-Whittick was successful, as it was felt that he was the most suitable candidate at this time based on the skill set which is required within the current Parish Council. Candidates returned to the meeting and were advised of the outcome. We hope that the unsuccessful applicant will re-apply when the next vacancy comes up. Welcome Simon. **Action:** Clerk to organise email address and send all relevant paperwork out.

2. Paddock path. Cllr Comstive had received estimates for the works. It was decided that this would be discussed further at the Precept meeting which is to be held in January.

3. Village Sign: Cllr Hodge advised she had spoken to the Village Hall Committee Chair and he had said that the Charity Commission are happy for the sign to be returned to the Parish Council. Cllr Hodge advise the Committee Chair that there was also an option to have a replica sign replace the

original if that was a preferred option to decorating. The cost of the replacement would be £225.00. The Village Hall Committee will vote on this and advise Cllr Hodge of the outcome.

4. The date for the 2021 Precept meeting was arranged for the 20th January 2021 at 7pm.

5. There has been a lot of damage caused again by footballs hitting the guttering of the Scout Hut. It was decided that we would investigate costs to have metal cages put around the guttering. If quote is under £500 works can proceed. If it is going to be above this amount Cllr Mead will get quotes. **Action:** Cllr Sugg to contact Design on Iron for a quote.

6. Tree Planting was discussed briefly but Cllr Comstive and Cllr Bennett both advised that this was something that needed to be discussed face to face with local farmers, but at present it was not possible to arrange meetings. **Action:** Clerk to include on a future agenda.

7. Cllr Snelling advised that the Christmas Parade is all organised and posters are up around the village along with lots of decorations and light. She advised that herself and Cllr Sugg would judge them the weekend of the 23rd December **Action:** Clerk to order Amazon Vouchers.

8. Restructuring of meetings email went out prior. All Councillors agreed that the length of the meetings need to be cut down, and research prior to meetings on anything which is to be listed on the agenda for discussion would be a good idea.

#### **19/728** To receive the Clerk's report

1. Audit Completion. Clerk advised audit had been signed off by external auditor. Cllr Hodge thanked Clerk for her hard work.

2. Clerks advised that her computer was hacked in November but there had been reports from other parishes, that they had had the same problem. Cllr Sugg thanked Dag Design for the speed that he dealt with the problem.

**19/729** To receive correspondence from the SSDC / SCC Government Consultation: The future of transport rural strategy was sent out to all Councillors prior to the meeting but it was felt that this did not need to be discussed at present.

**19/730** To receive and discuss Parishioner Correspondence Two emails received objecting to item 19/725.F on this agenda. But Clerk reported that she had received another 5 since agenda publication.

#### **19/731** Discuss Working Groups

The Pavilion Modernisation: Cllr Chant advised the working group had had 2 meetings since the last PC meeting. He would like to call an extraordinary meeting in early January to discuss the project. They are waiting on some more information before a date can be set. **Action:** Cllr Chant to advise Clerk when they are ready for the extraordinary meeting.

Future Finance: Cllr Sugg advised that all finances would be discussed at the precept meeting.

**Action:** Clerk to prepare budget.

**19/732** Group Representative Reports Village Hall – Cllr M Shepstone-None Alms Houses – Chairman B. Sugg-None Primary School – Cllr. R Comstive advised that he is going to speak to school re planting trees.

**19/733** To discuss and identify Highways Issues and resolve. Flowing water at Burton continues to be an issue. Action: Clerk to contact Highways again. 19/734 To discuss and identify items for the Village Ranger Cllr Mead advised the ditches need cleaning at Westfield Lane.

**19/735** To discuss and resolve the following topics; Resolution sought to exclude the public (Non Parish Council Members)

**19/736** Agenda items for the next meeting, Wednesday 13th January 2021.

**19/737** Finance To approve the following items of expenditure and those paid under delegated powers

Description	Amount Inc VAT	
Previous Balance	£65,144.11	
Funds as of 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	£62,930.98	
<b>Monies in November 2020</b>		
Pre School Rent	£471.65	
Cemetery	£375.56	
Total	<b>£847.21</b>	
<b>Paid Out in November</b>		
Dag Design	£250.00	
Claire's Cleaning	£100.00	
K M Dike Ground Maintenance	£922.22	£153.71
Clerk Sept Wage/back pay/ office & broadband/ stationary	£819.14	
P J Mead and Son        Cheq # 3504	£114.00	£19.00
Triangle Bulbs    Cheq # 3505	£29.05	
Salc (Training)	£50.00	
Flaydermouse (Signs and leaflet printing)	£585.20	£51.20
EDF	£190.69	£9.08
TOTAL	<b>£3,060.34</b>	
<b>December invoices</b>		
Claire's Cleaning	£125.00	
K M Dike Ground Maintenance	Not yet Known	
Clerk Wage/OT/ office & broadband	£894.18	
Clerk Reimbursement (Trees, Lights, Batteries)	£178.92	
TOTAL	£1,198.10	
Balance Carried Forward	£61,732.88	
Projects Account Balance	£29,910.00	

Cllr Sugg wished everybody a happy Christmas and thanked them for their hard work.  
8.56 meeting ended.