

East Coker Parish Council 9th March 2022 Minutes

Attendees: , Cllr M Beckerleg, Cllr T Wilkins, Cllr Comstive, Cllr Cowan, Cllr P Hodge, Cllr Bennett, Cllr Snelling, Cllr Carter-Uren , Cllr Sugg, Clerk J. Heggarty. **Public Attendance:** 3 members of the public. Meeting commenced at 7.00pm at East Coker Pavilion

Vice Chair Cllr Mills started the meeting at 7pm

22/004 To receive any apologies and reasons for non-attendance. Cllr Warwick-Mortimer, Cllr Wintersgill, Cllr Mead

22/005 To receive any declarations of interest in items on this agenda. Cllr Sugg declared an interest on item 22/10.1

22/006 Minutes for Parish Council, meeting which was held on the 25th January 2022 and the 10th February 2022. **Proposed:** Cllr Snelling **Seconded:** Cllr Beckerleg

22/007 Public Question Time

1. Members of the Public Cllr Mills invited member of the public to speak but they advised that they were only there to listen on item 22/08.c and would answer any questions if needed.
7.06 Cllr Hodge arrived.
2. County / District Councillors Cllr Seaton delivered her report.
7.14 Cllr Comstive arrived and took over chairing the meeting.

22/008 To discuss and make observations on SSDC - Planning Applications

A **15/01000/OUT Location:** Keyford Cllr Comstive advised that when he and Cllr Hodge had the meeting on the 25th January with SSDC they indicated that the start date for Keyford would most probably be 2024 or 2025.

B **22/00273/LBC Location:** Coachman's Cottage, **Application:** Replacement Storm Porch to Front (South) elevation. This application was discussed, and it was felt by Councillors that the PC would support the Conservation Officers comments. **Proposed:** Cllr Sugg **Seconded** Cllr Mills A vote was taken and all agreed. **Action:** Clerk to email planning with PC comments.

C **22/00557/TCA Location** Paddock Cottage, Main Street **Application:** Notification of intent to carry out tree surgery works to No.01 tree within a Conservation Area
This application was discussed. The applicant was present and was asked what works were needed. They explained that it was felling of one of the trees which had started to decay. **Proposal:** Councillors agreed that the PC would be happy to support whatever the SSDC Arborist comments are for this application. **Proposed:** Cllr Comstive **Seconded** Cllr Hodge A vote was taken and all agreed. **Action:** Clerk to email planning with PC comments.

22/009 Memorial Approvals.

1. Approval was sought for an additional inscription to remember the late Evelyn Williams
Proposed: Cllr Sugg **Seconded:** Cllr Mills All Agreed

22/010 Matters for discussion and resolution:

Cllr Sugg stood down but advised this application was now going to the Secretary Of State.

1. Application to upgrade footpath Y9/46 was discussed it was felt that we should re submit our previous comments and reiterated that the PC are still against this pathway being turned into a bridal path. **Proposed:** Cllr Mills **Seconded:** Cllr Beckerleg A vote was taken and all agreed. **Action:** Clerk to resubmit original email of objection.
7.28: Cllr Sugg re-joined the meeting and Cllr Bennett arrived.
2. East Coker Village Signs. Clerk advised that licenses had come through, but she had also received a letter regarding the ownership of the piece of land that wher PC had planned to place one of the new village signs at the top of Brown Island. The letter stated that Somerset County Council did not own this land there for they are not entitled to give permission to place anything on it without consent from the owner. The Clerk advised that she had spoken to the legal team and Somerset County Council and they advised her that this had been investigated and said they believed that it was under their ownership and had been maintained by them for many years. They informed her that it had been passed to the road records team and that the author would need to provide further evidence of

ownership. Clerk advised that she had advised author of this and awaits further information. It was felt that the project needed to get under way, so Cllr Sugg agreed to order 3 Stones for the time being and wait to see what happened with enquiry re ownership of Brown Island. Other locations were discussed for the fourth stone, but nothing was agreed as PC will wait to see what evidence of ownership is supplied to road records. Cllr Snelling showed a mock-up of the Platinum Jubilee inlay which was intended to be put in each stone. Cllr Sugg said that these would cost £100.00 for 4 plus extra to have them laid in the stone. Cllr felt that £100.00 was reasonable. But size would need to be agreed at the next meeting. Cllr Sugg asked a member of the public who was a member of East Coker society if they had made a decision on whether the society had agreed to donate some money towards the new Village stones. The member of the public replied that they hadn't as they hadn't had a meeting. Councillors Sugg asked if they could have a meeting to make a decision. **Proposal:** Cllr Sugg go ahead, and order 3 stones plus get a quote from stone mason regarding the Platinum Jubilee inlay. All Agreed.

Action Cllr Sugg obtain inlay quotes and Clerk to communicate with road records re ownership.

3. Green Space in our Village was discussed, and it was felt that the NP would need to be revisited in order to try and secure some sort of buffer which would stop the village being connected directly with Yeovil. Cllr Hodge advised that Simon Williams could be engaged to do this, but it would also need a working group formed and asked for Volunteers. Cllr Bennett, Cllr Cowan, Cllr Comstive and Cllr Carter-Uren volunteered. **Proposal:** Cllr Hodge to speak to consultant Simon Williams to find out exactly what will be involved and ask if he would be willing to help move this forward. **Seconded:** Cllr Snelling **Action:** Cllr Contact Simon Williams to ask if he would be available to advise on this matter
4. Trees at Pavyotts Mill. Cllr Sugg advised that the ownership of the waste land beside the footpath at Pavyotts had still not been established but it was thought that it was not owned by the crown but by someone else. This is still being investigated by a parishioner but at present we are unable to move forward with planting trees in that area until ownership is established.
5. Play area at the Pavilion. Cllr Sugg suggested that the wet pore which lies under the swings at the play area is shabby and needs replacing. Cllr Bennett and Clerk will measure area for replacement and investigate materials and get quotes. Cllr Sugg also requested Clerk contact Ground Maintenance Team to tidy up the area.
6. Fingerposts Cllr Wilkins advised that herself, Cllr Mead, Cllr Warwick-Mortimer and Cllr Sugg had a very good meeting to discuss fingerposts. She advised there are 14 Multi armed posts with wording and 15 with just arrows in the village some of which need replacing. Cllr Mead has taken one of the multi posts which is badly damaged and will see if he is able to repair it as a new one will cost around £500.00. Tania Wilkins had previously requested Clerk to order 1 Finger to see how easy it was to attach them to some posts that Cllr Mead was storing for PC. She has also asked SSDC if they are able to provide more posts free of charge and awaits a response. She advised that this was a rolling project.

22/011 To receive the Clerk's report. Clerk advised that she would be on leave from the 14th March for a week. Neither the phone, email or Whatapp will be monitored at this time.

22/012 receive correspondence from the SSDC / SCC

1. Parish Elections paperwork was distributed to each Councillor, and they were advised that they needed to complete the application form and return them to SSDC office at Brympton Way by the 5th April. Clerk has already emailed, Councillors details of how to complete their forms.
2. Clerk advised that the Foresters Arms has been put on the Market for Sale. She advised that The Save the Forester Community Group had been contacted by SSDC and they were not going to look to purchase it, and there were no other interested community groups, so it is now free to be marketed.

3. 22/013 To receive and discuss Parishioner Correspondence

1. A letter was received regarding the erection of a Village Sign at Browns Island. The letter advised that the piece of land where the sign is to be placed is not owned by Somerset Council (See item 22/010.2)
2. An email was received from the Parishioner who attended and spoke at the February meeting about the sale of the land which surrounds the recreation ground. The letter asked the PC to ask the estate agent if an extension could be given for the auction date, in order for a community group to be formed to possibly purchase the land. Cllr Comstive drafted a letter requesting this, but the agent came back and advised that due to the amount of interest the owner wanted to proceed with the planned auction date. Parishioner was updated by Clerk.

22/014 Discuss Working Groups

1. The Pavilion Modernisation. Working group hope to have a meeting in mid April.
2. Future Finance Cllr Hodge will update budget and have actual figures (rather than predicted ones) by the April meeting.
3. Well Being (Queens Jubilee) Cllr Snelling advised that she had ordered 2 benches, and these were going to be sited at the end of Long Furlong Lane along with a flowering tree. Cllr Bennett suggested that a Crab Apple was a good option as this encouraged the birds, had blossom in the spring and colourful foliage and fruit in the autumn, the cost of this would be around £70.00.

There would be an official opening on Thursday 2nd June at around 8-8.30pm then people would be invited up to the recreation ground for a beacon basket to be lit afterwards. There will be an exhibition in the Pavilion supplied by East Coker Past & Present, Gerry Smith, The WI and PC showing photos and memorabilia old and new. This will run from the 3rd June until the 4th June. There is also a best decorated house competition.

On the 5th there will be a Big Lunch at the recreation ground. Entrance is free and people can bring their own picnic. There will be stalls, games, competitions, raffles, disco and live music and proceeds will go to the Pavilion Modernisation fund.,

Cllr Snelling also advised that the Parishioner who always makes such an amazing job of keeping the Triangle looking so lovely is planning this year planting in it up red, white and blue .**Action:** Cllr Snelling , Cllr Wintersgil Cllr Mills continue with planning event and report back at next meeting. Clerk to investigate if the Pavilion License covers raffle.

22/015 Group Representative Reports

Village Hall – Cllr L Mills advised she attended a Village Hall meeting. She was informed that the roof was leaking and asked if the PC would be in a position to contribute. Cllr Mills advised them that the PC were not able to contribute due to Pavilion Modernisation commitments.

Alms Houses – Cllr B. Sugg had no report to give.

Primary School – Cllr C Warwick-Mortimer was not present

22/016 To discuss and identify Highways Issues and resolve.

Cllr Carter-Uren asked if the speed through the high street could be reduced. Cllr Sugg said that the only way to get this looked at was to form a local speed watch team. This had been attempted in the past but there were not enough volunteers. Cllr Snelling is going to put a small piece in the Corona and Clerk will put something in the Society newsletter asking for any willing parties to contact PC.

22/017 To discuss and identify items for the Village Ranger Cllr Comstive asked if the ranger could look at the stones which surround the drains on Lodge Hill as there are a few which have moved. Cllr Sugg suggested that the sign at the bottom of Long Furlong Lane was painted Platinum for the Jubilee and all councillors thought that this was a good idea.

22/018 To discuss and resolve the following topics;

Resolution sought to exclude the public (*Non Parish Council Members*)

22/019 Agenda items for the next meeting, Wednesday 13th April 2022

Neighbourhood plan, Cllr 106 Monies

22/020 Finance

To approve the following items of expenditure and those paid under delegated powers.

Description	Amount Inc VAT
Previous Balance	£41,182.33
Funds as of 28th February 2022	£39,087.72

Monies in Feb

Pre School Rent	£487.00
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Paid Out in February 2022

KM Dike	£945.32
Clerk Wage, Office, Broadband, Travel	£839.39
HMRC	£28.79
Pension	£237.09
Claire's Cleaning	£125.00
Viking Stationary	£94.62
Blake Training (Strimmer Scheme training)	£93.00
Artisan Plumbing (water Heater in Pre School)	£218.40
Total	£2,580.61

To Be paid in March 2022

CCM Electrics	£324.00
EDF	£546.01
Water to Business	£101.38
Clerk Wage, Office, Broadband,	£820.11
Pension Contribution	£228.62
HMRC	£15.67
Claire's Cleaning	£100.00
Total	£2,135.79

Balance	£36,951.93
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Above figures will be subject to change due to receipt of any outstanding invoices.

Projects Account Balance	£59,910.00
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Clerk advised that 2 invoices had arrived since publication totalling £1,305.36 for the range scheme.

Proposed: Cllr Hodge Seconded: Cllr Bennett

Meeting ended 8.37