

- 06/07/202 **PRESENT:** Cllrs Westmaas (in the Chair), Hamblyn, Fraser, Mackay.
- 06/07/203 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** received from Cllr Chilcott (hospital)
- 06/07/204 **ALSO PRESENT:** 11 members of the public and CCllr Huxtable
- 06/07/205 **IN ATTENDANCE:** Clerk to the Council
- 06/07/206 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:** none declared.
- 06/07/207 **HIGHWAYS:**
- Any urgent problems arising and updates - Langlands Lane has not yet been treated as had been agreed. Clerk to ask what has happened. Nidon grips on lower side of road need to be cleared.
 - Somerset Levels HGV Management Study Consultation - CCllr Huxtable said he had initiated this. Shapwick had undertaken unofficial negotiation with HGVs to bypass Shapwick. This meant more HGV activity in other villages. Response required by 28th February so consultation put for urgent circulation and return to Clerk. Clerk to respond to consultation.
- 06/07/208 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS:** CCllr Huxtable reported that SCC's submission for unitary authority status had been accepted as a viable bid. There would be a 3.9% increase in Council Tax. £9m of savings/cuts are required. Area Working Panels are to be set up. Meeting at Woolavington on Thursday covering Sedgemoor area. CCllr Huxtable not in favour of unitary status.
- 06/07/209 **PLANNING:**
- Village Design Statement - Cllr Westmaas reported that since the last meeting of the Council the group had met three times. He would now get quotes for printing the VDS. All households would receive a copy and it would be put on the website.
 - Provision of outdoor playing space for children - Clerk had been advised that VAT could be reclaimed only if the Council submitted the application. She had consulted with councillors and play area and submitted a quote. As a result a grant was being made to Catcott for £2,143 from Edington's RLT fund and £773 from Catcott's fund totalling £2,916. This would be sufficient to supply and install the swings but would not meet the cost of the cushionfall.
 - PLANNING AID:** leaflet put for circulation.
 - Planning complaint re Hill Farm, 12 Manor Road - the Clerk had written again to Ms Miles with copies to the Chairman of the Development Control Committee and the Leader of the Council. A copy of the letter and photographs was put for circulation.
 - Any other planning matters/updates -
 - 14/06/00016 Erection of three dwellings, garages and formation of access, demolition of existing workshops at Land to the North and West of 9 Lippetts Way* - permission has been granted. Clerk mentioned that she had found this on the SDC website but had not been officially notified.
 - Barn Applications* - Cllr Mackay had found the information given by SDC contradictory in some respects. Clerk to get written clarification from SDC. Clerk would also let Cllr Mackay have another copy of her Cluster Meeting notes on this matter.
 - Scotts Lane Stables* - there was concern expressed that the gateway did not allow sufficient room for pulling in off the road as Catcott PC had originally requested. Should the gate be set back? Clerk to contact SDC.
- 06/07/210 **CLERK'S APPRAISAL:** The Chairman and Clerk are due to meet to discuss this on Friday.
- 06/07/211 **HANDYMAN DUTIES, RATES, ETC:** A few minor amendments were made to the schedule. Councillors asked to let the Clerk know if they thought of any others. Clerk to contact Mr Skidmore with existing amended schedule to ascertain costs.
- 06/07/212 **FINANCE:**
- Transfers between the two new NatWest bank accounts - signing of authorisations - three transfer requests for each way were agreed for signature as this is strictly between the Council's own accounts and therefore considered a safe course of action and a financial saving on the other methods of transfer..
 - Cheques for signature - were agreed as follows:- Chq.004 J A Marshall (Clerk's salary and expenses) £331.40; Chq.005 Somerset County Council (use of Catcott School Hall - payment goes into Catcott School funds) £130.00; Chq.006 St Peter's Church, Catcott (Churchyard Grant 2006-2007) £350.00.
 - Any other financial information -
 - Letter from Audit Commission* - The Clerk had just received a letter from the Audit Commission regarding the appointment of external auditors. There were no objections to Moore Stephens continuing. Clerk noted that the single sheet of paper

had been put in a large envelope. The cost of additional postage plus more expensive envelope must have amounted to approximately 17p per council!

ii. *Heritage Noticeboard* - Cllr Mackay would see Mr Harding at an early date.

06/07/213 **SALC:**

- a. Election material - Clerk showed everyone what she had received. She had put a copy of everything on the website.
- b. Review of the Quality Town and Parish Council Scheme - for circulation
- c. Consultation on amendments to the Code of Conduct - for urgent circulation as time sensitive
- d. Any other items received - for circulation
- e. Next meeting Thursday 15th March at 7.30pm Woolavington - agenda received
- f. Items of Interest January 2007 - for circulation (with Code of Conduct consultation)

06/07/214 **WHITE PAPER AND UNITARY AUTHORITY PROPOSALS:** This, and the Area Working Panels had been covered by CCllr Huxtable in his report.

06/07/215 **PARISH EMERGENCY PLAN:** Clerk had obtained a template for the 2003 Plan. She had been advised that a new template would be produced within the next couple of months. Council agreed to wait for this.

06/07/216 **CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOODS AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 2005 - LETTER FROM SDC:** Consideration was given to other possible areas of inclusion. It was agreed that some clarification was required with regard to some aspects. It was felt that the Play Area could not be included as a public footpath ran through it.

06/07/217 **KING WILLIAM INN AND PALMERS BREWERY - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ISSUES:** Representatives of the King William were present and allowed to speak. Letter from Palmers Brewery was read to the meeting. Letter from M E Northcombe, for Chief Housing and Health Officer dated 5th July 1989 was read to the meeting. Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should write again to Palmers asking for the provision of adequate shielding to prevent light spillage. Clerk also instructed to enquire into legal position with regard to the new Act covering light pollution.

06/07/218 **POST OFFICE:** Reply to Clerk's letter was noted.

06/07/219 **ORDNANCE SURVEY:** Clerk had written to ask for a correction of Village name from Calcott to Catcott on maps. This had been agreed by Ordnance Survey.

06/07/220 **CEMETERY PROVISION:** there was still no further news. Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk write again to the Vicar with the information that references can be found in the minutes of the St Peter's Church Committee during the time when Alex Murdoch was Vicar.

06/07/221 **RIGHTS OF WAY AND FOOTPATHS:**

- a. 14/30 Edington to Catcott School - Clerk had responded to a request from Tamlyn's to further clarify the path involved.

06/07/222 **POLDEN HILL CLUSTER GROUP:** Next meeting Tuesday 20th March 2007, 7.30pm, Woolavington. Clerk's notes of previous meeting had been copied to all councillors.

06/07/223 **ANY OTHER REPORTS OR ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, CIRCULATION, DISTRIBUTION** incl: B&Q Awards; Somerset Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund; The Playing Field; Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West update (RSS for Ron!); Rural Youth newsletter; Warmer Improved Somerset Homes (WISH for Ron); the Engine Room; Somerset by the Sea; Somerset Access annual newsletter; Clerks and Councils Direct.

06/07/224 **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** None, but a request from the floor was received regarding the publication of the minutes. It was agreed that the DRAFT minutes be put on the noticeboards as soon as practicable. Clerk advised that they were already put on the website as soon as possible.

06/07/225 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, 13th March 2007