

MINUTES of the COMBE ST. NICHOLAS PARISH COUNCIL Meeting
Held Virtually via Zoom on Monday 25th January 2021

**Due to CORONAVIRUS ALL PHYSICAL COUNCIL MEETINGS CANCELLED AS GATHERINGS
AR TOO CONTAGIOUS. Views given and obtained via Zoom to enable Public to take part as well as
Parish Councillors**

PARISH COUNCILLORS Mr John Gilbert – Chairman
Miss Sue Pargeter, Mrs. Di Hine, Rev. Deborah Perreau
Messrs. Ed. Cockburn, Ian Croucher, Dr. Colin Ryall, Ian Stonex & Ian Whitehead.

Also, Jenny Kenton, Martin Wale (District Councillors), Anne Hunt – Clerk,
Apologies – Amanda Broom (County Councillor)

A Presentation made at the start of the meeting by Mrs. Maxwell, Head, and 2 pupils of Combe St. Nicholas C. E. V. A. School regarding a request to provide a running track around the edge of the School field. The children and Head gave details of the track and the safe use by children and also residents of the Parish when not in use by the School. Badger class was awarded a `Healthy School Award` for increased amount of P.E. The School field can be muddy at times, and the road pavements not safe for children to run on. Cost approximately £13,000 with a Community Grant possibly available from S.S.D.C. if the Parish Council was behind the scheme and contributed monies towards it.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – re Minute 68/2020-21 Councillor Stonex re app. 20/03374 - Personal

64/2020-21 Report from District Councillors – Jenny Kenton and Martin Wale

Some Staff from SSDC are helping at Covid-19 vaccination clinics £45m has been given out in Business Grants (Govt. money) Homeless people have been offered places to live/shelter during these times. A national Census takes place on the 21st March Forms to be completed on-line The Planning Dept. is still trying to employ a Specialist re Phosphates, which is holding up planning decisions. There should be some Training sessions via SSDC in the future.

65/2020-21 MINUTES

The Minutes of both 23rd November and 14th December 2020 were approved, as a true record, after the addition of extra information re. Planning App.20/03374

66/2020-21 COMBE ST. NICHOLAS C.E.V.A. SCHOOL

- a) It was initially agreed unanimously to give a grant towards **the running track scheme**. A long discussion followed and it was finally agreed to donate £1500 towards this project, especially considering the Community Asset situation
- b) **Vacancy for L. A. School Governor** – Martin Wale volunteered to look into this
- c) **Damage to School sign** has occurred for the 2nd time.

67/2020-21 GREEN DRAGON

Following a general discussion, it was agreed to support the `Save the Green Dragon` Group financially following their appeal for interest in buying Shares with a view to purchasing the Community Pub scheme, or by giving a donation. Their Group posts updates continually on their Facebook Page.

67/2020-21 The Green Dragon (Cont'd)

Enquiries have been made with S.A.L.C.re the legality/procedure allowing this by a Parish Council. Our Parish Council does not have the `General Power of Competence` status, which is recommended by S.A.L.C if a large role in the ownership/running of the pub was envisaged.

There is big support within the Community. Councillors Tony Sauer and Di Hine volunteered to join the Committee meetings of the Steering Group as a PC representative and will contact the Chairman regarding this. A definite amount of help to be discussed again when more details known about their current position

68/2020-21 PLANNING

- App.20/03600/1LBC Wadeford House, Wadeford. Erection of retaining wall to retain bank adjacent to permitted consultation. No objections
- App.20/03469 Land at Foxdon Hill, Wadeford. Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of land as a garden for an existing dwelling house – Le Meridan opposite. Supported (7 votes for, 3 against)
- **App.20/03374** The Old Mill House, Court Mill Lane, Wadeford. External alterations, including new front entrance porch, the installation of a dormer front window to dwelling, and erection of an outside utility building to serve pool. Amended plans – now without the dormer window. No objections
- App.20/03260 combe St. Nicholas CEVA School Replace existing chain-link fencing and gate between the school playground and New Road with round topped railings of 3m high incorporating 1 double gate for vehicular access. No objections
- **App.20/02742** Land OS 1976 Part, Nimmer. Outline application, Letter received addressed to Chairman, re procedural matters when discussing this application in December 2020. After discussion - Letter to be sent signed by the Chairman stating that Councillors did carry out their discussion and decision with due diligence.
- SALC Training event. Although Councillor Croucher was booked on to a Zoom meeting re Planning training, this was not possible due to incorrect information, but SSDC should be holding a planning training session during this year.

69/2020-21 THE LAWNS PLAY AREA

This matter to be held back until the February meeting

70/2020-21 RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY

In accordance with the rules of this Charity the Parish Councillors approve the re-election of 2 Founder Trustees – Philip Coleman and Stanley Hopkins.

71/2020-21 CENSUS 2021

The next Census is due on the 21st March 2021. Due to the Covid-19 regulations this will be carried out on-line this year where possible.

72/2020 FINANCE

- a) Precept – Figures re expenses/income though-out the year circulated It was resolved to increase the Precept by 2% = £340 for the year 2021-22 due to probably increased expenses due to Covid-19. Amount of Precept will be £18240.
- b) The following payments were approved –

Mrs. A. Hunt (postage expenses and broadband costs)	£33.04
Combe Critters Toddler Group (donation towards insurance costs, etc	

73/2020 GENERAL MATTERS

- a) **increased Traffic** and speed though the Parish has increased lately due to the A.30 being closed between Barleymow's Farm Shop and the Taunton turn. Concern shown by some residents. The A.30 road should re-open by the middle of February. Speed Indicators Devices could be looked into again, even possibly share with Buckland St. Mary to purchase. The problem of moving the cameras regularly was considered a big problem due to finding a volunteer and training.
- b) **Frog Lane** drains still getting blocked. Possible pipe broken further up the Lane.
- c) **Brocolle Lane** footpath surface is fairly clear as at January 25th showing soak away from the barns is working.

Meeting ended at 10.00pm