

- 06/07/181 **PRESENT:** Cllrs Westmaas (in the Chair), Chilcott, Hamblyn, Fraser
- 06/07/182 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** received from Cllr Mackay.
- 06/07/183 **ALSO PRESENT:** 5 members of the public and DCllr Kingham
- 06/07/184 **IN ATTENDANCE:** Clerk to the Council
- 06/07/185 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:** none declared.
- 06/07/186 **HIGHWAYS:**
- a. Any urgent problems arising and updates - Clerk reported on recent correspondence with Liam Gill (Highways). Clerk asked to ascertain when the drains will be pumped out as some are very full.
- 06/07/187 **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:** DCllr Kingham said he would like to speak on Unitary Authorities when that item is reached.
- 06/07/188 **PLANNING:**
- a. Village Design Statement - has been adopted as supplementary planning guidance by SDC. A few minor alterations need to be made. Cllr Westmaas will then forward a PDF to Rob Shuttleworth and also the Clerk so that it can be put on the website.
- b. Provision of outdoor playing space for children - Cllr Chilcott had obtained a quote on behalf of the Play Area for new swings. Clerk would forward this on to Jenny Manners for RLT2 funding as requested by the Play Area.
- c. Any other planning matters/updates -
- i. Correspondence with Christine Miles - it was agreed that the Clerk should again try to get a satisfactory response from Ms Miles regarding Hill Farm (12 Manor Road).
- ii. Barn Plans - Clerk was asked to obtain written confirmation regarding the planning procedures for barns. It was noted that many agricultural applications would never come to the Parish Council.
- iii. Vote of 'No Confidence' - it was agreed that the Clerk should consult other councils in the Cluster Group to establish their feelings. It was felt it would be more appropriate to raise this matter at the March Cluster meeting rather than the January one.
- 06/07/189 **CLERK'S APPRAISAL:** Clerk had completed this and it now needed to go to the Chairman.
- 06/07/190 **FINANCE:**
- a. Update on letter requesting automatic transfers and update signatories on NS account - It was agreed that the Clerk consult with Peter Lacey on legal aspects of telephone banking for the Nat West account. The signatories on the National Savings account would now remain the same until after the elections in May.
- b. Cheques for signature - It was agreed that the Clerk's annual pay rise (in line with her contract of employment) be paid and back dated to April. The following cheque was approved for signature: Chq.003 Clerk's pay and expenses including back dated rise - J A Marshall £333.73.
- c. any other financial matters for information - Clerk reported that a Wayleave payment of £5.57 had been paid into the NatWest account.
- 06/07/191 **SALC:** Clerk had provided written notes of the latest SALC meeting attended by herself and Cllr Westmaas.
- 06/07/192 **WHITE PAPER AND UNITARY AUTHORITY PROPOSALS:** DCllr Kingham spoke on this matter. The Council also considered the SALC meeting notes and other paperwork received. It was agreed that an enhanced two tier system was the most favoured option followed by two authorities. A unitary authority was not favoured as it was felt it would be too large and unmanageable and too remote. It was noted that SCC had not yet provided a business plan on which to base a unitary authority.
- 06/07/193 **PARISH EMERGENCY PLANS:** Clerk was asked to get a master plan on which to base Catcott's.
- 06/07/194 **KING WILLIAM INN AND PALMERS BREWERY - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ISSUES:** Clerk reported that a representative from Palmers Brewery would visit the site during the month. Cllr Westmaas reported on meetings he had had with the landlord. The Clerk is awaiting information from SDC with regard to the skittle alley doors.
- 06/07/195 **CEMETERY PROVISION:** no further information to date.
- 06/07/196 **RIGHTS OF WAY AND FOOTPATHS:**
- a. 14/30 Edington to Catcott School - Clerk has not yet received a reply from Tamlyns with regard to ownership of the section in question.
- b. Any other updates and problems to report - Cllr Fraser reported that she is currently walking the footpaths. She would like to set up a day in the spring/summer for a general walking of the footpaths by villagers. Clerk advised she thought there might be a deadline of 31st January for responding to SCC.
- 06/07/197 **POLDEN HILL CLUSTER GROUP:** Next meetings (special meet re white paper/unitary authority - Puriton Village Hall on Tuesday 23 Jan 2007 at 7.30pm) and Tuesday 20th March 2007, 7.30pm, Woolavington.
- 06/07/198 **ANY OTHER REPORTS OR ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, CIRCULATION, DISTRIBUTION:** incl. C&C Direct; What's On; Countryside Alliance (re POs); Local Council Review.
- 06/07/199 **URGENT CORRESPONDENCE:** A letter from the Post Office regarding the closure of Catcott Post Office and the provision of a replacement was read to the meeting. It was agreed that nobody present was aware of any likely changes that might affect the outcome.
- 06/07/200 **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** none mentioned.
- 06/07/201 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, 13th February 2007