

TRULL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Trull Parish Council meeting held at 7.15pm on Monday 16th May 2022 in the East Hall, Trull Church Community Centre, Church Rd, Trull, Taunton TA3 7JZ.

Present: Cllrs Hudson, Wooldridge, Lindfield, Dean, Naughton, Spensley, Hancock, Keen & Clark

In attendance: Mr B Pretty, Mrs S Millard-Jones – Clerk & Cllrs Wakefield, Johnson and Farbahi. Canonsgrove Liaison Working Group Chairman Mr D Taylor. There were approximately 5 members of the public.

The meeting was opened at 7.15pm.

05/01 To elect a Chairman & Vice Chairman.

Cllr Hancock proposed Cllr Dean and Cllr Wooldridge seconded the proposal.

It was **resolved** to elect Cllr Dean as Chairman.

It was **resolved** to elect Cllr Hancock as Vice-Chairman.

05/02 To consider Co-option of members onto the Parish Council

Cllr Dean explained that there was one remaining position for the Killams ward. Mrs Kerry Nessling had been in contact with the Clerk and asked that she may be considered for co-option onto the Parish Council (PC).

Cllr Hancock proposed that Mrs Nessling be co-opted onto the PC and Cllr Clark seconded. It was **resolved** to co-opt Mrs Nessling onto the PC.

05/03 To note that all Cllrs are required to complete a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Register of Interest forms are required within 28 days of election.

The meeting was closed

A member of the public explained that he and his wife were in the process of sponsoring two Ukrainian refugees (mother and daughter). An application has been submitted and refused by Trull Primary School stating that there was no space available. Although he understands the difficulties that the school faces due to potential oversubscription, he thinks that due to the current crisis, there should be some flexibility. He went on to explain the importance of the Ukrainian families to settle within and to become part of a village environment. He asked that the PC may be able to provide further assistance in gaining a place at Trull Primary School.

It was **resolved** that a letter would be written to the Headmistress of Trull Primary School and to be copied into Julian Wooster (SCC Education). It was agreed that a draft would be compiled by Cllr Naughton for submission by the Clerk.

The meeting was re-opened

05/04 To receive apologies for absence. None.

05/05 To receive declarations of personal/prejudicial/disclosable pecuniary interests

Cllr Naughton declared in interest in planning application 42/22/0037 & 38/LB.

Cllr Dean declared an interest in planning application 42/22/0028/LB

05/06 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th April 2022.

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st March 2022 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

05/07 SCC Report.

Cllr Johnson gave the following report;

Election Results

The results of the Somerset County Council elections are as follows in terms of the number of councillors elected:

Liberal Democrat: 61

Conservative: 36

Green Party: 5

Labour: 5

Independent: 3

In this parish, which forms part of the Comeytrove and Trull Ward, Habib Farbahi and myself were elected for a term which ends in 2027.

Full details of the results for individual divisions and candidates can be found on the elections results page on the SCC website. The results mean that the Liberal Democrats take overall control of Somerset County council with immediate effect.

More than 430,000 people were eligible to vote for the 337 candidates standing for the 110 seats. The turnout at the election by district was Mendip – 39.3%; Sedgemoor – 30%; Somerset West and Taunton – 38.73%; South Somerset – 38.15.

For their first year, the councillors will take responsibility for all current County Council services and oversee the local government reorganisation to establish the single unitary Somerset Council on 1 April 2023. District councils will remain until 31 March 2023 and the councillors serving on them will continue in their roles until that date.

Training available to Councillors and Parish Clerks

Now that you have your new Councils/Councillors in place it is worth thinking about training.

The Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC) run a number of courses that are designed for new Councillors (or are a useful refresher), which include:

- Councillor essentials – P1 Roles and Responsibilities
- Councillor essentials – P2 Governance and Finance
- Responding to Planning Applications
- Successful chairing
- The Council as an employer

They also offer training on the Code of Conduct.

However, in previous years SWT has also offered a number of sessions on the Code of Conduct, Register of Interests, meeting etiquette and the pitfalls of social media. As well as offering several virtual sessions that any Councillor or Clerk can attend, the Monitoring Officer is also willing to undertake training for any Town and Parish Council, if they would like it.

Please email A.Tregellas@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk if your Council would like to attend a SWT training session.

Funding available for electric vehicle charge points

SWT has launched a new round of grant funding to support the installation of electric vehicle charge points (EVCPs) across the district.

Parish and town councils are being invited to apply for grants of up to £1,500 in match funding for installation of the charge points.

Several parishes have installed EVCPs following successful grant applications in the initial round of funding from SWT including Brushford, Luxborough, and Stoke St Gregory.

Applications from parish and town councils, and community centres, are welcome before the 30 September 2022.

Somerset Community Foundation

Grants from the Somerset Fund available for local charities

Grants up to £2,500 are now available for smaller charities, community groups, sports clubs and social enterprises based in Somerset.

Somerset Community Foundation (SCF) manages The Somerset Fund and is encouraging groups that run on less than £100,000 a year to apply now for funding.

The grants from The Somerset Fund can be used to pay for essential running costs, like rent, utilities, insurance, or staff time – sometimes known as core costs. The money can also be used for the costs of delivering a project or service in or for your community.

Applications to the fund must be made by 5.00pm, Friday 3 June 2022.

Supplementary Consultation launched on A358 Dualling Project

National Highways is consulting on design changes for the proposed upgrade to the A358 between Taunton and Southfields roundabout.

The consultation will run from Tuesday 24 May until 11.59pm on Sunday 26 June 2022.

SWT is now in the process of paying out the £150 Council Tax rebate via people's bank accounts with those on direct debit being the first to receive it. It applies only to those in Bands A-D.

Sarah, Habib and I will be available to help with any issues that arise for residents at District or County level over the next 11 months and after that Habib and I will be your representatives.

05/08 **SWT Report.** None

05/09 **Canonsgrove Liaison Working Group (R)** To consider recommendations.

Mr Taylor of the CGWG queried that the Terms of Reference stated two councillors and requested that Cllr Johnson could be permitted to remain on the WG as a member of the public.

It was **resolved** to amend the TOR to one Councillor to be required from the PC for the CGWG.

Mr Taylor had sent a proposed letter to the Clerk which had been circulated. This was the letter regarding the S106 in connection with permitted residents. Small amendments were made and it was **resolved** for the Clerk to send the letter on the behalf of the PC.

Mr Taylor went on to remind everyone to report incidents to the police as they have received no complaints associated with Canonsgrove this month.

05/10 Electric Car Charging Point

Resident Mr Kent provided attendees with an update with reference to acquiring an electric car charging point in the village. In 2020, a proposal had been submitted to the Memorial Hall based on a type two charge station using their electricity with the profit from the facility being shared. However, the Memorial Hall Committee wanted to impose an unacceptable cost for use of the parking spaces so the project was dropped.

There are now two options to consider;

Type 2 Charger A floor mounted dual socket charge station with two Type 2 sockets, RFID card operated, requiring a 22kW three phase supply. A BP Pulse card would be required to use it. We decide how much we want to charge for each kW used. BP Pulse charge users direct and issue us a monthly summary of income. We invoice BP Pulse for the total less 36p for each transaction. The income will more than cover our cost of electricity.

Fast Charger. A floor mounted Rapid Charge point with a choice of three types of charging socket: CHAdeMO, CCS Combo and AC. This will allow any make of vehicle to fast charge from the socket. Users can use their own credit cards, contactless bank cards or the BP Pulse card to pay. BP Pulse will send us a monthly statement of income and again we invoice them for the cost less 36p per transaction.

Mr Kent recommended that the PC continues investigation into a Type 2 charging point and opens discussions with the Memorial Hall Committee on siting it outside the building using their electricity supply as this is the cheapest option and that the cost of installing a dedicated power supply capable of supporting 50kW chargers is investigated to allow expansion in the future.

Cllr Keen agreed that he would ascertain the Memorial Hall's interest in the project at their next meeting.

05/11 Boundary Review (R) – to consider a response to SWT

Cllr Dean noted that in the consultation summary publicised, the PC response wasn't fully included, it was in the general notes and made it look as though the PC had made no representation. The next stage of the consultation is likely to be at some point in June.

It was **resolved** to set up a public meeting in June and to invite Cllr Derek Perry and Cllr Mike Rigby. This meeting will be publicised through social media.

05/12 To adopt the LGA Code of Conduct 2021 and to confirm that summons, agendas and other documents will be accepted by email as proper service.

It was **resolved** to confirm that summons, agendas and other documents will be accepted by email as proper service.

05/13 To consider & confirm that the Council is insured

To note that the BHIB policy would renew on the 19th June 2022 as part of the 3 year schedule.

05/14 To consider & confirm continuation of annual subscriptions to SALC & SLCC

Cllrs approved the continuation of the annual subscriptions to SALC and SLCC.

05/15 To note that all policy documents are published on the Trull Parish Council website: To include; Anti-fraud & Corruption, Data Protection, Model Publications Scheme, Reserves, Grants, Social Media, Discipline, Grievance, Annual Leave, Absence Management, Training & Development, Equality & Diversity

It was **resolved** to readopt Anti-fraud & Corruption, Data Protection, Model Publications Scheme, Reserves, Grants, Social Media, Discipline, Grievance, Annual Leave, Absence Management, Training & Development, Equality & Diversity policies.

05/16 To approve the use of BACS or CHAPS in accordance with Financial Regulations 6.9 (approval of the use of BACS or CHAPS shall be renewed by resolution of the council at least every two years).

It was **resolved** to approve the use of BACS or CHAPS in accordance with Financial Regulations 6.9 (approval of the use of BACS or CHAPS shall be renewed by resolution of the council at least every two years).

05/17 To record by Minute of Council that the conditions of the General Power of Competence are satisfied

The eligibility criteria are set out in The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 (S.I. 2012 No. 965). They are that the parish council has resolved at a meeting of the council and at each subsequent relevant annual meeting (i.e. an annual meeting taking place in a year of ordinary elections of parish councillors) that it meets the following conditions at the time the resolution is passed: • two thirds or more of the councillors have been elected, rather than co-opted or appointed; and • the clerk to the parish council holds: the Certificate in Local Council Administration;

It was **resolved** to record that PC was eligible and met the conditions of the GPC.

05/18 To note that Clerk passwords are held in a sealed envelope accordance with Financial Regulations 6.11

The sealed envelope was handed to Cllr Dean and will be kept until passwords are updated.

05/19 Role & responsibilities: To discuss and accept roles for Councillors.

Roles and responsibilities were discussed amongst councillors. The spreadsheet was amended and will be placed onto the website. This will be shared on social media, to enable members of the public to contact the most relevant councillor when required.

05/20 To approve the Terms of Reference for Working Groups: Social Media, Canonsgrove Liaison, HR Committee, Tree Maintenance

Amendments were made to the Terms of Reference for Working Groups in terms of Councillor members. These will be put on the website in due course.

It was **resolved** to dissolve social media WG.

It was noted that a TOR should be put together for the Neighbourhood Plan WG.

05/21 Finance

a) Approval of Payments & Receipts approved.

Payments

| To whom | Account | Description | Net | VAT | Total |
|-----------------|---------|---|---------|--------|---------|
| S Millard-Jones | TPC | Salary, Homeworking & mileage, PAYE, NI & pension | £950.27 | £9.00 | £959.27 |
| Parsons | TPC | Grass cut | £138.28 | £27.65 | £165.93 |
| SWT | TPC | Removal of noticeboard | £38.91 | £7.78 | £46.69 |
| | | | | | |
| Parsons | PFMC | Grass cutting | £723.65 | | |
| Marcus Kavanagh | PFMC | Cleaning | £ | | |
| PPL | PFMC | Music license | £139.20 | | |
| | | | | | |

Receipts

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------|---------|-------------------|
| Bank Interest - April | TPC | £0.31 | |
| SWT Precept | TPC | £15,500 | |
| | | | £15,500.31 |
| Hires - April | PFMC | £1,326 | |
| | PFMC | | £1,326.00 |

b) Approval of the bank reconciliation

As of the 30th April;

Treasurers Account: £36,180.57

Main Account: £34,021.22

Covid Account: £0

CIL account: £52,776.34

TOTAL: £122,978.44

It was **resolved** to approve the bank reconciliation.

c) To note S137 of £8.82 per elector for 2022-23

d) To review and amend the bank signatories for Lloyds and Unity.

It was resolved to remove Cllr Johnson from the Lloyds account and to add Cllr Dean.

e) To note that the CIL submission has been made and available on the website

05/22 Planning

Applications for Decision

SCC/3938/2022 Land at Comeytrowe Erection of a new primary school & nursery, to include construction of sports pitches, parking area, new access onto spine road and incorporating Landscaping and infrastructure (Outline approval has been granted as part of wider Orchard. Whilst Trull Parish Council supports the need for a new school in the Urban Extension it does not support the current application for the following reasons: This Application is EIA Development – it needs to be advertised and consulted on appropriately. The Flood Risk Assessment & Drainage Strategy (FRADS) does not adequately address groundwater flooding and surface water issues. The site lies in an area that frequently floods causing road closures on the adjacent lane. The FRADS needs to consider the Urban Extension. SWaT's 'Climate Positive Planning Interim Guidance Statement on Planning for the Climate and Ecological Emergency' is not followed. There is no Climate Emergency Checklist, or Sustainability Checklist which should include an Energy Statement. The Air Quality Assessment does not consider the Spine Road. Only a Phase 1 ecological survey has been undertaken. The site has no dropping off arrangements which will be unworkable at school opening and closing times as there is a 60-place nursery in addition to possibly several hundred older children being dropped off. The pedestrian and cycling access run unnecessarily right across the car park rather than at the side. SCC states that there could be over 600 primary age children coming from the urban extension and this school must be built with the potential to expand in the future – how will this school be able to enlarge to accommodate 200 extra pupils?

42/22/0022 Demolition of boarding house and erection of 4 No. dwelling houses with associated amenity space and garaging and reconfiguration of vehicular access at Channon House, Wild Oak Lane, Trull (resubmission of 42/21/0040). Trull Parish Council objects to the Planning Application 44/22/0022 on the following grounds: 1. We object strongly to the demolition of a distinctive, attractive Victorian property in order to create LESS accommodation. 2. This application does not accord with the following national policies: NPPF – Para 8c – which states that the environment objective of sustainable planning should: protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, improving biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy." (our highlighting). This application fails to comply with this. NPPF – Para 189 – which states that heritage assets are an "irreplaceable resource, and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations". This application seeks to destroy a heritage asset. 3. The application is not compliant with Core Strategy Policies – CP4, SP1 and DM1 which all emphasise the need to make more effective and efficient use of land. This would result in a net loss of accommodation. 4. The applicant's phosphate mitigation documentation (which shows that there will be a reduction in accommodation produced by this proposal) is not using the latest version of form required. This property could be easily converted to a number of flats which would be supported by local and national policies which encourage a mix of housing types. Trull has almost no small flats and these would be of genuine benefit to the village. Trull Parish Council strongly objects to the demolition of Channon House and therefore application 42/22/0022.

42/22/0028/LB Various internal and external alterations at Wild Oak House, Honiton Road, Trull. To support.

42/22/0037 & 38/LB Erection of a single storey extension to the rear of Kings Gatchell, Trull. To support

Report on applications considered under delegated powers

42/22/0033/T Notification to fell one Cypress tree within Trull Conservation Area at Thatched Cottage, Honiton Road, Trull. Trull Parish Council will leave it to David Galley to determine if the tree needs removing due to its disease. Unfortunately, no formal assessment of the quality of the tree has been provided as is required by the application. We would also like it noted that the Parish Council is in the process of trying to improve the protection of trees in the village so any trees that are unnecessarily cut down at this point will undermine that project." A photo is attached of the conifers mentioned in this application. It is apparent that the one on the right has some disease but it is a substantial tree that will be noticeable if it goes.

Report on decisions by SWT

None

05/25 Comeytrowe/Trull development –

Residents have been complaining about the concrete lorries travelling through Comeytrowe road and Lane. This has been communicated to Simon Fox. Currently 5 houses on the development are occupied

05/26 Items for the next meeting/agenda.

Speed management WG update.

QE2 income potential.

Adopt a tree

05/27 Date for the next Meeting – Monday 20th June.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.24pm

Chair Signature.....Date.....

DRAFT