

Mere Parish Council

PARISH CLERK - MRS. L. C. WOOD

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on Monday, 6th October 2014 at 7.30 p.m. in The Andy Young Pavilion, Springfield Road, Mere.

Present: Councillors: Mrs. L. Traves (Chairman), B. Norris (Vice-Chairman), N. Beale, M. Cassidy, P. Coward, R. Coward, C. Hazzard, R. Hill, R. Hughes, G. Jeans & Mrs. K. Symonds.

Also: P. C. Richard Salter, Mr. L. Stanton, D. Stone, R. Stone, F. Legge, S. Gunn & Claire Shaddick

Public Session

The Chairman will re-convene the Parish Council meeting after the public session (please note that members of the public are no longer permitted to speak unless invited to do so by the Chairman).

Mr. Legge from Lynch House said that he had come along to support Mr. Gunn (see Minute No. 202b) and his letter. He stressed that speed along The Lynch was not an issue but size and volume is more of a problem. Mr. Legge said that he was also concerned about the construction traffic that would need to gain access, via The Lynch, in order to carry out the construction work for the house that had received planning permission on the old gas station site. He felt that this construction traffic may add to the problem.

Mr. Hazzard gave a report on the Mere Carnival which took place on 13th September. 'As you know, it was necessary for us to call an emergency meeting last winter as the future of the carnival was in doubt. As a result we got a lot of new committee members and helpers which enabled the carnival to proceed. We had a very successful carnival although there was a glitch when the funfair decided not to turn up – an issue which we are pursuing. Despite the fact that we had booked road closures at the beginning of the year, we were rather upset to find that the gas company decided to come along and dig up the road during the week before the carnival procession. However, Cllr. Jeans arranged for them to lay ramps etc. so that the carnival procession could get through and we are grateful to him for his help in this matter. We would also like to thank PC Richard Salter and his team – without the police support we would not be able to have a carnival. We wanted to thank Mr. Barry Hansford and the Parish Council for paying him to clean up after the carnival. He did a remarkable job – after the evening procession the whole town was littered with rubbish but by 7 a.m. the next morning most of it had been completely cleared. It costs approximately £5,000 to run the carnival and the street collection raised £1,200 – the remaining money being raised at other events during carnival week. Finally, we would like to thank Mr. Mark Cassidy and the Walnut Tree for their support, without which we would not have a carnival.' It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should write to the Wiltshire Police Chief Constable to express gratitude for the help and support received from our local police team.

The Clerk had received an email from Mrs. Adrienne Howell stating that the 18th Mere Literary Festival begins on Monday, October 13th in aid of the Mere & District Linkscheme who would be grateful for the support of the local councillors. Mere Literary Festival would also be pleased to welcome the Chair of the council, or a deputy, at the Awards Ceremony on Sunday 19th October at 3 p.m. in the Lecture Hall.

Apologies for absence received from Cllr. Mrs. Hurd, J. Jordan, E. Mitchell & R. Sims

197. To receive declarations of interest from members and to consider requests for new DPI dispensations.

Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Mere Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

- Cllr. Kate Symonds declared a personal interest in planning applications 14/08304/FUL & 14/08387/FUL
- Cllr. George Jeans declared a pecuniary interest in Minute No. 203a)
- Cllr. R. Hill declared a personal interest in planning application 14/08195/FUL
- Cllr. Mrs. Traves declared a pecuniary interest in planning applications 14/08304/FUL & 14/08812/FUL & 14/06032/FUL

Cllr. Nick Beale signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office

198. Minutes – RESOLVED to approve Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday, 1st September 2014 on proposal made by Cllr. R. Coward, seconded by Cllr. Hill and carried with a majority vote of those present on

1.9.14. RESOLVED to approve Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday, 22nd September 2014 (subject to an amendment relating to Declarations of Interest) on proposal made by Cllr. N. Beale, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Symonds and carried with a majority vote of those present on 22.9.14.

199. Matters Arising

a) Banner requests for clock tower to advertise community events (see Minute 185a) – The Clerk said that she had taken the liberty of approving a banner for the Cancer Research Xmas Fayre which would take place on 5th December. Cllr. Clive Hazzard said that the banners should be made from Correx Board 8' X 2' which fits just above the plume of feathers on the clock tower.

b) Clock Tower repairs (see Minute 185b) – Cllr. Norris reported that he was still waiting for another building to come and look at the building and give a day rate to carry out repair works necessary. The Clerk reported that she had asked for the Cumbrian Clock Company to come and repair the clock again and was just waiting for them to confirm a date..

c) The future of Wiltshire & Swindon Fire Service – Public Consultation expires 20th October 2014 (see Minute 186c) – The Clerk confirmed that she had asked Richard Pester if he would like to comment on the public consultation but had received no response. The Clerk confirmed that she and Cllr. Jeans would be attending the briefing session in Trowbridge on 13th October. The Clerk & Cllr. Jeans were delegated authority to respond to the Public Consultation after they had attended the briefing session and report back to the Council at the next meeting.

d) Rivers – action by riparian owners (see Minute 188b) – Cllr. Norris reported that letters had been sent to three Riparian Owners; one owner, along Waterside, has already cleared their stretch of the river and two of the others relate to areas of the river by Edgebridge. Cllr. Norris said that there are good areas and bad areas, one issue is where the property is let out to tenants and there are other problem areas where properties are for sale. Cllr. Hazzard said that he walked along the river this evening and it is choked with weed. Cllr. Jeans reported that there are problems with blocked drains along Clewes Lane and tree roots are creating humps in the tarmac along the footpath at Waterside. He also said that the footpath needs obstructing overgrowth cutting back.

e) Reconfiguration scheme for car parking spaces in Salisbury Street Car Park (see Minute 189a) – G. Jeans reported that at CATG meeting the Chairman, Tony Deane, seemed in favour and went as far as to say that they would pay for it. Cllr. Jeans said that he had asked the CATG if we could have two disabled parking bays marked out near the Mere Surgery. Cllr. Jordan said that he felt that the ratepayers of Mere should have been acknowledged on the signs in each of the car parks and it was agreed that this should be added.

f) HLS Scheme & Fencing of Castle Hill for grazing of goats (see Minute 189c) – the Clerk confirmed that English Heritage had now granted permission for the fencing works to proceed subject to the conditions that had previously been discussed. The Clerk had sent out tender documents to 3 companies, one had declined to quote and 2 quotations had been received – one for £5460 and one for £6500. The Parish Council's application for grant funding is being considered by the Area Board on Wednesday evening. We have applied for a grant of £2400, we will receive a grant of £2581 from Natural England and so, if the Area Board grant is approved, the Parish Council will still need to fund approx £1000 - £2000 depending on how much the archaeological work is going to cost (this money has not been budgeted). The Parish Council will still need to give English Heritage 4 weeks notice in writing of commencement of work and commission an archaeologist to carry out a programme of work that is in accordance with a written scheme of investigation that needs to be submitted to and approved by the Secretary of State advised by English Heritage. Cllr. R. Coward and Cllr. B. Norris said that they would attend the Area Board Meeting to speak in support of our grant application.

200. Reports & Consultations

a) Neighbourhood Policing Report – PC Richard Salter reported that 2 gun dogs had been stolen in the last week or so. One of those has subsequently been found but it has since been necessary to have it put to sleep. The police has some details of a white van that has been linked to these dog thefts. PC Salter explained that if a crime has taken place then it is necessary for him to deal with it but PCSO Peter Tcherniawsky deals with issues relating to Anti Social Behaviour. Cllr. Norris asked about the new laws relating to vehicle taxation and the fact that tax discs are no longer displayed and said that this could affect the Parish Council in dealing with abandoned vehicles. PC Salter said that there was a link on the DVLA website where you can check to see if a vehicle is taxed or not. Cllr. Jeans asked about Remembrance Day and whether or not the police were able to

help with stopping the traffic. PC Salter said that he had already spoken to Richard Pester (fire station commander) who had agreed to supply staff to stop the traffic in The Square for the 2-minute silence. PC Salter said that there had been recent incidents of vehicles driving across the Recreation Ground and it was agreed that the posts around the Recreation Ground car park would be reinstated to stop this.

b) Wiltshire Councillor's Report – Cllr. Jeans informed members that the South West Wiltshire Area Board was holding a special community event on Health & Wellbeing at Nadder Hall, Tisbury on Wednesday, 8th October. Our local MP and leader of the Council would be in attendance and from 3.30 – 7.30 p.m. there would be a variety of interactive stands representing local groups and organisations who are dedicated to supporting a healthy lifestyle. With regards to the pending planning application for Woodlands Road, Cllr. Jeans reported that some people had now raised concerns that traffic coming from the new development would turn left towards Swainsford when trying to access Gillingham and he was liaising with planners to see whether or not these concerns could be addressed.

c) Wiltshire Council's Bus Pass Consultation – The Clerk confirmed that Wiltshire Council was consulting on proposed withdrawal of early morning bus pass travel concessions, although the consultation had closed on 26th September. Cllr. Jeans said that the consultation was appalling and not very user friendly. Cllr. Jeans urged the Parish Council to submit a response as people generally wanted to use their bus pass before 9.30 a.m.

d) Wiltshire Council's Review of funding for discretionary education transport – the Clerk explained that Wiltshire Council was consulting on a review of funding for discretionary education transport. If introduced, the proposals would increase the charge paid by students for post-16 transport, introduce charges for transport to the Salisbury grammar schools and withdraw assistance for pupils on 'continuity' grounds. Responses needed to be received by 12.00 noon on 19th October. Cllr. Norris said that he was concerned about this and it was agreed that he would go through the consultation documents with the Chairman and Cllr. Hazzard and respond accordingly.

201. Planning

a) Applications: (All applications can be viewed on Wiltshire Council's website

<http://planning.wiltshire.gov.uk/Northgate/PlanningExplorer/ApplicationSearch.aspx> – and type in the relevant application number)

Cllr. B. Norris in The Chair

Application ref: 14/08812/FUL

Proposal: Demolish existing workshop and erect 1 bed dwelling

Location: Angel Lane (Old Workshop), Mere BA12 6DH

Members felt that their previous concerns on prior applications for this property relating to off-street parking had been addressed with this planning application. RESOLVED, on proposal made by Cllr. Hughes, seconded by Cllr. Cassidy and carried with a vote of 6 for, 1 against and 2 abstentions, that the above application be recommended for approval. Cllr. Mrs. Traves, having declared a personal interest, abstained from discussion or voting. In order not to compromise his position as Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr. Jeans abstained from discussion or voting.

Application ref: 14/06032/FUL

Proposal: Erection of agricultural building for use as storage for logging/garden business

Location: Yard at Wet Lane, Wet Lane, Mere BA12 6BA

Cllr. P. Coward proposed that the above application be recommended for approval. Proposal seconded by Cllr. Hazzard and carried with a majority vote in favour. Cllr. Mrs. Traves, having declared a personal interest, abstained from discussion or voting. In order not to compromise his position as Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr. Jeans abstained from discussion or voting.

Application ref: 14/08304/FUL

Proposal: 2 storey side extension

Location: Littlecot, North Street, Mere. BA12 6HH

Cllr. R. Coward proposed that the above application be recommended for approval. Proposal seconded by Cllr. Hughes and carried with a vote of 8 for. Cllr. Mrs. Traves, having declared a personal interest, abstained from discussion or voting. In order not to compromise his position as Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr. Jeans abstained from discussion or voting.

Cllr. Mrs. Traves in The Chair

*Application ref: 14/08387/FUL

Proposal: Two storey side extension in place of existing garage

Location: 6 Ash Grove, Mere. BA12 6BX

A copy of a letter from Professor & Mrs. J. E. Brignell of 5 Ash Grove had been distributed to members prior to the meeting. The letter was objecting to the planning application on the basis of unsympathetic development, scale of design, lack of amenity (light), concerns over excavation work close to the boundary.

The Chairman said that she had been to view the site and in view of the letter from Professor & Mrs. Brignell, she had paid particular attention to their concerns that the development would cause a loss of amenity (light). However, she did not feel that there was sufficient evidence to raise an objection on these grounds or on any of the other concerns raised by Professor & Mrs. Brignell. Cllr. Norris said that he, too, had visited the site and could find no evidence to support any material objections to this planning application. Cllr. Norris therefore proposed that the application be recommended for approval. Cllr. Beale seconded this proposal which was carried with a vote of 5 for and 5 abstentions. In order not to compromise his position as Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr. Jeans abstained from discussion or voting.

Application ref: 14/08057/LBC (Listed Building Consent)

Proposal: Works to loft including insulation, placement ceiling linings, remove 1 roof light and insert 3 roof lights, internal partitions and new fire doors.

Location: Longmead, Barrow Street, Mere. BA12 6AB

Cllr. R. Coward proposed that the above application should be recommended for approval. Proposal seconded by Cllr. Hazzard and carried with a vote of 9 for and 1 abstention. In order not to compromise his position as Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr. Jeans abstained from discussion or voting.

Application ref: 14/08708/FUL + 14/08710/LBC

Proposal: Convert carhouse to garden room, renew roof covering, replacement porch, replacement dormer and new lantern light, alterations to fenestration.

Location: 2 The Grange, Water Street, Mere. BA12 6DZ

Cllr. R. Hill proposed that the above application should be recommended for approval. Proposal seconded by Cllr. R. Coward and carried with a vote of 9 for and 1 abstention. In order not to compromise his position as Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr. Jeans abstained from discussion or voting.

Application ref: 14/09107/FUL

Proposal: Front single storey extension

Location: Wayfarers, Waterside, Mere. BA12 6EE

Cllr. Norris proposed that the above application should be recommended for approval. Proposal seconded by Cllr. Hazzard and carried with a vote of 9 for and 1 abstention. In order not to compromise his position as Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr. Jeans abstained from discussion or voting.

Application ref: 14/08195/TCA

Proposal: Row of 13 Beech trees – reduce height to approx 1.8m to reform hedge. Fell 2 yew trees.

Location: 2 The Grange, Water Street, Mere.

NB: Consultation expired (Information Only)

b) Annual Planning Training Events – the Clerk informed members that Wiltshire Council was organising a series of Planning Training events around the County. The nearest one would be held in Salisbury on 12th November between 6 & 8 p.m. at the Alemein Suite, City Hall and the subjects to be covered would be:

- Changes in legislation
- Core Strategy Update
- Community Infrastructure Levy Update (CIL) and Section 106

Places needed to be booked by Monday, 27th October.

202. Highways, Rivers, Footpaths, Traffic & Transport

a) Highway & footpath issues for Parish Steward & street lighting faults:

- Overhanging branches obscuring right of way sign along Pettridge Lane

Cllr. Jeans reported that Mere now has a new parish steward.

***b) Letter from Mr. Spence Gunn relating to Traffic management in The Lynch** – Members confirmed that they had read the letter, as copied in the Clerks Report. Cllr. P. Coward said that on the assumption that many of these HGVs are trying to get to the factory, he apologised, but explained that he has no control over these vehicles. He also said that if it was a matter of funds in the short term then the Hill Brush Company may be able to help but Cllr. jeans said that this sort of gesture may well be more appropriate if the new Woodlands Road development goes ahead and measures will need to be put in place to stop construction traffic from using The Lynch. The Clerk pointed out that a meeting had been arranged in October with Julie Wharton, Wiltshire Council's Senior Traffic Engineer, in order to discuss the various traffic and transport issues that Mere Parish Council had submitted to the Area Board, one of which was HGV's using The Lynch. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed with Julie Wharton to see if she could make any particular recommendations.

c) Update from footpath group on footpath work - deferred

203. Finance, Policy & Resources

a) Payments – **RESOLVED** that the following payments be approved on proposal made by Cllr. Norris, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Symonds and carried with a unanimous vote. Cllr. Jeans, having declared a pecuniary interest, left the room whilst this matter was discussed.

BWBSL (Wessex Water)	Water supply to Manor Road allotments	112.38
D & H Pengelly – Canopy Land Use	HLS Advice	111.32
BWBSL (Wessex Water)	Water & Sewerage supply to car park & public toilets 8.3.14 – 2.9.14	629.03 – Pd. 30.9.14
BWBSL (Wessex Water)	Water supply to Southbrook allotments	37.09
Southern Electric	Unmetered electricity supply to Clock Tower	16.97
Sydenhams	Sand & Cement used to repair wall at cemetery	11.63
Scats	Sundries, tools & cleaning materials for public toilets	120.65
Broker Network Ltd	Motor Insurance (Mitsubishi & Tractor)	746.52 – Pd 30.9.14
Gillingham Glass	Replacement glass unit for Andy	660.00

	Young Pavilion (Insurance claim)	
Jeans	Sundries, tools, bin liners for street cleaning + cleaning for public toilets	181.29
Eon Energy	Electricity supplied to public toilets 12.8.14 – 11.9.14	50.04 – Pd by DD on 25.9.14
Playsafety Ltd	Annual RoSPA play area safety inspections	262.80
Tincknell Fuels Ltd	Gas Oil (fuel)	192.78
Forge Garages	Fuel & Oil	263.08
I. V. & S. M. Thomas	Hedgecutting	268.80
Mrs. Lenka Stokes	Mere Footpath Group (remainder of SWW Area Board Grant)	65.89
Mere Peace Memorial Sports & Recreation Ground Charity	Donation	250.00
Cash (Inkntoner)	Toner cartridges for printer	84.98
Imprest Account – Cheques 2994-3002	Wages, Petty Cash, PAYE & Pension	7939.65

b) To review Financial Regulations and Standing Orders - deferred

204. General Items

a) To set date for Sports Development Meeting – It was agreed that the Sports Development Meeting would be held on Wednesday, 22nd October

b) Xmas lights – the Clerk informed members that the Mere Cancer Research group would be organising a Christmas Fayre in and around The Square on the evening of 5th December and it was hoped to co-ordinate this with the switching on of the Xmas lights. Cllr. Hazzard explained that he had hired a cherry picker from Sydenhams for his own private use but had brought it around to the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) to change the floodlight bulbs which proved to be very effective in that this small cherry picker could access all the lights with ease (not so effective with the bulbs as the ones left in the Clerks Office had all been used ones and no longer worked). The Clerk & Cllr. Hazzard therefore thought that this cherry picker could be hired and used to carry out the erection of the xmas lights as well as the replacement of the MUGA floodlight bulbs at the same time. It was agreed that this was a good idea and that the gutters of the clock tower should be cleared at the same time.

205. Forthcoming meetings

- South West Wiltshire Health Fair – Wednesday, 8th October 2014 at Nadder Hall, Tisbury (the Clerk informed members that this event would take place before the Area Board Meeting from 3.30 – 7.30 p.m. and alongside the Health Fair will be a series of presentations, including a look at how dementia awareness can be raised in South West Wiltshire at 5.30 p.m.)
- South West Wiltshire Area Board Meeting, Wednesday, 8th October 2014 at Nadder Hall, Tisbury
- Wiltshire Fire Service briefing meeting on consultation options – October 13th at Trowbridge
- Salisbury Civic Day – October 15th at Salisbury City Council

206. Clerks Report – to approve and adopt Clerks Report and request future agenda items.

RESOLVED to approve and adopt Clerks Report on proposal made by Cllr. R. Coward, seconded by Cllr. PI Coward and carried with a unanimous vote.

Meeting closed at 21.12 p.m.

*Further information on these items in Clerks Report

MERE PEACE MEMORIAL SPORTS AND RECREATION GROUND

Registered Charity No. 1093497

Minutes of a meeting of the Mere Peace Memorial Sports & Recreation Ground Charity held on Monday, 6th October 2014 in the Andy Young Pavilion, Springfield Road, Mere.

Meeting convened at 21.13 p.m.

1. PAYMENTS – RESOLVED to approve the following payments on proposal made by Cllr. Hazzard, seconded by Cllr. Coward and carried with a unanimous vote.

BWBSL (Wessex Water)	Supply to old cricket club in Recreation Ground	11.63
Wessex Water (BWBSL)	Water supply to Recreation Ground (old Rutter Pavilion)	39.24

2. Youth Club Building

The Clerk explained that, following the closure of all Youth Clubs by Wiltshire Council, she had been contacted by Mr. John Price (Wiltshire Council's Property Services) to discuss notice to quit the building. Mr. Price had posed the following questions to the Charity/Council:

- *When Wiltshire Council serves us notice, do we want them to issue license to Seeds 4 Success to use the building until the notice expires?*

Members said that they would like Seeds4Success to be granted a license to use the building until the notice expires.

- *Do we want to wait the full 3 months until the notice expires?*

Members felt that the answer to this question should be whichever works best for Seeds4Success

- *IF Wiltshire Council is happy to leave the equipment inside, are we happy to take it on?*

Members agreed that any equipment that Seeds4Success may still want should be left and taken on by them.

- *Wiltshire Council is currently seeking quotations to replace the flooring damaged by the recent floods and to carry out remedial work to the building (painting office and replacing broken toilet door). They would like to know whether we would like the equivalent funds to carry out the work ourselves or whether we would like them to implement the work?*

In view of time restraints on Council staff and Seeds4Success staff, members agreed that Wiltshire Council should carry out any remedial works

- *Requirement for site meeting to carry out condition inspection?*

It was agreed that Cllr. Jeans and the Clerk would arrange a meeting with Mr. Price to carry out a condition inspection a.s.a.p.

Cllr. Norris said that he was arranging a meeting with Richard Thomas to sort out issues relating to the boundary hedge of the Recreation Ground/White Road.

Meeting closed 21.25 p.m.