

**ST FLORENCE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**St Florence Community Council Meeting**

**Held at Village Hall, St Florence**

7.30pm on Tuesday 6 September 2016

S. Smith  
4/10/16

**Present:** Councillors Buckmaster (Chair), Eardley, R Hughes,

**Also Present:** R Ruff (Clerk), Phillip Kidney (County Councillor), One member of public

**Not Present:** Cllr S Hughes, and Cllr D Evans

**Public Participation**

The member of public expressed concerns regarding the lack of a dog waste bin at the Old Mill end of the Ritec riverside path. It was also noted that the footpath from the Parsonage through to Parsons Green from where the Laurel hedge had been previously removed was also untidy and needed to be trimmed back.

**6/9/16 1. Apologies**

Cllr D Evans, Cllr S Hughes

**6/9/16 2. Declarations of Interest**

None received

**6/9/16 3. Signing of Minutes from both June and July Meetings**

June and July Minutes were approved and signed off.

It was noted from the June Minutes the hedge between Ivy Tower and Sports Field still needs addressing.

**6/9/16 4. Matters Arising for information only**

- 4.1 Broadband Update** – The Clerk updated that an account has now been set up with British Telecom, and that an Engineer assessment is imminent.
- 4.2 Notice Board Replacement** – Refurbishment of notice board has been carried out and councillors were pleased to learn that a saving of £100 on the initial estimate of £600 had been achieved.
- 4.3 Office Equipment update** – An account has been set up with Viking Direct and the new colour laser printer has been purchased.
- 4.4 Charity Bingo Night** – Councillors are awaiting feedback on the success of the evening.

**5. Planning Applications**

- 5.1 16/0158/PA** – Roof replacement, The Green, High Street, St Florence, SA70 8LJ

5.2 DM/0299/16 – Demolition of buildings at Ash Grove, St Florence, SA70 8NB

5.3 15/0936/PA – Development of three detached houses, site adjacent to The Green, St Florence, SA70 8LJ

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## 6. Planning Decisions

6.1. 16/0240/TF Tree surgery, Elm Grove, St Florence, SA70 8LS - *Granted*

## 7. Village Hall & Village Hall Matters

7.1 **Electricity Supplier** – Following a request by a member of the public at the June meeting of the Council, an online comparison between the 'Big Six' electricity suppliers has now been carried out. Tariffs for one year contracts were compared, all of which came in at either very similar prices to or higher than what is currently paid. It was acknowledged that this was because the Village Hall was on an old standard rate tariff at a very reasonable price coupled with relatively low annual consumption (approximately 3400 KWHs). Given that the rate currently paid is not time limited contract for one year, it was agreed that there would be no virtue in changing suppliers at this time. Agreed unanimously.

7.2 **Sports Field Grass cutting and Weed Killing** – Due to a number of unforeseen problems with this year's grass cutting contract, additional cuts by external contractors had been necessary throughout the summer. A reduction in the fees paid to the Cricket Club has been agreed with the resulting savings being used to purchase the Council's own mower.

The question of weed control at the Sports field was also discussed. As this work had also previously been carried out under the Cricket Club's contract Cllr Buckmaster suggested that this work should now be brought in house to save money. It was agreed that a costing for attending a weed killing course would be sought with a view to sending Councillor R Hughes attending same.

7.2 **Woodland Close Construction Site (Phase 2)** Following the closure of the Castle Lane access to the construction site that arose from a complaint about damage to a badger set, it has been noted that the construction traffic has subsequently begun using an agricultural entrance running behind the bungalows on the northern perimeter of the Longstone estate. A number of residents are unhappy about this, a meeting with County Cllr P Kidney, construction company and with the residents of Longstone has been carried out and an amicable agreement was reached between all parties Cllr Kidney advised. If disgruntlement still remains and residents still feel unhappy, Cllr Kidney will need to address this again.

7.3 **Car Park Extension Village Hall** – It was discussed that the current car park is no longer big enough to serve its purpose since the increased use of the village hall by various clubs. LNG are offering 50% fund matching grant under their 'safety' banner to help with new initiatives and projects. It was agreed unanimously that the council will apply for this available funding from LNG. Meanwhile, estimates have been sourced for the completion of the works; these will be reviewed whilst the LNG funding paperwork is submitted.

7.4 **Village Hall Repairs** – various repair works are necessary for the village hall and its good upkeep such as: bushes trimmed at the back of the hall, weed killing removal of Ragwort, unblock drains, boiler room roof is leaking, two canopy end beams need re-placing as rotten, rotten skirting boards in changing rooms, guttering ripped off garage roof, six Velux windows in upstairs office need replacing. This work needs to be costed and included within the budget for next year, all agreed.

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**7.5 Manorbie and District Twinning Request** – The request to temporarily display Manorbie and District Twinning gifts at St Florence Village Hall was agreed subject to an acceptable proposal on how the items on display would be safeguarded. Clerk to write to them to ask.

**7.6 Code of Conduct Training** – This will be carried out at 6:30pm prior to the 4 October meeting.

**7.7 Electricity Price Comparison** (as point 4.5)

**7.8 Village Hall Committee** – The Small Society Lottery registration has been submitted. This will enable a raffle tickets to be sold in advance of this year's Bonfire Night event.

**7.9 Boiler Annual Service** – Carried out in August by Graham Walker.

**8. Correspondence Received**

Letter received from one villager expressing concern for the badger set on Castle Lane adjacent to the new development, Cllr Kidney advised that all is hand and that the County Council have taken steps to ensure the protection of the badger set.

**9. Accounts and Finances**

**9.1 Bank Reconciliation** as at 30 August 2016 – all noted and agreed.

**9.2 Checking of Bank Reconciliation by non-signatory member** - Cllr R Hughes checked and signed the bank reconciliation

**9.3 Actual V Budget** – Percentages and variances were shown to be acceptable.

**9.4** Invoices and cheques were presented for signature.

**10. Items for October and year planner 2016 Meeting** – No items for year planner.

**11. County Councillors Reports** – County Cllr P Kidney noted:

\* A site meeting with Barry McKee is to take place regarding the trees at the back of Greenhills Hotel. Cllr R Hughes was asked if he would like to attend a site meeting to discuss the problem with the Poplar trees on the B4138 on the verge frontage of New Inn Farm.

\* Items including hoops and bin bags are to be donated to assist Mr Watkins for litter picking.

\* Ridgeway View – curbs and paving stones have been taken up and left causing a hazard, Council Highways have agreed to put back curbs and paving on this non adopted road.

\* Fly tipping at the entrance to the Sports Field was acknowledged as a growing problem. Garden waste believed to be from neighbouring residence being tipped over the hedge at the entrance to the village hall. Cllr Buckmaster enquired whether a letter could be sent from the County Council could be drawn up to residents saying 'no fly tipping' Cllr Kidney will look into this.

**12 Time and Date of next meeting** – 7:30pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Meeting Closed at 21.15pm