

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT SOMERFORD
(INCORPORATING STARTLEY) PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM AT SOMERFORDS WALTER POWELL SCHOOL ON
WEDNESDAY 10th JANUARY 2018 THAT COMMENCED AT 7.30pm.**

PRESENT: Cllrs S Mansfield-Chairman, H Cole, D Butcher, F Hyde, M Hourigan, C Blount,
A Scott, Wiltshire Cllr T Sturgis

Public Participation – There were no members of the public present

1.01.18	Apologies for Absence Cllrs S Binstead, A Gravell
2.01.18	Minutes The minutes of the Great Somerford Parish Council meeting held on 8 th November 2017 were signed by the chairman and adopted as a true record.
3.01.18	Declarations of Interest – Cllr A Scott, Community Room Review of Members Register of Interests - Up-to-Date.
4.01.18	Wiltshire Council update – Cllr Sturgis reported that the Government grant was 12 days late and advice was that Council Tax can be raised by 1% this is due to be discussed by the full Council. There are many calls on Council finances including more children being taken into care with no Government aid available. Planning fees are due to increase by 20% on 17/01/18 Housing Market Area and Annual Land Availability Policy – Cllr Cole reported that his investigation is ongoing
5.01.18	Planning Matters Cllr Cole reported on the following applications :- 17/09902/TCA - Hawthorn Cottage, Frog Lane. Re-pollard Ash Tree to 5 Metres and Remove Epicormic Growth. Passed 17/07909/FUL - The Hawthorns, Startley. Proposed two storey side extension, single storey rear extension & front entrance portico with detached garage carport & sunroom. Passed 17/07878/FUL - Sunnybank, Frog Lane. Proposed carport, two conservatories, and a veranda. Passed 17/09234/LBC - Manor Farm House, West Street. Proposed fenestration alterations. Awaiting Decision 17/09925/FUL - Cherry Tree House, 6 Dauntsey Road. Proposed two storey side extension and single storey rear extension. Passed 17/10105/FUL - Parsloe, Hollow Street. Rear Extension and Canopy and Demolish Existing Rear Extension. Passed 17/10392/FUL - Paddock House, 1 Great Somerford. Change of Use of Land to Form Parking Area. Passed 17/10553/FUL - Gable Lodge, Dauntsey Road. Proposed single storey rear extension and garage. Passed 17/10639/TCA 1 Paddock Close. Crown reduction to Silver birch. Fell Cherry & Conifer. Passed 17/10694/TCA Laburnum House, Frog Lane. Pollard Willow & removal of branches touching overhead electricity & phone cables, Passed 17/09429/TCA Land adjoining West Street and Manor Park. Crown raise 2 Lime trees to 2 metres from ground level..

	Completed by Cllrs Mansfield and Cole
6.01.18	<p>Highway Matters</p> <p>a) Street light by pumping station – West Street, The owner was consulted, works completed and light now not obscured.</p> <p>b) Pot holes & missing white lines/slow warning in West Street/Startley Road The condition of the road is extremely poor and exacerbated by the recent cold spell – use the Wiltshire app to report. “Slow” marking on the dangerous corner by Somerford House is non-existent. At the request of a parishioner Cllr Mansfield wrote to Cllr Wayman (cabinet Member for Highways at WCC) who replied that there was no remaining budget for white lining. Cllr Sturgis reported that there is a finite amount of money available for road marking and the Contractors need to have a full days work in one area to make the cost viable.</p> <p>c) “Badger trap” close to Station House. The previous works have failed and the depression is getting deeper.</p> <p>d) Finger post outside The Brow. The post has snapped, Cllrs Cole & Blount to obtain a piece of 4x4 oak and install.</p>
7.01.18	<p>Community Room</p> <p>Further to previous correspondence Ms Kennedy suggested a meeting to clarify the situation. Cllr Mansfield to write and confirm that the school and Council agree to carry on as before without any changes.</p> <p>It was reported that paint is peeling from the wall in the kitchen and it would appear that although there is a notice asking users to switch the extractor fan on when heating water, it is not being adhered to.</p>
8.01.18	<p>Play Area</p> <p>Cllr Butcher to measure area of play field.</p> <p>Cllr Hyde to arrange a meeting with play area designers/installers with a view to obtaining designs to put to the parishioners.</p>
9.01.18	<p>Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>To date no comments received.</p>
10.01.18	<p>Cemetery Matters – No problems at present</p>
11.01.18	<p>Walking the Parish Footpaths</p> <p>Cllr Sturgis reported that he had three marked maps but unfortunately there are three fields where ownership cannot be ascertained at present. Upon confirmation, the Council will be informed. There are grants available towards the cost of maintaining stiles etc.</p>
12.01.18	<p>Community Assets</p> <p>Arkells have replied accepting the decision whilst not entirely in agreement with it.</p> <p>Cllr Blount complete necessary forms.</p>
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13.01.18	<p>Finance Transactions since 9th November 2017</p> <p>Receipts: £ 237.57 Payments: £5,327.97 Bank account balances as at 22nd December 2017 (last Statement) Current account: £16,493.00. Deposit account: £ 3,716.98 Total: £20,209.98 There is a 90p discrepancy, cost of printer and refund – to be repaid. Accept accounts, proposed Cllr Cole seconded Cllr Hyde. Agreed unanimously.</p>
14.01.18	<p>Budget and Precept Precept to be increased by precept calculator – 3%, based on Band D Council Tax. The reserves have grown while the Council did not have a Clerk's wages to fund. Make an ex-gratia payment to the Free Gardens. Proposed to accept, Cllr Hourigan, seconded Cllr Butcher. Unanimously agreed.</p>
15.01.18	<p>Correspondence as received</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Speeding in Startley Cllr Hourigan reported that at peak times a high number of drivers were ignoring the 30mph signs. Cllr Mansfield to write to local employers asking them to pass on to their employees the dangers of speeding. Cllr Hourigan to find out the cost of purchasing a portable speed indicator, possibly in collaboration with other local villages. b) Community Room (see 7.01.18) c) John and Sandy McGrath. Unfortunately the Signpost omitted the Council's expression of gratitude to John and Sandy. Cllr Mansfield wrote a personal letter thanking them for their contribution to the village. Ask the Signpost to include this piece in the February issue, noting that it was not included in the last issue. d) The Volunteer (see 12.01.18) e) Electricity Supply to phone box. The Clerk has been in contact with BT and South Western Ambulance Service. Since the phone box was adopted BT have amended the contract and now require assurance regarding compliance with BS 7671-416/417 requirements. Awaiting confirmation from SWAS. Upon confirmation a new contract can be signed and the electricity supply would be guaranteed for up to seven years. f) Dog fouling in Shiptons Lane. An email has been received from a home owner stating that recently a large dog has been allowed to defecate on their lawn and in the lane. Unfortunately they do not know the name of the owner and have asked that the Council re-iterate that this is a criminal offence.
16.01.18	<p>Councillors Reports and items for the next agenda. – the next meeting is Wednesday 7th February 2018 commencing at 7.30pm</p>

MEETING CLOSED AT 20.45 Hrs.