

# **Trull Parish Council**

Minutes of a meeting of Trull Parish Council held in The Memorial Hall, Church Road, Trull, on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.

Present: Mr A Kent, Mr N Hancock, Mrs J Wooldridge, Ms T Dean, Mr B Pretty, Mrs A Hudson, Mr L Forgham, Mrs A Clark and Mr D Langham together with 6 members of the public.

In attendance: Mrs R Howat - Clerk  
Cllr A Wedderkopp - SCC

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.

333/18 **Apologies for Absence**  
Mrs L Brierley.

334/18 **Declarations of Interest**  
None.

335/18 **Minutes of the Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018**  
Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

336/18 **Matters Arising**  
Minute 310/18 – Mr Hancock gave an update on the position regarding the KGV Playing Field account and VAT. There was one further option to consider before a decision could be made.

337/18 **Chairman's Report**  
The Chairman gave an account of the "Battle's Over" events commemorating 100 years since the end of WW1 on Sunday 11 November. Following the Church Service in the morning, the Rector had joined a small group on the KGV Playing Field to dedicate a plaque under the newly planted cherry tree donated by the Parish Council. The Chairman thanked the Open Spaces team for planting the trees and putting up protective fencing. In the afternoon there was an exhibition in the Pavilion organised by Graham Grant and the Parish Archives team. Over 200 people visited the exhibition and stayed on for the tribute to the fallen which included the last post, the lighting of the beacon and ringing of the church bells.  
The Scouts had put on a very successful Firework Display on the KGV Field.  
The Chairman had attended a Memorial Hall meeting to get a better understanding of the issues they face and strengthen ties with the Parish Council.  
Sadly, Janice Smith, the former postmistress, had died and details of her funeral were shared.

338/18 **Police report**  
PCSO Graham Phimister and PCSO Tony Wearmouth had been unable to attend. There had been little to report other than a number of incidents of theft from motor vehicles in the Taunton area. Parishioners are advised to ensure that all valuables are removed from their vehicles or secured out of sight. In addition the PCSOs have witnessed the chaotic traffic congestion in the village around the start of school.

- 339/18 **Somerset County Councillor Report**  
Cllr Wedderkopp would be looking into the way that run off water from housing developments is managed following fresh concerns about the attenuation pond at Amberd Lane and the green wedge at Killams. He would take the matter up with Somerset County Council in a bid to avoid similar problems when building starts on the urban extension at Trull/Comeytrowe.
- 340/18 **42/18/0035**  
Land at Dipford Road. Erection of agricultural livestock building.  
The applicant was invited to address the meeting.  
**Resolved:** Support.
- 341/18 **42/18/0036**  
Everdene, Honiton Road. Single storey extension and internal alterations.  
**Resolved:** Support.
- 342/18 **42/18/0038**  
Wells Orchard, Sweethay Lane. Single storey and 1.5 storey extension to form Annexe.  
**Resolved:** Support with the proviso that an application is made for management work to Tree One which is covered by a TPO but is in poor condition.
- 343/18 **42/18/0040**  
Land at The Rectory, Wild Oak Lane. Erection of four bedroomed dwelling with detached garage.  
The applicant was invited to address the meeting. The Parish Council had opposed an earlier application for a larger property on the site due to concerns over its size and effect on the Old Rectory and the street scene. However this had been given consent by the planning authority. The new proposal was for a smaller dwelling. In a vote on whether to support the application, there were six members in favour and two against. Mrs Wooldridge abstained from the vote.  
**Resolved:** Support.
- 344/18 **42/18/0041/T**  
Canonsgrove Halls of Residence. Application to fell four Poplar trees, one Pine and one Maple plus management works to 28 trees.  
**Resolved:** Support providing the six trees to be felled are replaced with others of an appropriate size and species.
- 345/18 **42/18/0042**  
Gatchell Farm, Dipford Road. Demolition of agricultural building and replacement with detached dwelling with double garage.  
There was debate over the proposed access and drainage, and whether the site was appropriate for development. An initial proposal of support was defeated by five votes to four. A subsequent proposal of objection was passed by five voted to four.  
**Resolved:** Object as the application site is outside the Settlement Limit and contravenes policy DM2 of the Core Strategy.
- 346/18 **42/18/0045**  
Conifers, Dipford Road. First floor extension and conversion of garage to habitable accommodation.  
**Resolved:** Support.
- 347/18 **Delegated Planning**  
There were no delegated planning decisions.

348/18 **Decisions by TDBC**

42/18/0029

Replacement of garage with erection of 1 No. dwelling and double garage with associated landscaping on land between Melody and Spearcy Cottage, Trull.  
Conditional approval.

42/18/0030

Erection of single storey and first floor extension on the north elevation, erection of pool/studio building and replacement garage at Dipford House, Dipford Road, Trull as amended by (A1) Dr No J1822 - 04 Rev A Proposed First Floor Plan & Elevations, received 08 Oct 2018.  
Conditional approval.

42/18/0032

Conversion of garage to studio and storage area with associated building works at Sunnyside, Wild Oak Lane, Trull.  
Conditional approval.

42/18/0011

Change of use of agricultural building to equestrian use at Grassy Rivets, Lipe Hill Lane, Comeytrove, Taunton.  
Conditional approval.

42/18/0027

Erection of a one and a half storey extension to the side of 8 Sweethay Close, Trull.  
Conditional approval.

42/18/0026

Replacement of conservatory with the erection of a single storey extension to the rear of 3 New Road, Trull.  
Conditional approval.

349/18 **Updates from SCC Highways**

The Parish Council had written to SCC in support of a request by residents for traffic calming and a lower speed limit along the length of Amberd Lane. The Highways Engineer had replied saying that Department for Transport guidance on setting local speed limits requires a minimum of 20 houses fronting the road over a minimum length of 600m to qualify for a 30mph limit. Amberd Lane does not meet DFT criteria for a 30mph speed limit extension. Requests for traffic calming schemes are high in cost and have to be considered for funding as a Small Improvement Scheme (SIS). However, records from the Police show that there have been no personal injury collisions along this length over the last five years, and it is unlikely that a traffic calming scheme in Amberd Lane could be pursued without clear evidence of significant problems or incidents. The officer suggested that contact is made with the Local Community Police Officer to discuss any concerns regarding speeding on Amberd Road.

The Parish Council had written to SCC in support of a request for an H bar from a resident on Honiton Road who had been experiencing persistent obstruction issues since the traffic calming measures at Staplehay Cross were put in place, and possibly due to customers of the neighbouring garage needing to park somewhere. SCC had said it would only consider painting an H Bar as a last resort if asked to do so by the Police. The Highways Engineer had re-iterated that advice in response to the parish Council's letter of support, saying "Any obstruction problems need to be reported to the police by the individual so that a record of obstruction incidents can be built up. Once 5/6 reports have been received by the police, the police will contact the traffic engineer with the evidence. The Traffic Engineer can then consider putting one in with police support as they will be the ones to enforce it. Some have placed private

signs on private property, on gates or garages highlighting access is required at all times and some have contacted their local Police Community Support Officer who may discuss the issue with residents within the community.”

SCC would be carrying out a County-wide Parking Review of on-street parking controls on a rolling programme, looking at each community in turn to ensure a fair balance between the needs of residents, businesses and visitors. Consideration will also be given to ensuring safety; keeping the key routes free of congestion and the appropriateness of existing restrictions. A full consultation exercise for each town will take place with all stakeholders (District, Town/Parish Councils) and the community to identify all issues. Resources to support the development and implementation of the Parking Review will be made available by refocussing existing traffic engineering resources. Local SCC Traffic Engineers will no longer deal with individual and very local traffic engineering requests that benefit a small number of individuals, including requests for new or amendments to existing signing, lining, speed limits, HGV's restrictions, disabled parking bays etc. These minor requests will be included in the wider parking review for the area and form part of the evidence base for road safety and congestion issues.

The Council had been contacted by a parishioner concerned at the hazard created by cars parked immediately opposite the junction of Orchard Close with Church Road. Vehicles are mounting the grass verge in order to turn in or out of Orchard Close causing a danger to pedestrians and people using the bench. The tyres are also churning up the grass which is creating a risk of slipping in the mud.

Trull Parish Council requested double yellow lines at the junction in 2017. The advice from SCC Highways at the time was to have double yellow lines painted around the corner of Orchard Close first and to review the situation with cars parked opposite the junction on Church Road. The Highways Engineer had taken the ongoing concerns into account and was prepared to recommend further double yellow lines on Church Road opposite Orchard Close if the Parish Council was in agreement.

**Resolved:** To approve the scheme for double yellow lines on Church Road opposite Orchard Close.

Mrs Wooldridge reported that a street light on Trull Road at the bottom of Wild Oak Lane, and another on the High Path in Church Road had stopped working. The Clerk would report them using SCC's online facility.

350/18 **Update on 20mph limit**

Trull Primary School had started a petition calling for SCC to introduce a 20mph limit in the immediate area. The move is being supported Liberal Democrat councillors including Alan Wedderkopp. The petition had been signed by 357 people and would be presented to the next full meeting of SCC.

351/18 **Speed Indicator Devices**

The Council had previously agreed to contribute to a mobile SID programme after it was announced that SCC would be withdrawing the service in March 2018. Unfortunately, SCC did not have enough uptake of the programme to fully fund a member of staff and the other costs of running a scheme and are no longer able to provide a community mobile SID programme. It is, however, still able to support local communities that want to purchase and manage the mobile SID signs themselves. The SIDs cost between £2,500 and £3,500 to buy. The cost for training is between £300- £500 per person. Public liability insurance and employer's liability insurance of £5,000,000 to cover the installer is recommended; and Councils are also strongly advised to insure the SID against theft and vandalism. The Council would be responsible for all repairs as the sign is owned by them.

Mr Pretty suggested that the Community Speed watch group could patrol the areas previously covered by the SID scheme using the hand held device bought by the Parish Council.

**Resolved:**

- 1) To write to SCC saying Trull Parish Council does not want to buy and manage a SID at this stage as the costs are too high.
- 2) To write to the PCSOs asking if the Community Speed watch group could be revived and if the location of the Council's hand-held device can be confirmed.

352/18 **Update on Trull Green Trees**

The Clerk had written to Ashculme Ltd advising that their quote for felling the dead Poplar had been accepted and requesting the work to be carried out. The Clerk had also requested a full tree condition report for the three remaining Poplars. The company had since contacted Mr Pretty to say that the Parish Council could save money if they submit a five-day order for the three remaining Poplars to TDBC. The tree officer would inspect the trees and would only give permission if he considered them to be dangerous. A decision could then be taken on the future of the trees. Councillors were concerned to save the trees if possible but not at the risk of danger.

**Resolved:** To instruct Ashculme Ltd to submit a five-day order to TDBC in the first instance.

353/18 **Safety surfacing on the KGV field**

A deposit had been paid to Abacus as acceptance of their quote for safety surfacing under two items of play equipment. They cannot lay the surface in wet or frosty conditions so may have to wait until the spring but the price will remain the same.

Mr Pretty had briefed Mr Langham on the play equipment inspection programme to be managed in his absence. The Clerk had received the spare parts for fixing the Twinfly and instructed Parsons Landscapes Ltd to fit them after checking the components are the right size and specification.

354/18 **Update on the management policy for the Village Field.**

Having established that prior to its' transfer to the Parish Council three properties in Amingford Mead on the boundary of the Village Field had been registered under new titles with the benefit of easements. The solicitor for West of England Developments had written to say that as far as he knows the only rights are for drainage use into the attenuation pond and he did not think any of the plots have rights of access. The Clerk had hoped to find the information from copies of the title deeds available from the Land Registry at a cost of £3 each but discovered the costs were much higher - £39 per property. A similar search for riparian rights would be more complicated than first anticipated. As a result the Clerk had been advised by the Council solicitor that he could obtain and provide all the information for a minimal charge. On balance it was agreed that this would be the best way to proceed.

355/18 **Report from the Village Field Working Group**

This item was deferred until December as Mrs Brierley was absent.

356/18 **The approve funds for allotment spending**

The allotment holders had successfully cleared half of plot 32 to create a community area which had been well used. They were now hoping to clear the other half to extend the community plot, and had agreed to help clear plot 31 so that it could be re-let in 2019. Plot 31 had been left in a very bad condition by a long standing tenant some years ago and subsequent tenants had been unable to successfully tend the plot or grow on it. Two tenants had tried and failed this year alone. The allotment holders were willing to do the work for free if the Council would pay for materials and associated costs. Mr Pretty said he had some black plastic that he was willing to donate.

**Resolved:** To approve an increase in the allotment budget from £200 a year to £350 a year to allow for work on plots 31 and 32.

357/18 **The schedule of meetings 2019**

The schedule of meetings had been drawn up for the third Monday of each month.  
**Resolved:** To approve the schedule of meetings 2019.

358/18 **Update on the boundary commission review**

The Local Government Boundary Commission had completed its review of Somerset West and Taunton Council. The recommendations must now be approved by Parliament before the new electoral arrangements can come into force at the local elections in May 2019. The wards proposed as part of the final recommendations show the number of voters in each ward and the electoral variances for each of the proposed wards, as well as electorate projections for 2023. The draft recommendations for Hatch & Blackdown and Trull, Pitminster and Corfe were opposed by the parish councils of Churchstanton, Corfe, Otterford and Pitminster who proposed that they be included in a Blackdown ward, and that Trull be placed in Hatch & Blackdown ward. The LGBC was not persuaded to adopt the proposal because the boundaries of Pitminster parish follow the M5 motorway which would mean that including the parish of Trull in a ward with the other Hatch and Blackdown parishes such as Orchard Portman and West Hatch would create a ward with detached parts, something the Commission was not prepared to do because it would not provide for effective and convenient local government. It did, however, support the proposal suggested by a number of local residents that Trull and Pitminster ward be renamed Trull, Pitminster and Corfe to reflect the communities contained in the ward. The Trull, Pitminster and Corfe ward would have two councillors. Mr Kent said he was perplexed at the projected increase of just 1,000 voters from 2018-2023 given the proposed urban extension of 2,500 homes in the Parish.

359/18 **Neighbourhood Plan**

There was nothing to report on this item.

360/18 **KGV Field**

There was nothing to report on this item.

361/18 **Footpaths**

There was nothing to report on this item.

362/18 **Highways**

Mrs Wooldridge had received complaints that the hedges were obstructing pedestrians in Sweethay Lane and needed cutting. The Clerk would report it on the SCC website and asked that parishioners are reminded to do the same.

363/18 **Allotments**

There was nothing to report on this item.

364/18 **Open Spaces**

Mrs Wooldridge would ask local artist Sarah Thompson-Engels if she would be willing to repaint the dragon on the KGV playing Field. The tension of wires on the kick wall would need adjusting as the equipment settles into place. Mr Pretty had been advised by the manufacturers that this was something the Council could undertake. The Clerk would ask Parsons Landscapes Ltd to carry out the work when they come to repair the twinfly.

365/18 **Open Spaces Working Group**

Three trees had been planted on the KGV Playing Field, one of which had been dedicated to the memory of the fallen from Trull in WW1. A quantity of daffodil bulbs had been donated and planted.

- 366/18 **Flooding**  
The Chairman would be walking the Galmington Stream with officers from the Environment Agency on 2 December.
- 367/17 **Trull Village Memorial Hall**  
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 368/18 **Alms-houses**  
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 369/18 **Community Planning Working Group**  
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 370/18 **Trull School/Pre-School**  
Mr Langham noted that the school did not consider itself to be dual-site which he felt would have helped with their petition for a reduced speed limit. He introduced two members of Trull Saplings Pre School who said the group was struggling to meet demand because it could not stay open through to 3pm on a Wednesday or accommodate 2-year-olds in its location at the Trull Church Community Centre. They had asked if they could be accommodated in Trull Primary School and the Memorial Hall without success, and were looking for an alternative, possibly the Pavilion. The Clerk advised that the request would have to be considered by the Playing Field Management Committee at its meeting in January 2019 but the Pavilion is already fully booked by sport and recreation groups during the day, and it may not be possible to accommodate the Pre-School under the terms of the KGV Playing Field constitution.
- 371/18 **Book Exchange**  
Mrs Luke was concerned that rubbish is being dumped at the book exchange. The leaks had been plugged but it was now in need of repainting and Mrs Luke had requested that it might be repainted in a different colour. The Parish Council would consider the choice of colour at its December meeting.
- 372/18 **SALC**  
The SALC AGM would take place on 18<sup>th</sup> December.
- 373/18 **Correspondence**  
The Clerk introduced items of correspondence which may be of interest to councillors:-  
Somerset Waste Partnership – November briefing.
- 374/18 **Accounts**
- Payments:**
- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| Trull Village Memorial Hall<br>(15/10/18).....                        | £18     |
| All Saints Trull PCC<br>(Oct/Nov newsletter printing).....            | £20     |
| Mrs R Howat<br>Newsletter delivery, stamps, refreshments, plaque..... | £74.75  |
| Parsons Landscapes Ltd<br>KGV Grass October.....                      | £165.54 |
| Parsons Landscapes Ltd<br>Trull Green October .....                   | £54     |

Al Burrough  
Hedge trimming) .....£144

Royall British Legion  
Poppy wreath plus donation .....£30

**Salary**

Mrs R Howat  
(Minus NI and Pension contributions).....£912.65

**Receipts:**

None

375/18 **Matters to Report from Parish Council for inclusion on the next Agenda**  
None.

378/18 **Date of Next Meeting**  
The next meeting will take place on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018, at 7.15pm.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.38 pm.

Signed..... Chairman of Trull Parish Council

Date.....