

Trull Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting held in The Memorial Hall, Church Road, Trull,
on Monday 16th October, 2017.

Present: Mr M Hughes, Mrs J Wooldridge, Ms T Dean, Mrs L Brierley, Mrs D Johnson, Mr A Kent, together with 6 members of the public.

In attendance: Mrs B Howat - Clerk
SCC Alan Wedderkopp
PCSO Simon Parry

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting the Chairman invited comments from members of the public relating to items on the agenda, or on issues to be discussed at a later date.

296/17 **Apologies for Absence**

Mrs J Martin-Scott, Mr B Pretty, Mr Hancock, Mrs A Hudson.

297/17 **Declarations of Interest**

Ms T Dean – 7a (42/17/0033/LB).

298/17 **Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th September 2017**

Minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2017 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

299/17 **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

300/17 **Chairman's Report**

There was nothing to report on this item.

301/17 **Police Report**

PCSO Parry apologised for failing to submit a report in September.

Fourteen calls were received since 18th September: -theft -3 animal traps, suspicious activity – 3 (both due to increased activity regarding the badger cull), road related – 2, domestic – 2, missing person – 2, concern for welfare – 2. Five crimes were recorded: criminal damage – 1, theft – 4 (both related to the badger cull). A beat surgery would be held at the Trull Church Community Centre on 24th November between 2.30 and 3.30pm. The Community Speed Watch group was at Bradbeers on 12th October between 9 and 10am – 185 vehicles were counted and 8 speeders caught; Trull Green on 4th October between 8 and 9am – 365 vehicles counted with no speeders caught; Bradbeers on 22nd September between 9 and 10am – 243 vehicles counted and 12 speeders caught.

PCSO Parry had asked the Speedwatch Group to keep up patrols at Bradbeers until the highway improvements are implemented. He had also requested attendance from the traffic camera enforcement team.

Mrs Wooldridge asked for some police presence in the parish during the week of Halloween and Bonfire Night.

- 302/17 **Somerset County Councillor Report**
 Cllr Wedderkopp had submitted the bid for a 20mph speed limit in Trull village centre under the Small Improvements Scheme. He was also attempting to speed up the start date for the SIS at Bradbeers.
 Cllr Wedderkopp had met with an officer from the flooding team at SCC to ask if the Somerset Rivers Authority could find a solution to flooding on Dipford Road.
- 303/17 **42/17/0031/LB**
 Relocation of external doorway at Cutsey Pavilion, Cutsey House.
Resolved: Support.
- 304/17 **42/17/0033/LB**
 External alterations to the roof at Wild Oak House, Trull.
Resolved: Support.
- 305/17 **42/17/0029**
 Enlargement of vehicular access, erection of a replacement garage and front boundary wall and laying of permeable surface to driveway at Stapleacre, Honiton Road.
Resolved: Support.
- 306/17 **Delegated Planning**
 There were no delegated decisions to report.
- 307/17 **Decisions by TDBC**
 42/17/0028/T
 Application to fell one Japanese Cedar tree included in Taunton Deane Borough (Trull No.1) Tree Preservation Order 1998 at Trethias, Gatchell Green, Trull (TD409).
 Conditional approval.
- 42/17/0017
 Replacement of roof to single storey building with insertion of 3 roof lights and patent glazing to lobby area at Just Hair, Honiton Road, Trull.
 Conditional approval.
- 308/17 **Update on the A358 Consultation.**
 The Clerk had written to Highways England's representative at Mott MacDonald requesting that a presentation is held in the parish of Trull, preferably at a meeting of the Parish Council, as part of the planned supplementary consultation. They had responded by noting the request, saying they were considering a number of engagement options and would be in touch in due course.
- 309/17 **Closing Village Streets for Play**
 Mr S Keen addressed members of the Council on the topic of closing village streets for play in a bid to change the perception of the highway as being solely for use by vehicles. Under the scheme which is operational in parts of the country, a section of road could be closed once a month to allow children to play safely. The concept could help to enforce the planned 20mph speed limit and prevent village centre roads being used as a rat run. Mr Keen suggested that a section of Wild Oak Lane from the junction with Church Road to a point just past Ladylawn could be used.
 Mrs Wooldridge questioned where residents would park and how they would get out of the village. The Chairman said the logistics would not be straight forward and would need community support. Mr Keen would look into the scheme in more detail.

310/17 **Play Equipment Inspection Actions**

Further progress had been made on the resolutions arising from the annual play equipment inspection:-

1) The missing cap and chain cover for the Aerospeed had been ordered from Proludic along with 10 sacrificial bushes as stock to replace worn ones when necessary.

2) Parsons Landscapes Ltd had not yet responded to requests for advice on the correct installation depth of the swing bay, or works required to ensure continued safe use of the roundabout.

3) Mr Hughes and Mr Kent had inspected the roundabout and as well as the rust on the centre spindle which Mr Kent will treat with rust inhibitor and repaint as agreed. One of the bolts securing one of the arms to the base is missing, several counter sunk screws are missing at the base of the spindle and one weld securing the standing plates to the frame has failed. This concurred with a second opinion carried out by a ROSPA inspector who advised that some deck plates needed re-welded and painting but the present overall risk rating for the roundabout is low.

4) The new play fort had passed an inspection by ROPSA.

5) Mrs Arscott at TDBC had not responded to a request for information on safety surfaces. Ms Dean had looked into the options and advised that the rubber mats could be taken up, the ground rotavated, turf laid and the matting replaced if it is in good condition or new matting laid.

Resolved:

1) To ask Parsons Landscapes Ltd to carry out repairs to the Proludic equipment when the order arrives.

2) Ms Deane to research and bring costings for work to the safety surfaces to the next meeting.

3) Anthony Kent is authorised to replace the missing bolts on the roundabout and get quotes for welding required on the standing plates.

311/17 **Approval of a quote for Shelter Groundworks**

Three quotations had now been obtained for the groundworks required before the youth shelter can be built and for the cost of installing the toddler rocker and dish at the same time:

1. Tony Benger Landscaping Ltd - £5,832.32 +VAT.

2. Parsons Landscapes Ltd - £5,300 + VAT.

3. Town and Country Landscaping Ltd - £3,150 + VAT.

Ms Dean requested that any excess soil excavated when the groundworks are carried out is saved for other possible projects on the playing field.

Resolved:

1) To contract Town and Country Landscaping to carry out the groundworks and install the two pieces of toddler equipment.

2) To delegate authority to the PFMC to decide what to do with the excavated earth.

312/17 **Funding for Flood Warning Signs**

Trull Parish Council had requested the provision of warning signs that could be operated by residents in Dipford Road in the event of flooding. Somerset County Highways said they would be happy to permit the signage but their operation would have to be carried out by the police or the highway service provider Skanska. Detailed costings for two posts and two drop down red warning triangle signs with the wording 'FLOOD' had been requested and it would be £739.25 for supply and erection of both signs with stainless steel hinges.

Councillors questioned if the signs represented value for money or if they would solve the problem of people driving into any floods due to their method of operation and possible delays in responding.

It was also noted that Cllr Wedderkopp was discussing flooding on Dipford Road with SHA and the SRA, and might have other options to consider in the future.

Resolved: To put the decision on hold for the time being while Mr Kent liaises with Cllr Wedderkopp over other possible action.

313/17 **Arrangements for Transfer of the Village Field**

Mr Hughes, Mrs Wooldridge and Mrs Brierley had attended a site meeting with Mr Andy Lehner to resolve a number of issues before taking the transfer agreement any further.

The site visit concluded that:

- 1) The condition of established trees and their immediate maintenance prior to transfer had not been adequately ascertained.
- 2) Evidence of the management company responsible for the attenuation pond had yet to be provided in written form.
- 3) Evidence that Wessex Water will be responsible for the drainage pipes on site had yet to be provided in written form.
- 4) Confirmation that the planting scheme will be managed for five years by the developer had been given by Mr Lehner along with an undertaking to replace any trees that die during this period.
- 5) A plan of the boundaries of the village field was provided by Mr Lehner showing that the land includes a section of the bank on the far side of the Sherford Stream which the Parish Council would be responsible for. This does not include the Weir. The management company would retain responsibility for the outfall pipe on the bank. Hedges along the Amingford Mead development are the responsibility of the homeowners.
- 6) Liability for any accident in the attenuation pond had been not been established for certain as both the landowner and the management company could have responsibility depending on the circumstances.

Maintenance of the field was also discussed as it became apparent that it would not be easy to mow due to the many newly planted trees. It had been suggested that a local farmer might be prepared to run stock in the field in exchange for maintenance, although this would have to be compatible with community use particularly for dog walkers. Some of the trees could be cordoned off in groups to prevent damage and create copses.

Councillors suggested the possibility of putting a fence up around the perimeter encouraging people to walk around the edge where there is already an established pathway.

Resolved:

- 1) The Clerk will obtain written details from West of England Developments Ltd of the management company responsible for the attenuation pond, and the agreement with Wessex water relating to pipes/drainage under the field. The Clerk will also check the S106 agreement to see if any covenants are in place that might affect use of the field for running stock.
- 2) To begin discussions with local farmers on the possibility of running stock on the field in exchange for maintenance.
- 3) An inspection of established trees within the boundary is sought from a qualified expert.

314/17 **Requests arising from the Allotment Tenants Meeting**

Plot 16a at the far end of the allotment had been unoccupied for a year due to being left in a very poor condition. Efforts had been made by some allotment tenants to clear the plot so it could be used as a community space but it was a greater task than anticipated. The allotment rents contribute in the region of £700 per year to the Parish Council income. It was requested that a sum of money is given for the plot to be cleared, and black plastic laid to prevent regrowth.

The Chairman suggested that part of the plot could also be covered with shingle to make it more useful as a community space.

Tenants had also requested that the five bar gate at the entrance to the allotments farthest from the road be removed since the Council now had ownership of the land between the allotment and Wild Oak Lane. It was suggested that the gate could just be fixed to an open position instead giving the option of closing it again if necessary.

Resolved:

- 1) To obtain quotes for clearing plot 16a, covering in black plastic and covering a quarter of the plot in shingle.
- 2) To leave the five bar gate open and get a post installed to fix it to.

- 315/17 **Neighbourhood Plan**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 316/17 **KGV Field**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 317/17 **Footpaths**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 318/17 **Highways**
Data from the Speed Indictor Device at Bradbeers from the 12th to the 20th of September showed that 93% of vehicles exceeded the 30mph limit. A total of 8,936 vehicles were counted - an average of 1,117 per day - and of these only 7% did less than 30 mph; 57% did between 30 and 40 mph; 33% did between 40 and 50 mph; and 3% (roughly 35 vehicles each day) exceeded 50 mph.
A resident hoping to resolve long standing issues with a blocked drain at Staplehay had now been assured of a solution by SHA who say a recent cleaning survey had discovered a hard blockage in the system. A works order is now being created for an investigated dig to determine the reason for the blockage, which is probably hedge root ingress or utility damage.
An order under the Traffic Regulation Act 1984 had been advertised which would result in changes to the parking and waiting restrictions on Honiton Road near the junction with Amberd Lane.
The draft Traffic Regulation Order and the associated plans were available for inspection at 'A' Block Reception, County Hall, or online at www.somerset.gov.uk/TRO
- 319/17 **Allotments**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 320/17 **Open Spaces**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 321/17 **Open Spaces Working Group**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 322/17 **Flooding**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 323/17 **Trull Village Memorial Hall**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 324/17 **Alms-houses**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 325/17 **Community Planning Working Group**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 326/17 **Trull School**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 327/17 **Book Exchange**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 328/17 **SALC**
The Association had produced the first of a new monthly news bulletin which had been distributed to members by the Clerk.
Notice had been received of the Annual General Meeting being held on 28 October.

329/17 **Correspondence**

The Clerk introduced items of correspondence which may be of interest to councillors:-

Gideon Amos OBE (PPC for Taunton Deane Liberal Democrats) – Letter regarding proposed merger and elections.

Cllr John Williams (Leader Taunton Deane Borough Council) – Letter regarding proposed merger and elections.

Somerset Playing Fields' Association - 2017 Annual General Meeting minutes.

Somerset Playing Fields' Association – October newsletter.

330/17 **Accounts for Payment and Receipts**

October Payments:

Trull Village Memorial Hall
(PC 18/9/17).....£18

All Saints Trull PCC
Newsletter printing.....£20

HMRC
NI contributions.....£18.60

Parsons Landscapes Ltd
KGV grass (Sept 2017).....£548.25

Mrs R Howat
Newsletter delivery, stamps, paper, ink.....£72.12

Vision ICT
Website hosting and support (Dec 2017- Nov 2018).....£150

JP Property Maintenance
Allotment tap replaced.....£42

Big Wood Play Systems
Play
fort.....£9,300

Salary

Mrs R Howat
1/9/17 salary (minus NI contributions)£816.39

Receipts:

None

Paid from Pavilion Account

Xtreme Kleen
Cleaning Sept.....£52

EDF Energy
Pavilion electricity 27/6-19/9.....£184.88

Receipts:

None.

331/17 **Matters to Report from Parish Council for inclusion on the next Agenda**
None.

332/17 **Date of Next Meeting**
The next meeting will be held on Monday 20th November 2017, at 7.15pm.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.20pm.

Signed..... Chairman of Trull Parish Council

Date.....