

Trull Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Trull Parish Council held in The Memorial Hall, Church Road, Trull, on Monday 18th February, 2019.

Present: Mr A Kent, Mrs J Wooldridge, Mr N Hancock, Mrs L Brierley, Mrs A Hudson, Ms T Dean, and Mr L Forgham together with six 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.

40/19 **Apologies for Absence**

Mr B Pretty, Mr D Langham, Mrs A Clark.

41/19 **Declarations of Interest**

Mrs L Brierley - 7a 42/19.0004.

Ms T Dean - 7a 42/19.0004.

42/19 **Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st January 2019**

Minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2019 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

43/19 **Matters Arising**

Minute 398/18 – Citizens Advice Taunton had written to thank the Parish Council for the grant of £200.

Minute 16/19 – The Clerk to Cheddon Fitzpaine Parish Council had thanked Trull Parish Council for its commitment to make an annual donation of £100 to the Somerset Wood. The group is looking at a way to provide recognition for contributors but plaques are not thought appropriate as there may be some trees which do not survive and plaques would also make mowing impractical. Parish Councillors are welcome to come to the site to see the progress, and to discuss whether an area could be identified for the Trull fallen.

44/19 **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman had been informed by Cllr Mark Edwards that the Section 106 agreement for the Comeytrowe/Trull development has now been finalised and only needs the signatures of all the interested parties. He has asked if the Parish Council can have sight the completed agreement to fully understand the impact. Highways England is calling the first A358 Community Liaison Committee meeting at the end of the month to brief everyone on current progress. They have committed to announcing their preferred dual carriageway route in the spring.

The Vice Chairman reported that during the Chairman's absence there had been heavy snowfall which had generated great community spirit. There had also been a very windy day during which a tree had fallen across Dipford Road. It was quickly removed following a call to the Police.

45/19 **Police report**

PCSO Lyndsay Smith had submitted a report covering crimes recorded over the last month: three domestic incidents, two criminal damage, two harassment, two suspicious incidents, one abandoned call, four road related incidents and one theft.

- 46/19 **Somerset County Councillor Report**
Cllr Wedderkopp would speak at the item on traffic speeds in Amberd Lane.
- 47/19 **42/19/0001**
103 Killams Green
Erection of single storey extension.
Resolved: Support.
- 48/19 **42/19/0003**
6 Patricks Way
Erection of conservatory and open porch.
Resolved: Support.
- 49/19 **42/18/0042**
Dipford Farm, Dipford Road
Demolition of agricultural building and erection of dwelling with garage. Appeal.
Resolved: Object. The application site is outside the Settlement Limit and contravenes policy DM2 of the Core Strategy.
- 50/19 **42/19/0004** **Mrs L Brierley and Ms T Dean left the room having declared an interest in this item.**
9 Bradbeers, Staplehay.
Erection of single storey and first floor extension with conversion of garage to annexe.
Resolved: Support.
- 51/19 **42/19/0005**
Windsong, Amberd Lane.
Raising of roof with construction of first floor and erection of front and rear extensions.
Resolved: Support.
- 52/19 **Delegated Planning**
There were no delegated planning decisions.
- 53/19 **Decisions by TDBC**
42/18/0040
Erection of a four bedroomed dwelling with detached single garage and ancillary works on land to the side of The Old Rectory, Wild Oak Lane, Trull. Conditional approval.
- 42/18/0044
Erection of an agricultural building for raising of cattle at Great Herswell Farm, West Buckland.
Conditional approval.
- 42/18/0049
Variation of Condition No. 02 (approved plans) of application 42/17/0012 at Cherry Orchard Lodge, Cherry Orchard, Trull.
Conditional approval.
- 42/18/0048
Erection of a single storey extension to the side and rear of 9 Orchard Close, Trull.
Conditional approval.
- 54/19 **Traffic Speeds in Amberd Lane**
The Council had received a second request for help on behalf of residents concerned at speeding traffic using Amberd Lane. It had previously written to SCC in October 2018 in support of the call for traffic calming and a lower speed limit along the length of Amberd Lane. The response had been that Amberd Lane does not meet

Department for Transport (DfT) criteria for a 30mph speed limit extension which requires a minimum of 20 houses fronting the road over a minimum length of 600m. Records from the Police showed that there had been no personal injury collisions along this length over the last five year period, and it was unlikely a traffic calming scheme could be pursued without clear evidence of significant problems or incidents. SCC had also advised that no extra signage could not be mounted along the 30mph stretch as the extent of the current speed limit does not meet DfT criteria for any 30 mph repeater signs. It had, however, arranged for the 30/60 terminal signs to be cleaned recently and a 30 road roundel to be painted at the eastern extent of the 30mph speed limit. The only option left for the Parish Council was to pursue the request for help from the Police. It had been in contact with the new PCSO who is currently trying to establish contact with the Community Speed Watch group and locate the held speed detection device purchased by the Council several years ago. If the group is no longer in place the PCSO will set up a new group which requires six volunteers. This would help with the collection of data which could then be used to strengthen the case for a traffic calming scheme.

Resolved:

- 1) To liaise with PCSO Lyndsay Smith on the status and future operation of the Community Speed Watch group.
- 2) To ask if the correspondent and other residents who share the concerns would be prepared to join the Community Speed Watch group or be part of a newly formed group to patrol Amberd Lane.

55/19 **Parking on Church Road**

Following complaints about vehicles mounting the pavement, causing damage to the ground and a creating a hazard to pedestrians and parishioners using the bench, the Council had put forward a proposal for double yellow lines directly opposite the junction with Orchard Close in a bid to keep the turning clear. SCC had published the Traffic Restriction Order which had resulted in number of objections from people concerned at the loss of parking and the possible impact of cars parking further down Church Road towards the school. The Highways Engineer had subsequently suggested altering the TRO to shorten the extent of the double yellow lines allowing space for three vehicles to park to the east of the junction.

Resolved: To support the revised proposal for double yellow lines opposite the junction only.

56/18 **Black Poplars on Trull Green**

A notification to fell three of the four Black Poplars at Trull Green had been made on behalf of the Council by Ashculme Ltd as resolved in November 2018. The purpose of the application was to ascertain if the trees were considered dead or dangerous in the opinion of the TDBC tree officer. He had already confirmed in October 2018 that one tree had died and a notice was given to fell that tree for safety reasons. The contract was awarded to Ashculme Ltd who had been asked to remove the dead tree as soon as possible.

Mr Pretty had previously engaged with neighbouring residents over the future of the remaining Black Poplars and a long term plan for Trull Green. However, although the application was only part of the ongoing deliberations, it had generated three representations. Following advice from the Tree Officer the application was withdrawn. He would monitor their condition over the spring and suggested that the Council might want to commission a resistograph report from Arboricare Ltd.

The Clerk had informed the Council insurers of the current situation pointing out that the Council is concerned to save the trees if possible but not at the risk of danger to the public. The insurers were satisfied that the Council was doing everything it could to address the issue.

Resolved: To commission a condition report with resistograph checks from Arboricare Ltd on the three remaining trees.

- 2) To monitor their progress over the spring and engage the wider community in further discussion on their possible felling and replacement.
- 3) To tape off the dead tree and remind Ashculme Ltd to fell it at the earliest opportunity.

57/19 **Update on Electric Car Charging point**

Mr Kent had been looking into the possibility of installing an electric car charging point in Trull, and would be having discussions with the Memorial Hall Committee and the Parochial Church Council to see how it might be facilitated.

The Government is making grants of £500 per charge point to encourage their installation across the country. Ward Councillor Mark Edwards had also confirmed that TDBC would make a grant of £1,000 towards the cost of installation.

Mr Kent hoped to produce a proposal for consideration at the March meeting.

58/19 **A358 Update**

Highways England had issued an invitation for one representative from Trull Parish Council to attend the inaugural A358 Community Liaison Forum. The intention of the first meeting is to bring together representatives of organisations who have an interest in the A358 Taunton to Southfields Dualling Scheme, ahead of the Preferred Route Announcement being made. The initial forum will establish an effective and efficient process for keeping the community informed on the development of the scheme and share the most up-to-date information about how the project will progress. Mr Kent would attend the meeting.

59/19 **The Village Field**

Mrs Brierley had received only one quote for maintenance of the grass in the village field. The two further requests for quotes had not been met. The quote from Josh Ralph was £528 for cutting the area of field accessible with a tractor and mower at agreed times twice a year; cutting in footpaths approximately 1m wide, and clearing the cut grass.

Further quotes were being sought for management of overhanging branches from neighbouring land. This was also being addressed in the tree condition report undertaken by Arboricare Ltd.

Resolved: To accept the quote from Josh Ralph for twice yearly cutting of the field, and to request that any changes in the rate are made in writing to the Clerk.

The Clerk had received a request from the Director of Strongvox Ltd for the Parish Council, as owners of the village field, to enter into a Deed of Easement allowing Wessex Water access to fulfil the requirements of the S104 Agreement dated 30 December 2014. The easement across the Village Field would allow access for maintenance of the drains including the storm sewer that takes the storm drainage from the development into the attenuation pond. All legal costs would be met by Strongvox Ltd.

Resolved: The approve, in principle, entering into a Deed of Easement subject to advice from the solicitor; that the agreement is in line with the S104 agreement; and that all legal fees are met.

60/19 **To consider the Campaign for improved cycle routes**

The Taunton Area Cycling Campaign (TACC) is asking Somerset County Council and West Somerset and Taunton Council to prioritise cycling and walking in their next major bid for at least £10m of transport funds from the Government. It has produced a map of the Taunton Cycling network showing which parts need to be improved and which cycle links are missing. The group is asking local councils to support its campaign to improve the local cycle network which it says could produce personal health benefits, give more freedom to young people and people with mobility issues, help reduce congestion and further reduce the carbon impact of our transport system.

Resolved: To write pledging support for the campaign, and requesting support from the TACC for improvements to the local cycle network particularly in relation to the planned Comeytrove/Trull urban extension and the proposed roundabout where the spine road will meet Honiton Road.

- 61/19 **Neighbourhood Plan**
The Plan was due for a review in May 2019.
- 62/19 **KGV Field/Pavilion**
Issues reported with the heating system and cleanliness had been resolved following a meeting between the Clerk and the Pavilion Manager.
A grant of £1,000 had been secured towards the proposed Petanque Area. The grant is being made from the TDBC Small Grants fund managed by the Somerset Community Foundation.
- 63/19 **Footpaths**
Mr Kent had made a response of “no comment” to the SCC footpath maintenance survey.
- 64/19 **Highways**
Mrs Hudson would report an overhanging hedge in Amberd Lane to SCC using the website facility.
- 65/19 **Allotments**
Plot number 31 had been let rent free to a tenant who was keen to take it on despite its poor condition.
- 66/19 **Open Spaces**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 67/19 **Open Spaces Working Group**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 68/19 **Flooding**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 69/19 **Trull Village Memorial Hall**
There was nothing to report on this item
- 70/19 **Alms-houses**
There was nothing to report on this item
- 61/19 **Parish Lands Charity**
Mr Kent would be attending the meeting on 5th March.
- 62/19 **Trull School/Pre-School**
There was nothing to report on this item
- 63/19 **Book Exchange**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 64/19 **SALC**
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 65/19 **Correspondence**
The Clerk introduced items of correspondence which may be of interest to councillors:-
Somerset Waste Partnership – January briefing.
NALC - request to complete parking survey.
NALC - open letter from the Chairman.
NALC - standards regime press release.
TDBC - Elections Timetable and Becoming a Councillor event.

66/19 **Accounts**

Payments:

Trull PCC
Newsletter printing.....£12

Trull Village Memorial Hall
(hire 21/1/19).....£18

Mrs R Howat
Stamps/newsletter delivery.....£14.29

AED Locator Ltd
Annual defibrillator maintenance..... £58.80

Information Commissioner
Data Protection renewal £40

Water2Busines
Allotment (29/8/18 – 30/1/19))£31.20

Salary

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

67/19 **Matters to Report from Parish Council for inclusion on the next Agenda**

None.

68/19 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Monday 18th March 2019, at 7.15pm.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.44pm.

Signed..... Chairman of Trull Parish Council

Date.....