

Trull Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held in the Pearce Suite, Memorial Hall, Trull, on Monday 14th May 2007 at 7.15 pm.

Mr. G. Hewett, Mr. S. French, Mr. N. Hancock, Mr. D. Archer, Mrs. J. Wooldridge, Mrs. A. Hudson and Mr. P. Parris, together with 10 Members of the Public.

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting, Mr. Hewett, as Chairman of the outgoing Council, invited questions from members of the public but none were forthcoming.

Mr. Hewett explained that the meeting had been scheduled earlier than normal in order to comply with the requirements following the Local Elections. It was noted that due to ill health, Mr. Keyte did not submit his nomination papers for re-election and would not be seeking to be co-opted back to the Council.

017/07 Election of Chairman

Mr. Hewett requested nominations for the role of Chairman of the Council and Mr. French nominated Mr. Hewett. Mrs. Ann Hudson seconded the proposal.

Resolved: That Mr. Hewett be appointed as Chairman for the forthcoming year.

The Chairman signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form.

018/07 Election of Vice-Chairman

The Chairman requested nominations for the role of Vice-Chairman and Mr. Parris proposed that Mr. French be nominated. Mr. Archer seconded the proposal.

Resolved: That Mr. French be appointed as Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year.

019/07 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

020/07 Appointment of Representatives

The Chairman requested that representatives be appointed to the respective roles and committees.

Mr. Parris suggested that, in view of the current shortfall of three of the allocated ten seats, this matter be deferred until a number of co-opted members were appointed. However, as this was the Annual Meeting of the Council, it was agreed that the item should be addressed at this juncture, but that the situation be kept under review and adjustments made if and when appropriate.

Resolved: That the following be appointed for 2007/8: -

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| a) Planning Advisory Committee | - Mr. D. Archer |
| | Mrs. A. Hudson |
| b) Playing Field | - Mrs. J. Wooldridge |
| c) Footpaths | - Mr. J. White (Minute 26/07 refers) |
| d) Allotments | - The Clerk |
| e) TAP | - Mr. S. French |
| f) Trull Village Memorial Halls | - Mrs. J. Wooldridge |
| g) Trull School | - Mrs. J. Wooldridge |
| h) SALC | - Mrs. A. Hudson |

Omitted from the Agenda were the following: -

- | | |
|-------------|----------------------|
| i) Highways | - Mr. N. Hancock |
| j) Website | - Mrs. J. Wooldridge |
| k) Trees | - Mr. P. Parris |

021/07 **Authorised Signatures for 2007/8**

The Chairman referred to the matter of financial transactions, and requested appointment of authorised signatures in accordance with Standing Order 40.

Resolved: That Mr. S. French, Mr. G. Hewett and the Clerk be the approved signatories for 2007/8.

022/07 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th April 2007 were agreed, and signed by the Chairman.

023/07 **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

024/07 **Planning**

Mr. Archer gave an overview of the applications received from TDBC for the Council to consider: -

07/010 - Land at Kibbear, Trull.

Formation of access, hardstanding and farm track.

Mr. Parris declared an interest and was absent from the room during the discussion.

Mr. Archer gave an overview of the application and the need to provide easier and safer access for large machinery to Lower Kibbear Farm.

The Chairman invited Mr. Richard Parris to address the Council, and the difficulty in negotiating narrow lanes with large items of plant was explained in some detail. It was the current practice to make a circular route through Sherford and Staplehay in order to mitigate the problem. The improvement works would enable access from the direction of the M5 bridge and should yield a reduction in traffic via Amberd Lane. It was noted that two letters of complaint had been received, from the residents of Brown's Elm Cottages and a Staplehay resident.

Resolved - To support the application.

07/012 - 95, Killams Green, Trull.

Erection of Conservatory.

Resolved - To support the application.

07/013 - 4, Patricks Way, Staplehay, Trull.

Erection of dwelling on adjacent land.

Mr. Archer advised that the Council had previously supported outline planning permission for a single dwelling, and gave an overview of the submitted proposal.

The Chairman invited the applicant, Mr. Ball, to provide further details, and it was noted that consideration had been given to the specific conditions when consent had been granted by TDBC, particularly the retention of the sycamore tree in the front of the plot. Consultations had also been held with the adjacent properties and the TDBC planning department. An immediate neighbour, Mr. Reeves, was also invited to speak and stated that he had no substantial objections. Mr. Archer advised that he had discussed the matter with one set of neighbours, who would have preferred the sycamore to come down and the new house to be aligned with the next door property.

Resolved - To support the application.

- 07/015 - Lower Kibbear Farm, Kibbear, Trull.
Erection of porch.
Mr. Parris declared an interest and was absent from the room during the discussion.
Resolved - To support the application.
- 07/017AGN - Lower Kibbear Farm, Kibbear, Trull.
Erection of agricultural store and workshop.
Mr. Parris declared an interest and was absent from the room during the discussion.
Resolved - To support the application.
- 07/018 - 1, White Cottages, Dipford, Trull (Resubmission)
Mr. Archer stated that the Parish Council had previously supported the application, but it had not been granted by TDBC. The reasons relating to the refusal were explained and, in particular, how the issues relating to the TPO on the cedar tree had been addressed.
Resolved - To support the application.

Mr. Archer reported that Pitminster Parish Council had requested the support of the Council regarding an application to site six caravans at Fosgrove Court, Pitminster. (TDBC Application Number 30/2007/006 refers). Mr. Archer read out a letter received from the Parish Clerk that detailed possible contraventions of the respective TDBC policy documents should the application be granted. Mr. French gave additional background information to this matter, explaining how the resident of Fosgrove Paddock had obtained permission for the site some ten years ago on the grounds of hardship.

Resolved: That support be given to Pitminster Parish Council, and the Clerk to notify the TDBC Development Control Manger accordingly.

The Clerk advised of the following decisions that had been received from TDBC: -

- 07/04 - Bradbeers House, Staplehay, Trull.
Permission granted for erection of extension over existing garage and extension of utility.
- 07/006T - Gatchell House, Honiton Road, Trull.
Permission granted to carry out tree work to one American Oak included in TDBC (Trull No. 2) Tree Preservation Order (1997).
- 07/008 - Saltdean, New Road, Trull.
Permission granted for the erection of one and a half storey extension to side and construction of dormer windows.

25/07 Playing Field

The Chairman advised that Trull School was holding its annual summer fête on Friday 22nd June and that the Head Teacher, Mrs. Cunningham, had requested use of the playing field to park vehicles in the playing field.

Resolved: That permission be given to park vehicles at the bottom of the playing field on 22nd June from 2.30 pm until approximately 7.00 pm.

The Chairman referred to a letter received from Mr. Barry Bloxham regarding the Party in the Park 2008 event. It was requested that consideration be given to a member of the Council joining the working group to plan the event and organise the activities.

Resolved: That the matter be deferred pending the co-option of additional Members.

The Chairman advised that a member of the public had reported that one of the cradle swing seats was in need of repair, and that a quantity of clippings and branches from the work relating to the Wyatt's Field footpath had been deposited under the trees near the changing rooms.

Resolved: (1) That the DLO be requested to replace the damaged swing seat;
(2) that Mr. Ron Vining be requested to remove the clippings.

Mrs. Wooldridge reported that a number of requests had been made for the provision of picnic tables in the playing field. Mr. Parris stated that agreement on the type and location of any additional equipment was vital. Mrs. Wooldridge indicated that the preference would be for metal tables that would be sited at the bottom of the playing field near the roundabout. The Chairman requested Mrs. Wooldridge to undertake further research on this matter and report back at a later date.

26/07

Footpaths

The Chairman introduced Mr. John White, who was a local member of the Ramblers' Association and had offered to undertake the footpaths role on a voluntary basis. Mr. White was reluctant to join the Council at this stage, but would provide periodic reports as and when necessary. The TDBC Parish Liaison Officer had given consent to this arrangement. Mr. White advised that he intended to have a discussion with Mr. John Guy in order to gain a better understanding of what was actually involved.

Mr. Archer stated that members of the public were finding it difficult to access the footpath adjacent to Thatched Cottage on Honiton Road (T 21/30). It was noted that Mr. John Guy had previously requested the SCC ROW team to pursue this.

Mr. French queried when the SCC ROW team were proposing to undertake the footpath improvements works to Trull Meadow (Minute 79/06 refers). The Clerk advised that the officer concerned, Mr. Sam Jones, had confirmed that the scheme had been carried over from his predecessor, Ms. Tamsyn Jones, and that it would be implemented in due course. Mr. Martin-Scott, as a SCC Councillor, agreed to raise the matter with the officer direct.

Mr. Parris referred to the donated seat, and asked if any information on a potential location had been received from members of the public (Minute 181/06 refers). As none had been suggested to date, it was agreed that a further request would be made in the next Newsletter.

27/07

Highways

Mr. Hancock reported that a complaint had been received regarding the railings to the bridge at Mill Lane, Trull. These were considered to be in an unsafe condition, and Somerset Highways had agreed to repair them and to strengthen the bridge in the near future. This would mean closing the bridge whilst the work was done, and SH was currently negotiating for alternative temporary car parking facilities for the residents of Haygrove.

Mr. Hancock advised that Somerset Highways would be undertaking surface dressing to Daw's Green Road and Little Canonsgrove Lane in early August.

The Chairman drew attention to the fact that articulated vehicles were encountering difficulties in either turning or reversing in Mill Lane. It was agreed to make reference to the situation in the next Newsletter.

28/07

Allotments

There was nothing to report on this item.

29/07

Trull Village Memorial Halls

There was nothing to report on this item.

30/07 **Trull School**
There was nothing to report on this item.

31/07 **SALC**
It was noted that the next meeting would be held at Stoke St. Gregory Village Hall on 7th June at 7.30 pm. Mrs. Hudson and the Clerk to attend.

32/07 **Local Area Working Board**
The Chairman invited Mr. Martin-Scott to report on the progress of the Local Area Working Board. The second meeting of the group on 27th March had been well attended and the outcomes were summarised. It was noted that the eventual operation of the board could have a significant effect on the non-educational budget of SCC.

The constitutional arrangement of the group was explained in some detail. This currently comprised 12 County Councillors who had divisions in the District. District and Parish Councillors, as well as community representatives, are invited to attend and to make contributions to Agenda items. To further develop this structure, it was now proposed to extend the board by the co-option of non-voting members. These would be as follows: -

- 1 County Councillor (with voting rights),
- 1 District Councillor (from a ward within the County Council division),
- 1 Community Representative (normally a Parish Council member).

The Agenda for the next meeting, to be held on 22nd May at The Albemarle Centre, Taunton, was discussed and Mr. French agreed to attend as a community representative.

Mr. Martin-Scott gave further details of the timescales for the SCC Unitary Status proposal and the broad concept of the 'Team Somerset' alternative. It was noted that the District and Borough Councils were planning to hold a postal ballot in early June that would include every household in Somerset. It was emphasised that the process was now at a very important stage, and it was vital that the profile of the changes were raised at every opportunity.

33/07 **Adoption of Formal Complaints Procedure**
The Clerk referred to the previously circulated complaints procedure, and explained that the Council had yet to adopt a formal system for dealing with complaints. The suggested procedure would be used for any complaints made to the Council, for example, maladministration, failure to declare a personal or prejudicial interest, personal slander or corruption.
Resolved: To adopt the complaints procedure as submitted.

34/07 **Correspondence**
The Clerk advised of correspondence that was of interest to the Council: -

A letter received from a resident of Mansfield Road, Taunton, regarding a TDBC proposal to sell the Vivary Park nursery for housing development. The comments were noted but as it was outside the jurisdiction of the Parish, no action would be taken.

A copy of the NHS Foundation Trust Application Consultation Document from Somerset Partnership NHS and Social Care Trust (responsible for mental health services in Somerset).

An invitation received from the Somerset Smoke Free Alliance to attend a series of drop-in sessions for the smoke free legislation that will be implemented from 1st July 2007.

Two copies of the Policing Plan 2007/8.

Information regarding the 'Unitary Council for Somerset' received from Somerset County Council (previously circulated).

35/07 **Accounts**

Resolved: That the following accounts be authorised: -

Mrs. J. Wooldridge – April Newsletter	-	£19.00
Clerk's salary – April	-	£300.00
Mr. A. Bullen – Internal Audit 2006/7	-	£129.00
Parsons Landscapes Ltd – March/April	-	£304.99
Mr. Ray Shattock – Grass Cutting – Trull Green	-	£16.00
Mr. Ron Vining – Cheque Replacement - 000834	-	£125.00
Minster Machinery – Repairs to Play Equipment	-	£358.37

36/07 **Items for the Next Agenda**

The Chairman advised that the Any Other Business item had now been replaced with items for discussion at the next meeting. As no additional items were raised, this would include:-

- Co-option of Council Members
- Update on the RSS by the TDBC Forward Planning Officer
- Approval of the 2006/7 accounts
- Adoption of Revisions to the Code of Conduct
- Review of Standing Orders.

37/07 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 18th June 2007, in the Pearce Suite, Trull Memorial Hall, Trull at 7.15 pm.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.20 pm.

Signed.....
Chairman of Trull Parish Council

Date.....