

DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 15th JANUARY 2024

IN SHERFORD VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00 PM

<p>Present. Cllr Peter Hadley (Chair) PH Cllr Ben Johnson (Vice Chair) BJ Cllr Ed Fevyer EF Cllr Antony Marshall AM Cllr Nick White NW</p>	<p>In Attendance: Helen Leather (Parish Clerk) HL SHDC Cllr Julian Brazil JB Parishioners/Guests: 1</p>	<p>Apologies: Cllr Tamsin Oakley Cllr Steve Hart SH Cllr Nigel Smith NS SHDC Cllr Laurel Lawford LL</p>
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1. PARISHONERS OPEN FORUM

No questions or matters raised.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Laurel Lawford, Cllr Steve Hart, Cllr Nigel Smith and Cllr Tamsin Oakley

3. DECLARTIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

4. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Julian Brazil reported on Devon County Council’s budget, the debt and the overspend on SEND budget.

The rollout of the new waste collection service is going well.

Cllr Hadley told Cllr Brazil that the parish council will be resubmitting their application for funding for the 20 mph speed limits in the parish scheme.

5. DISRTICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

Apologies had been received from Cllr Lawford

Cllr Brazil left the meeting at 7.30 pm

6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th November were agreed by all councillors and signed by the chair.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Cllr Johnson agreed to put the roles and responsibilities of councillors on the Parish Website. He also reminded councillors to provide him with a short bio and a photo for the website.

The Clerk agreed to draw up a list of the areas parish councils are responsible for that can go on the website.

The bench seat has been placed in Sherford's war memorial garden and the council would like to thank Liz Marshall for her initiative in recommending this.

Neville Brooking has done some additional work but there is still work to do on the Pool Hill area.

Councillors agreed to spend £34 on a tree preservation order plan.

Cllr Hadley had had further correspondence from Chris Coffin regarding the issue of concern at pumping station number 1 and about the reemergence of water at the top of Frogmore Hill. Cllr Hadley thanked Chris in his absence and agreed that this should be followed up with South West Water and DCC.

8. CLERK'S REPORT

Bus Diversions and road closure the A379 Stoke Fleming road closure. Phase 1: 2nd January – 7th January 2024 - Stoke Fleming Closure only. During this phase the 93 bus service will be diverted around Stoke Fleming via Dartmouth - A3122 - Oldstone Cross – Bowden – Strete. This diversion should not take that much more time over the normal route. We are anticipating that the bus will broadly remain on time so the timetable will not be altered. Stoke Fleming will be served with a shuttle bus to Dartmouth, operated by Stagecoach, throughout the morning and afternoon. The shuttle bus is timed to maintain links to education, work, health and shopping needs in Dartmouth. Phase 2: 8th January – 9th February 2024. Stoke Fleming and Modbury Road Closure. The 93 will continue on its diversion around Stoke Fleming, but the 3 bus service will also be diverted around Modbury via Harraton Cross – California Cross – B3196 – Kitterford Cross – A3121 - Hollowcombe Cross.

Trial scheme for communities asking to deliver 'minor' highways improvements. Communities who ask to use their own money to make minor improvements to roads in their area will soon be able to do so. Devon County Councillors have given the go-ahead for a trial scheme and a step-by-step guide or 'checklist' will be published enabling communities to understand the steps that are required before any work is carried out. The highways service receive requests from communities for permission to pay for and make small improvements to a highway in their area, such as a 20mph zone or traffic calming measures, for instance. These requests are where communities have funding in place, but the highways service lacks the capacity to deliver it on their behalf as quickly as the community would like. The results of the trial will then help us determine if the proposal should be turned into a permanent scheme.

9. PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Cllr Hadley recommended that the parish council should be proactive in dealing with non 'A' road potholes, stated that he had received highway works management Chapter 8 training. Cllr Marshall suggested that maybe the council could investigate buying some hot tar and then use his equipment to spend a day filling in the worst of the potholes. Councillors agreed to discuss this again at a future date when weather is more suited to road repairs.

10. PLANNING

Part A: Planning Applications

- a) Ratification of 3610/23/FUL. Applicants: Mr & Mrs Andy Rushworth. Stancombe Cross Farm Sherford, TQ7 2BB. Provision of a temporary agricultural workers dwelling (mobile home).

Target Determination Date: **This application was supported by the parish council and neighbouring land owners but has since been withdrawn.**

- b) Ref: 4265/23/ARC. Applicant: Mrs E Perraton. Location: housing site east of Creek Close. An application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval 3880/17/OPA, Condition no. 3: Estate road, cycleways, footways, footpaths, verges, junctions, street lighting, sewers, drains, retaining walls, service routes, surface water outfall, road maintenance/vehicle overhang. The planning consultation date ends 23rd January 2024. **Frogmore and Sherford Parish Council noted the highways concerns and had no further comments to make.**

Part B: South Hams Planning Decisions:

None to report

Part C: Planning Appeal 30.11.2023

Ref: APP/K1128/W/23/3333031. Appellants: Build 1 Ltd., Stratford-on-Avon. Proposals for 3 custom-built houses to be sited outside the Frogmore village defined Settlement Boundary above Jeffreys Meadow and lying in fields between the Globe Inn and Appletree Close. This Appeal follows a 15th May 2023 planning refusal to application ref: 0863/23/OPA. The Appeal was notified by HM Planning Inspectorate on 31st November 2023, requiring consultee submission to be submitted by 4th January 2024. Parish Councillors agreed their response, maintaining the rejection of the Appeal. The Parish Council's submission to this effect was registered on 21st December 2023 and ratified at today's meeting.

Part D: Response from Frogmore & Sherford PC on planning app: 4120/23/VAR, Salcombe.

Councillors have viewed this application and all object to the Principal Residence clause being removed. It was very clear when 0434/20/FUL was determined that the application was conditioned with a Principal Residence clause. Councillors agreed that the developer should not be allowed to proceed to sell these properties as open market housing and that if this application is approved it would be devastating for all those towns and parishes who have worked hard to create long term sustainability for their communities through the implementation of Principal Residence policies, it would also set a dangerous precedent for all developers.

11. FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

Finance

Councillors approved the following payments. Clerks Salary, Subscription to Scribe Accounts Package - £12 per month, Sherford Village Hall hire – overdue payments. PFK Littlejohn overdue invoice. Councillors approved the income and expenditure budget for 23/24.

Governance

Financial Review & Setting of the annual precept:

1. The monthly accounts always show the Council's spend to date in the financial year. In December/January the Parish Council uses this information to estimate and assess the projected outturn spend for the year. This then gives the Council a likely carry forward figure for the next financial year and informs the precept discussions.
2. The meeting therefore reviewed the year-to-date financial position and worked through the modelling supplied by the Chair and the Clerk to assure itself of the validity of the projected outturn.

3. The meeting then considered the commitments, inflationary pressures and the likely increase in services needing to be both provided and funded locally.
4. The base band D on which precept calculations are based has decreased from 227.19 in 2023/24 to 224.85 in 2024/25
5. The meeting noted that in previous years the Government has not set a limit on how much a town or parish can increase its band D council tax before a referendum is triggered. The Government announced on 5th December 2023 that they are not looking to apply a limit for 2024/25. The Government reserves the right to apply a limit in future years.
6. Councillors discussed the Precept submission for 2024/25 – see Appendix 1. The precept requirements have not been raised since 2022, and reserves have fallen significantly, which will leave the council short if money is needed urgently for assets or funding of community projects. The council concluded that they would set a budget requirement which would ensure reserves were increased to cover assets and the first 3 months of the new financial year which would raise the Band D rate to £53.47. Budget Requirement = 224.85 x £53.47 = a budget requirement of £12,023 (see spreadsheet below).
7. A proposal was made to request a precept level of £12,023 as per the above information.
8. Proposed by Cllr Hadley, seconded by Cllr Fevyer, approved unanimously.

FROGMORE & SHERFORD PARISH COUNCIL	
Precept requirement for 2024/25	
2024-2025	
Budget Forecast	
RECEIPTS:	
CTSG (?)	
Grant DCC (potholes & flood prevention)	£ 500.00
Grant SHDC (community infrastructure)	£ 200.00
Bank deposit interest	£ 45.00
Other	
Other	
Precept - option 8	£ 12,023.10
Transparency	
VAT recovered yet (to be claimed!)	£ 1,307.41
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£ 14,075.51
PAYMENTS: (net of VAT)	
Asset acquisition	
Asset maintenance (see below)	
Audit	£ 100.00
Churchyard grant	£ 350.00
Clerk's Remuneration	£ 4,000.00
Contingency (consultants etc)	£ 500.00
Councillor expenses	£ -
Donations	£ -
Election expenses	£ -
Grass cutting, verge and road gutter clearance	£ 2,750.00
Hire of hall	£ 250.00
HMRC	£ 400.00
Insurance	£ 325.00
Maintenance (asset,s bus stops, benches etc)	£ 150.00
Miscellaneous	£ -
Civic Events (none planning)	£ -
Office Expenses (Clerk)	£ 75.00
Repairs (parish assets)	£ 150.00
VAT	
Subscriptions (DALC , SLCC)	£ 100.00
Training (Councillors, Clerk)	£ 150.00
Website	£ 50.00
Community fund projects	£ 1,000.00
Sherford village signage project	£ 3,223.00
Potholes & flood prevention project	£ 450.00
Neighbourhood Plan	£ -
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£ 14,023.00

12. SLAPTON LINE

Nothing to report

13. COMMUNITY FUND APPLICATIONS

None received

14. PARISH NOTICEBOARDS

Cllrs Agreed to replace Sherford Board and replace the Perspex on the Frogmore board. Cllr Marshall will supply a quote for Sherford and Clerk and Chair will get quotes for Frogmore.

15. FVCA PROJECT FUND REQUEST.

The Frogmore Village Community Associating has requested a £50 contribution to meet a Devon Communities Together 12 hours trustee online training course. Devon Communities Trust is a charity and member of ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England). Councillors agreed to reject this request but would be open to future requests.

16. TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS

Councillors Agreed to spend £34 on Parish Tree Preservation Order which would give the parish a map of TPOs and help with future planning decisions,

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Dates of next meetings are 19th February 2024 at Frogmore Parish Hall and 18th March 2024 at Sherford Village Hall at 7.00 pm.

The Meeting closed at 8.08 pm.

Signed as a true record:

Print Name & Date:

Agenda Items and Updates; where possible please submit to the Clerk one week prior to the meeting to ensure time for inclusion, circulation, and study. If a Council Member is unable to attend a meeting it would be appreciated if they could submit a brief précis of progress on their actions, if applicable, (to the Clerk for distribution) together with their apologies.

Distribution List: Frogmore and Sherford Parish Councillors. For Information to: County Cllr J Brazil, South Hams District Councillor Laurel Lawford, Frogmore and Sherford Parish Website: <https://frogmoreandsherford.co.uk/>