

# Trull Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held in the Memorial Hall, Church Road, Trull  
on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2010

Present: Mrs J Wooldridge (Chairman)

Mr G Hewitt, Mrs F Drew (part), Mr N Hancock (part), Mrs A Hudson, Mrs D Luke, Mr P Parris and Mr C Ralph, together with ten Members of the Public.

In attendance: Mr Stephen Martin-Scott - SCC District Councillor  
Mr Andy Lehner – Developer of Dipford Orchard  
Mrs A Harding – Clerk

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting the Chairman invited questions from members of the public that were not related to the Agenda but none were forthcoming.

130/10 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were received and agreed from Mr S French and Mr D Archer.

131/10 **Declarations of Interest**

A Declaration of Interest was received from Mr P Parris who owns land bordering Dipford Orchard, adding that he had no financial interest in the development.

132/10 **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported on the following matters:

- In the absence of Mr Mark Edwards there would be no update on progress with repairs to Staplehay Weir, except to say that things are progressing slowly and the pilings were now on order.
- The Firework Display was a great success and approximately fifteen hundred people attended.

133/10 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2010 were agreed and signed by the Chairman with the correction that the word 'Vice' be removed after Mrs Wooldridge's name under the item 'Present'.

134/10 **Matters for Report**

The Clerk reported that the 'Notice to Complete' had now been received from BT giving legal ownership of the phone box at Staplehay to the Parish Council.

Information regarding the SCC Highways services that will be available during severe weather has been received by the Clerk. The information confirmed that any grit bins supplied by SCC and sited on the public highway would be kept filled by SCC. In addition, the Parish Council are entitled to collect ten twenty kilogram bags of road salt for use in the parish.

135/10 **Planning Application 10/0045 – Erection of two affordable dwellings adjoining Dipford Road.**

Members of the public raised the following concerns regarding this application.

- The new development would lead to an increase in traffic to and from the site and the increased number of cars parked in the road outside the site would add to the problem for vehicles who have on occasions had to drive onto the verges to pass.
- There is still no warning signage in Dipford Road.

- Foul water drainage – there is no water coming out of the drainage pipe and the gradient of the existing system is not great enough to deal with the volume of water. In addition to this the drop was not sufficient to meet current regulations.
- The run-off from the Dipford Orchard development site was causing flooding in Dipford Road.

The developer for the site, Mr Andy Lehner, gave an outline of the proposed application stating that it was for two additional semi-detached three bed houses that would be of the same design as dwellings already on the site. Access to the new houses would be through the existing entrance from Dipford Road and continue around the back of the first phase of the development.

Mr Lehner replied to the issues raised. On the matters of signage and traffic he stated that these would have to be raised directly with SCC Highways but added that they have indicated that they are happy with the situation.

The issue of the drainage was addressed and Mr Lehner confirmed that there had been reports of an unpleasant smell. The manufacturers of the sewage system had visited the site and were working on three modifications that should remedy the situation within the next few days. He told the meeting that it is thought that the efficiency of the system was causing the problem because water use is very low, at about one half of expected use, leading to low dilution of waste.

Mr Lehner told the meeting that no water runs off the site onto Dipford Road as the water soaks into the ground on the site through permeable paving and foul water is collected for re-use. He added that the fact that water has not been running from the foul water drainage pipe into the ditch shows that the foul water system is working very well and the 180m soak away is able to deal with the volume of water. He confirmed that the gradient of the pipe is well within what is required by building regulations. Mr Lehner confirmed that the development conformed to all policies as an exception site.

A resident whose property adjoins the site queried if the boundary of the site which had been marked out was in agreement with the Land Registry as it differed from that on the planning website. Mr Lehner confirmed that it has been marked out correctly. He also agreed to requests that the boundary fence is erected before work starts and that work does not take place between the hours of 7pm and 7am.

The Chairman enquired if there would be an offset grant from the new buildings and Mr Lehner answered that there would be but as the proposed occupiers would be residents of Trull it would not be at as high a level as with the original development of the site.

Mr Hewitt stated that it had always been a policy of the Parish Council to support affordable housing projects.

**Resolved:** to support the application.

136/10 **Update on Staplehay Weir**

Mr Mark Edwards was unable to attend the meeting.

137/10 **Mid-Year Financial Position**

The Clerk advised that the financial position as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010 was £24,214.66.

138/10 **Report from Mr Martin-Scott**

Mr Martin-Scott addressed the Parish Council with information from the recent Council budget meeting. £43,000,000 in savings was approved at the meeting but there are still cuts and efficiencies of £30,000,000 to be made. He stated that the

government viewed Local Authority spending as an area where cuts have not been made in the past. There will be job losses some through voluntary redundancy and others would be compulsory. Mr Martin-Scott identified areas that would be affected including road repairs, subsidised bus services and adult care. Some libraries and recycling centres may close and others remain open with reduced opening hours.

Members of the Parish Council expressed concern that many of the people who would be affected by cuts in services were elderly. Mrs Drew raised the point that whilst there may not always be sympathy for local government officers with 39% of locally employed people working in local government, the loss of their jobs would affect the whole community.

Mr Hancock enquired what effect the reduction in SCC spending might have on the Parish precept. Mr Martin-Scott replied that in fact it might be increased with the Parish Council having to take on responsibility for some of the services no longer run by SCC.

A member of the public asked if members of SCC were taking cuts, to which Mr Martin-Scott replied that the cabinet had been reduced from nine to six members and that he had stepped down.

On the matter of Staplehay Weir, Mr Parris thanked Mr Martin-Scott for his efforts but expressed frustration that it was taking so long to resolve at a huge financial cost. Mr Martin-Scott offered to give feedback from the Parish Council meeting to Mr Mark Edwards adding that Mr Edwards had always worked in the best interests of the Parish.

#### 139/10 **Planning**

Mrs Hudson and Mr Ralph reported on the following applications received from TDBC for the Council to consider: -

10/0044 - 6 Southwell Close, Trull  
Erection of extension and alterations.  
Mrs Hudson reported that this work is to modify the building for wheelchair access. There had been no objections from the neighbour who overlooks the site.

**Resolved** - To support the application.

10/0047T - Westbrook, Church Road, Trull  
Full Application to carry out management work to one field maple tree.

**Resolved** - To support the application.

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

10/0036 - 6 Ladylawn, Trull  
Full permission granted for the alteration and extension of garage roof including dormers.

10/0040 - 4 Granary Way, Trull  
Full permission granted for erection of a two storey extension to the side.

10/0039/LP - 10 Brookside Close, Trull  
A Certificate of Lawful Use or Development granted for proposed dormer window to the north elevation and the velux roof lights to the south elevation.

10/0042 - The Old Vicarage, Trull Road

The application for the demolition of outbuildings and the erection of a 3 bed dwelling and garage has been withdrawn.

140/10 **Housing and Development**

In the absence of Mr Archer there is nothing to report on this item except that he will be attending a 'Comeytrove Urban Extension Workshop' and would report to the Parish Council at the December meeting.

141/10 **Playing Field**

Mrs Wooldridge reported that her inspection found all equipment in good order. The water meter reading is 000.507. The Clerk advised that she had been in contact with Wessex Water requesting feedback on the monitoring of the water supply to the playing field but as yet had not received a reply.

The Chairman has received a report that a chicken belonging to a property bordering the playing fields has been killed by a dog, and reminded the meeting that the Parish Council policy was that all dogs must be kept on a lead on the playing field.

Now that the leaves were gone from the trees at the top of the playing field, Mr Parris stated that in his opinion there was not much of a problem and very few branches overhang the footpath. He offered to arrange a site meeting with contractors to assess the situation.

142/10 **Footpaths**

There was no report from Mr White.

It was reported that the final maintenance of the year had been carried out on Carter's Way and there was a need for a small quantity of chippings to supplement the mulch around the shrubs. Mrs Hudson offered to supply the chippings.

143/10 **Highways**

Mr Hancock reported on the following:

- The issue of the lack of drop kerbs between Honiton Road shop and Staplehay had again been raised with SCC. They confirm that they recognise there is a problem and that the work is on the list to do. The work may be carried out next year but this is not a certainty in the current financial climate.

The Parish Council has been asked by SCC to identify sites for grit bins in Trull. A large bin will be sited at the school for their use only and three small bins will be sited around the parish. SCC will have to confirm the exact locations taking into account safety and SCC owned land but below are sites proposed by the Parish Council.

- Along Church Road between the Post Office and the Church.
- Staplehay area – at the start of Amberd Lane towards Patricks Way.
- Comeytrove Road – possibly around the Barton Green entrance.

Mr Hancock referred to the issue of speeding motorists in Honiton Road and the use of flashing speed signs (minute 127/10 refers). He reported that the Parish Council can apply to the Traffic Engineering Team for the provision of temporary signs.

**Resolved:** that the Clerk contact the Traffic Engineering Team with a view to starting the process for obtaining the signs

144/10 **Allotments**

The Chairman thanked Mr Parris and Mr French for their prompt clearing of the burning plot.

The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with David Galley of TDBC seeking advice regarding proposed work on the overhanging hedge bordering the allotments. The advice was that the hedge can be cut back to the boundary.

145/10 **Trull Village Memorial Halls**

The Clerk read out an email from Rev Dr Youings in reply to an enquiry from the Parish Council regarding the inclusion of public toilets in the plans for the New Community Hall. Rev Dr Youings stated that public toilets did not form an overt part of the plans; but that as the building would be open for people to drop in, the toilets could be used by the public whilst staff are on site.

146/10 **Trull School**

There was nothing to report on this item.

147/10 **Correspondence**

The Clerk advised of correspondence that was of interest to the Council:

- SALC items of interest to Councillors and Clerks
- A leaflet from TDBC 'Guide to Winter Service in Somerset' outlining road clearing and gritting services during severe weather.
- Notification from TDBC of the proposed adoption of a new style for executive decision making.
- Formal consent notification from Environment Agency for the proposed temporary sand bag dam to enable bank protection works at Sherford Stream Weir.

148/10 **Accounts for Payment**

**Resolved:** That the following accounts be authorised: -

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Parsons Landscapes Ltd – October grass cutting                      | £69.39  |
| RBL Poppy Appeal - wreath   | £35.00  |
| The Castle School – newsletter photocopying                         | £20.00  |
| Mrs A Harding – producing newsletter x 2; Memorial Hall key, stamps | £79.20  |
| Clerk's salary – October  | £395.80 |

149/10 **Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

150/10 **Items for the Next Agenda**

Budget set for 2011/2012

Presentation to Trevor and Janice Smith

Update on progress at Staplehay Weir.

Report on 'Comeytrowe Urban Extension Workshop'

151/10 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2010, in the Pearce Suite, Trull Memorial Hall, Trull at 7.15 pm.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.50 pm.

Signed.....

Chairman of Trull Parish Council

Date.....