



TATWORTH AND FORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Tatworth & Forton Parish Council Held on 13th January 2022 at 7pm Tatworth Memorial Hall

Councillors Present: R Down (Chair), R Wardell, S Adams, T Eggins, A Goody J MacOmish, M Marsh, L Matthey, and E Peadon.

Also present: Clerk N Tinley, County Councillor G Verdon, District Councillor J Kenton and M Wale. There were 7 Members of the Public and no members of the press present.

Report from County Councillor Gemma Verdon

Referred to the Written Report from Councillor Verdon.

Quarry Application before Somerset County Council was not a planning application but a determination which council will the full application be heard. In reality very little of the proposed quarry is in Somerset however all the roads and lorry movements are in Somerset. Somerset County Council has referred the application back to Dorset.

Much discussion regarding this decision.

Reports from District Councillors.

District Councillor Kenton:

Before Christmas I did manage to visit the flood attenuation ponds in the parrocks lodge area with the flood officer from SSDC and he agreed that some work needed to be done particularly on two of the ponds just to keep the flow managed properly, one on the edges of the drain area where overhanging grass needed clearing and another on a stone path where the ditch needed a bit of work to remove loose stones.

There is still some backlog with the waste partnership collections due to heavy loads from the holiday period and Covid absences, the main advice still is for missed rubbish and clinical collections, please leave out in the usual place and they will return. For recycling they will do their best to return within 2 days if they cannot they will come back on the next scheduled collection day the following week. To help

manage delayed collections some rounds are being dropped in order to manage “rolling” collections which never catch up

District Councillor Kenton also referred to the vaccination centre in the Guildhall that was accepting walk ins on the 14 January and being stood down after that. They have successfully vaccinated over 2500 local residents many of whom are elderly.

She referred to the Quarry application confirming that it is not to be assessed at District level, and Belle View Terrance which despite being over the time she can take our remarks forward.

01/22 To Receive Apologies.

Apologies were received from Councillors C Heal (Prearrange event before change of date of meeting), and K Robbins (Unwell)

02/22 Declarations of Interest.

Councillor MacOmish planning application 21/03496/HOU, knows applicate socially.
Councillor Down Invoices 13/22

03/22 To approve and sign as a correct record Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2th December 2021

Proposed by Councillor Wardell, seconded by Councillor Eggins. All in Favour

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2nd December 2021 be signed as a correct record.

04/22 To approve and sign as a correct record Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 7th December 2021

Proposed Councillor MacOmish, seconded Councillor Goody, All in Favour

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 7th December 2021 be signed as a correct record after amendment “This development would increase the housing stock by more than 30% when taking into account the other planning applications currently being considered and therefore represents an unacceptable level of development within the parish”

05/22 Chairman’s Announcements:

Sheila Baldwin for personal reasons has decided to resign as Councillor for this Parish, procedures were followed and Notice was placed with SSDC to see if 10 parishioners requested a Bye Election. Notice has expired and no one has requested a bye election. At Full Council in February there will be an agenda item to either Co-opt or as election is a few months away leave it at 11 Councillors.

06/22 Flooding Update in Tatworth – to receive a Report from the Tatworth working party and nominate representative for the 24th Jan meeting in Chard.

Councillor Eggins presented a report written by Councillor Heal. Suggested that a meeting to be arranged with Swisstulle to discuss way forward clearing the area around the stream and leat. Councillors MacOmish and Mattey also wanted to be involved with this meeting. Report noted.

Proposed by Councillor MacOmish, seconded by Councillor Down

Resolved: Councillor Heal be the Parish representative concerning flooding in Tatworth at the 24th January meeting.

07/22 Flooding in Forton – to receive an update on current position and nominate representative for the 24th Jan meeting in Chard.

The local residents have set up their own group and had working parties around the village clearing the area and drains. It is noted that the Hedges have become overgrown.

Proposed by Councillor Down, seconded by Councillor Mattey

Resolved: Councillor Eggins be the Parish representative concerning flooding in Forton.

08/22 Resilience and Emergency Store (Clerk). An update on costings and site of store

To have a central store for emergency use whether flooding or snow. Revised quote is £550 to include metal shed. Requested to site at Memorial Hall, It was also suggested the Perry Street Club (Clerk to approach) and also some representation in Forton, to be investigated.

Proposed by councillor Eggins, seconded Councillor Mattey All in Favour.

Resolved; To have a Resilience and Emergency Store.

09/22 Planning:

I. **SCC/3907/2021. Extension to Chard Junction Quarry at Westford**

Chairman adjourned meeting 7.45pm,

Presentation by Mr Lampey explaining the slight changes with the reapplication.

Chairman Reconvened

As mentioned by Councillor Verdon the Somerset County Council assessment was only to determine which Council will hear the application and it was decided to refer to Dorset Council.

It is appreciated that the Application will be placed in front of Dorset Council in the future and the Parish views will be sort at that point. After some discussion agreed no vote was required.

II. 21/03461/FUL. Land to rear Southcott Bella View Terrace Tatworth, change of use of land to site 2 container units for storage in connection with building business (Retrospective)

Chairman adjourned meeting 8.05pm

Members of public spoke.

Chairman Reconvened 8.10pm

Although the date had passed District Councillors will take our comments forward.

Proposed by Councillor Wardell, seconded Councillor MacOmish, 7 In Favour with 2 Against.

Resolved; Object on the grounds that the appearance of a business orientated area & any associated layout &/or buildings, is out of keeping with the surrounding area. Therefore the "Agricultural Class" should be maintained.

III. 21/03496/HOU. Styles Higher Coombses, Proposed alterations and extensions.

Proposed by Councillor Wardell, seconded Councillor Goody, All in Favour, Councillor MacOmish abstained (An Interest)

Resolved; No objections, subject to biodiversity issues.

IV. 21/03381/LBC. The Old Chapel, St Margaret's Lane, South Chard. Replace current doorstep with one that is larger and compliant with H&S advise.

Proposed by Councillor Wardell, seconded Councillor Matthey, All in Favour,

Resolved; No objections.

09a/22 Basic life support & AED training (Chairman) – to agree to continued financial support for a training event rearranged from December.

Cancelled in December to be rearranged January/February.

10/22 Queens Platinum Jubilee – to receive an update and costings from the working group. - To approve event and budget.

Councillor Goody presented a report with an update. Budget for the event will be £5500, still positive response from local groups so there will be entertainment and music all evening June 2nd 2022. Individual stalls for craft and services. Beacon to be light at 9.15pm with firework display at 9pm. Vehicle entrance one way from Chard direction exit towards Axminster.

Suggested Playing Field and Forton Community Hall organise Sunday Lunch.

SAG Committee at SSDC need to be informed.

Much discussion.

Proposed Councillor Down, Seconded Councillor Wardell, All in Favour with Councillor MacOmish abstaining.

Resolved; That the Parish Council Organise a Jubilee Celebration with a budget of £5500.00.

Proposed Councillor Goody, Seconded Councillor Wardell that the celebration be held at Jubilee Field.

In Favour, Councillors Goody, Peadon, Wardell and Matthey

Against, Councillors Adams, Eggins, Down and Marsh
Abstaining: Councillor MacOmish.

Chairman casting vote that Jubilee Field is not the correct venue for the Celebration.

11/22 Coombes Pond – To reassess decision on lease extension after information from Councillor MacOmish.

Councillor MacOmish explained that the area leased by SwissTulle was much larger than previously realised and includes both banks of Forton Brook and that the strip of land and the section of watercourse where the streams/culverts discharge immediately opposite Perry Street Club. There will be additional costs in maintaining this area.

Proposed by Tim Eggins, seconded by Councillor Down and all in favour with 1 abstention.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to continue to contact Swisstulle Ltd, with evidence and request 25-year lease. The Council want this amenity to be available to the residents of the Parish.

12/22 Climate Change Grant – to receive an update from Clerk

- 1) Tatworth Playing Field. Installation completed, went well with a neat job. They are very happy. Remainder of the bill to be paid.

- 2) Forton Community Hall. All ready to go, Evergreen have to resolve a small issue with Weston Power before installation. Deposit needs to be prepared but await confirmation before paying.
- 3) Memorial Hall. Been in communication with Hall Secretary and answered her questions. It is on their agenda for 27th January.

13/22 Invoices for Payment:

Workwear Pro Direct (Hi-Vis vests and Jacket) £172.98 VAT £28.83
Claire Brown (Christmas Meal) £675
ICO (Data Protection annual fee) £40
B E Powell (Grass Cutting Q3 footpaths allotment Jubilee Fi) £1176.75 plus VAT £235.35
Parish Burial Account (Chqs issued from wrong account in Aug) £851.04
Parish Burial Account (Bishops credited incorrect account in Oct) £1691.00
Evergreen Renewable Energy Ltd (Final Bill Tatworth Playing Field) £8761.50
Evergreen Renewable Energy Ltd (Deposit Forton Community Hall) £4797.00

Staff Salaries £1048.80 Gross and Quarterly PAYE to HMRC £623.80

To be paid from Burial Account

B E Powell (Grass Cutting & Maintenance) £1632.25 plus VAT £326.45
Proposed Councillor Matthey, seconded Councillor Adams. All in Favour

RESOLVED: To approve the payments

14/22 Parish policies- To appoint working group for a Zoom meeting with Bridgwater TC Clerk David Mears to review policies to be presented to the next full Council.

Proposed by Councillor Eggins Seconded Councillor MacOmish, All in favour

RESOLVED: That Councillors Goody, MacOmish, Wardell and Eggins together with the Clerk have a zoom meeting With Town Clerk David Mears. Various dates to be provided by Mr Mears.

15/22 SLCC- To resolve new Clerk to become a member of the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) Joining Fee £12 Annual Subscription £171. Reduced rates on ILCA and other training, events and books, plus advice line and library.

Proposed by Councillor Down seconded by Councillor Matthey All In Favour.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk can become a member of SLCC

Councillor Down proposed suspension of standing orders to allow the meeting to continue. All approved.

16/22 Budget 2022-23 and Precept. To receive recommendations from Finance Committee and to agree the budget and precept for financial year 2022/23.

After much discussion Councillor Down Proposed Seconded Goody Majority approved with Councillor MacOmish against and Councillor Marsh abstaining.

RESOLVED: That the budget presented by the Finance Committee be accepted.

With the precept 2 proposals

To remain the same at £46800. Proposed Councillor Goody, seconded Councillor Wardell. 4 Councillor For.

To increase by 2% to £47736. Proposed Councillor MacOmish Seconded Councillor Eggins. 4 Councillor For.

Casting vote by Chairman Down to remain at £46800.

RESOLVED: The Precept to remain at £46800

17/22 Earmarked Funds. Approve recommendations from Finance Committee

After much discussion Chairman Councillor Down deferred the matter to the next meeting.

18/22 Internal Auditors. - To approve Thomas Westcott Chartered Accountants for a further year.

Proposed Councillor Eggins Seconded Councillor Goody. All in Favour

RESOLVED: That Thomas Westcott Chartered Accountants remain as the Parish Councils internal auditor.

18a/22 Dyke Hill Car Park. To discuss way forward.

Proposed Councillor Down Seconded Councillor Eggins

RESOLVED: That the matter be deferred the matter to the next meeting.

DATE AND TIME NEXT MEETING 7PM 3rd February 2022

19/22 To resolve to exclude members of the press and public – to agree that agenda item 20/22 be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Proposed Councillor Down, seconded Councillor Peadon, all in favour.

No Members of the Public in the room

20/21 Staffing

- 1) To approve Clerk's hours at 16 per week flexible over the month with Salary at Local Government Spinal Column rate 24. Approved**
- 2) To maintain David Mears on PAYE on a zero hours contract until end of May 22 with a maximum of 10 hours during the period to assist with Audit training. Approved**

Meeting closed at 21.30