

Minutes of Meeting held on 16 September 2019

Draft - subject to approval

Selworthy and Minehead Without Parish Council

Present

Mrs P Webber (Chairperson), Mr B Bonar, Mr P Gibbs, Mr J Grant, Mr M Lawrence, Mr D Parkin, Mr B Twist, Mr R Webber, Mr B Wright

Mr A Milne (District Councillor)

No members of the public

1 Co-option

On the proposal of Mr Twist, seconded by Mr Gibbs, it was unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr Maxwell Lawrence onto the Parish Council. Mrs Webber hoped he would enjoy his time on the Council.

2 Apologies

Mrs S Barney, Mrs S Bate, Mrs F Nicholson (County Councillor), Ms V Webbon (National Trust), PCSO Linda Brooks

3 Interests and Dispensations

Mr Bonar - minutes 11, 13.1.4, 13.1.5

4 Crime Update

In her absence PCSO Linda Brooks' report indicated eight police calls for the parish of Selworthy and Minehead Without in August.

5 Somerset West Lodging Scheme

Lisa Godfrey, the Lodging Scheme Manager, did not turn up and Councillors agreed no further action would be taken on a presentation.

6 Minutes of Meeting held on 29 July 2019

The minutes, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed as correct. The proposer was Mr Bonar, seconded by Mr Parkin.

7 Update on Matters Arising from the Minutes

7.1 Report from the National Trust

In her absence Ms Webbon had submitted a list of National Trust properties and their current position regarding lettings and repairs. This list is reproduced below.

7.1.1 Hurlestone Bothy

The consultancy period for planning consent has been extended. This could go one way or the other.

7.1.2 Cross Lane, Allerford

The new tenants will move in shortly. I hope they will make a success of the business and provide a good service to our locals. They appear to be very promising and the family used to live in Tivington

7.1.3 Banksia

The refurbishment is nearly complete and the General Manager, Simon Larkins, will be moving in at the end of September.

7.1.4 Holmhurst & Goulds Cottage

Full refurbishments about to commence.

7.1.5 Selworthy Farmhouse

Full refurbishment is halfway through. No decisions have yet to be made regarding the potential reuse of the traditional farmyard but they may be offered as an “option” subject to NT approval (and with the parish council’s input). It will be marketed by a Taunton or Exeter Agency who specialise in commercial lettings.

Ms Webbon commented that there was a new Assistant Rural Surveyor - Stephanie Wilson, who was dealing with the Hill View matter. Mr Grant said there had been concern that a large bonfire had been lit at around 10 pm one evening, with flames estimated at 30 - 40 feet. Ms Webbon would be informed.

7.2 Other Matters

7.2.1 Telephone Box at Bossington

The Parish Lengthsman had agreed to paint the outside of the telephone box, and a couple of Councillors had offered their help. Mr Twist offered to purchase the paint, which was Dulux pillar-box red, and this was agreed. The Clerk would contact Mr Bryant.

7.2.2 Porlock Fire Station

This matter is covered under minute 9 Report of District Councillor.

7.2.3 Grit Bins

There was no news about delivery of five new green salt bins (20 kilo capacity) at locations as per minute 9 of the meeting held on 29 July. The Clerk would chase this up with Somerset Highways.

8 Report of County Councillor

Mrs Nicolson had been unable to attend due to being delayed in traffic due to an accident.

9 Report of District Councillor

Mr Milne updated Councillors on the amount of opposition to the proposed closure of Porlock Fire Station. A 3800 signature petition had been submitted to the Fire Authority and 750 questionnaires had been distributed along with five drop-in sessions.

The proposed timetable was for the Fire Authority to look at all the correspondence in October, publish a report by 5 November, with their full Committee making a decision on 8 November 2019.

Mr Milne said that Somerset West and Taunton Council had recently become a “Frack Free Zone”, something this Parish Council had committed itself to some time ago.

10 Highways and Public Rights of Way

10.1 A and B Road Hedge Trimming Second Cuts

A complaint had been received that the 30 mph signs on entering Porlock from Minehead direction were becoming hidden by hedge growth. The response from Somerset Highways was that the contractor had failed to cut around signs in their first cut. The second cut was about to get underway and as part of the contract they had to cut around the signs within seven days of cutting the hedge. They would monitor the situation.

10.2 Water on the road up to Selworthy

The leaking drain had been dealt with. The Clerk commented about debris in the stream alongside Selworthy village road. The County Council’s contractors, Crestmoor Construction, were carrying out removal of stone and debris along the Selworthy by road from 30 September. Councillors agreed to ask the County Council if Crestmoor could remove debris from the Selworthy village stream at the

same time. Mr Wright had offered to liaise with the contractor as he lived opposite the stream.

10.3 Parish Lengthsman Scheme 2020/2021

On the proposal of Mr Twist, seconded by Mr Parkin, Councillors agreed to continue their involvement in the Scheme for a year from 1 April 2020, at a total cost of £645.75 for seven days. This includes £57.75 fuel and admin costs).

10.4 New Bridge, Allerford

Mr Wright was thanked for his efforts in clearing material from the bridge parapet.

11 Allerford and Selworthy Community Hall

A short report from the Mrs Prideaux, the Hall Chairman, said a very successful EX Cycle event had recently taken place. There were two small grant applications for a new gas cooking range and finances were currently healthy.

Mr Bonar was congratulated on being awarded a ‘Highly Commended’ award for the excellent way the recreational field was kept. Mr Bonar said he had some help and was proud that he had received this award for the sixth consecutive year.

12 Planning

12.1 Applications Nil

12.2 Decisions

12.2.1 6/29/19/106LB - re-siting kitchen, creation of shower room and boot room - 9 Holmhurst, Bossington Road, Selworthy - approved 14.8.19

12.2.2 6/29/19/107LB - works at Cross Acres, Selworthy - approved 4.9.19

13 Finance

13.1 Expenditure

To consider approval of the following accounts for payment

Item No	Details	£
13.1.1	Clerk’s salary August/September	854.48
13.1.2	Clerk’s expenses August/September	40.09

Item No	Details	£
13.1.3	Clerk's working from home allowance - 50%	100.00
13.1.4	Second half donation to Community Hall (as agreed by minute 18 of 20 May 2019 meeting)	3650.00
13.1.5	CJ Lynch - extension and surfacing of Community Hall car park - completed 14.8.19. (Previous PC minutes have approved payment of this invoice, which includes a contribution of £1361 from the Community Hall)	5730.00 (inc VAT 955.00)
13.1.6	SALC - affiliation fee 2019/2020	128.51

On the proposal of Mr Twist, seconded by Mr Parkin, it was unanimously agreed to approve these accounts for payment.

13.2. Income

Item No	Details	£
13.2.1	2 nd half precept	6500.00
13.2.2	Repayment of £2400 from Community Hall	2400.00
13.2.3	Contribution from Community Hall towards car park work	1361.00

13.3 Bank Reconciliation Statement July/August

After the above transactions had been taken into account the Parish Council's bank balance totalled £9901.

13.4 Half Year Internal Audit of Parish Council's accounts

Mr Wright offered to carry out the audit.

14 Correspondence Received since the last meeting

- 14.1 Somerset West and Taunton Council - Electric Community Charge Point Fund - Call for applications from Parish and Town Councils
- 14.2 Licensing Act 2003 - draft policy for 2019 - 2024
- 14.3 Gambling Act 2005 - draft statement of principles

14.4 Exmoor National Park - Headquarters of the Exe Catchment Programme

14.5 Bus Service 10/11 - updated information

14.6 Somerset County Council - presentations available by Road Safety Team for older drivers - information passed to Community Hall Committee to see if there was sufficient interest in the parish.

15. Correspondence Received since Circulation of Agenda

15.1 Exmoor National Park - Rural Enterprise Exmoor Project - placed on noticeboards.

15.2 Campaign to Protect Rural England - What Future for our Brownfield sites - event organised for 18 October 2019 in Chard

16. Members of the Public

None

17. Items of Concern

None

The next meeting of the Parish Council

will be held on Monday 18 November 2019 at 7.00 pm in the Allerford and Selworthy Community Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

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