

DRAFT Minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council meeting held in the Community Hall on Tuesday 17th December 2019 at 7:30pm

Present: Councillors: Anderton, Abi Baker, Karen Baker, Brownlow, Buckland, Day, Crawford (from item 19/127), Hood, Jones, Robinson, Skinner

In the chair: Councillor Jones

In Attendance: District Councillor Lucy Trimmell

Town Clerk

15 Members of the public

19/121 Welcome and Apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed Councillors and members of the public.

Apologies were received from Councillors Pickering, Crawford and Hall

19/122 Declarations of Interests

Councillors Buckland and Robinson stated Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items 19/131 and 19/130 & 19/131 respectively.

19/123 Minutes of Meeting held on 26th November 2019

Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on 26th November 2019.

Resolved 10-0-0
[For-against-abstain]

19/124 Public Question Time

There were no questions.

19/125 Planning Application 19/03103/OUT

Council considered the Planning Application and will report consultation decisions to the Local Planning Authority: Outline application with all matters reserved, apart from access for the development of up to 70 dwellings on land to the north of Brewham Road, Bruton with access arranged from Wyvern Close.

The Applicant was not in attendance at the meeting; Cllr Hood described the Planning Application including proposed access via Wyvern Close.

Members of the public attending the meeting were able to provide their comments, which included vehicle movements; cumulative traffic impact with the planned south Brewham Road development; capacity of the existing highway network; impact on the Town's infrastructure; concentration of development; traffic restrictions; local housing development numbers; extent of outward commuting; the need to evidence demonstrable harm; concern about carbon impact; further development; emergency access; wastewater treatment; and rainfall attenuation.

Councillors discussed the Application:

In particular Councillors considered vehicular access arrangements being incorrectly assessed because traffic impact did not include the “to be” arrangement (ie with south Brewham Road development) but without south Brewham Road development.

Councillors stated that the planned Development is not close to Town; that footpath “desire lines” are not correct; and that the planned Development seems to be car centric and assumes that the existing highway network is satisfactory.

This development would take Bruton 44 % over local housing numbers target by 2028; and noted a 20% increase in population if housing developments at Cubis/North/South Brewham Rd are all included. Members noted a 24% over the allocation for housing local to Bruton. SSDC 5 year land supply is currently 4.5 years (November 2019) ie a better direction than previously. The 5 year land supply can consider a wider area and not wholly SSDC based. Members noted that the SSDC Area East has delivered well against planning approvals and completions, not least relative to <5 year land supply in other areas.

Councillor queried how this development would impact on infrastructure and noted that the Application should state how this development would contribute to infrastructure.

Members noted that for the Cuckoo Hill 2006 Application there were no consultation comments from SCC Highways . In 2006 the Local Plan Inspector stated access should be via Brewham Rd not through existing housing estate. The condition of estate roads is poor and needs a maintenance plan. The removal of bollards at Cuckoo Hill demonstrates problems of permitting traffic through estate roads.

Members noted that Westfield has 70 dwellings with inadequate parking. History suggests that overspill parking from this North Brewham Road development will occupy estate roads. It was noted that off-site double yellow lines (parking restrictions) have been included in the site development plans.

Members were concerned about channelling pedestrians to Quaperlake St is likely to create problems with pedestrian safety.

Councillors highlighted the impact on the medical centre (eg GP surgery) and school (although there is space in the schools) needs to be taken in to account, understood and planned. The existing GP surgery is even more problematic as Bruton’s population increases; the size and condition of the surgery and preferred alternative location become ever more important.

Council Resolved to Recommend Refusal, with the following reasons:

1. Principal of housing development and scale of development;
2. Access issues (and highlighted the need to write to SCC Highways expressing concerns);
3. Flooding and sewerage;
4. Biodiversity; and
5. Applicant has not adequately consulted with the community.

Councillors agreed to Delegate preparation of the Recommendation for Refusal to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Resolved 10-0-0

The Chairman provided an update explaining that the Council was not been able to select a community representative and no Councillor was able to devote the time and skills needed for this critical role. Therefore, the position will remain vacant at this time.

19/127 BHIB Insurance and Parish Online

Council considered entering a new Long Term Agreement (LTA) 3-year insurance contract with Aviva (via brokers BHIB) from June 2020 to June 2023 (the current 3 year LTA was agreed 2008 following a competitive process and is from June 2018 to June 2021) at c. £1,128 pa inc VAT, and securing a Free Parish Online Licence (valued at £150 pa) for three years.

The decision was Resolved to approve.

Resolved 9-0-1

Cllr Crawford joined the meeting.

The meeting agreed that item 19/128 will be deferred

19/128 SSDC Environment Champion and Environmental Groups

19/129 Abbey Ponds: Legal Costs

Council considered the stage of completing the lease of Abbey Ponds area from King's Bruton and the legal costs.

It was noted that in June 2019 the Chairman asked for final copy of lease to be prepared, since which time legal fees have been charged, mostly for final amendments.

It was agreed that the chairman would meet with King's Bruton and request assistance with its share of the legal fees. It was also agreed that if assistance was not forthcoming, then the money for the additional fees (£2k) would be vired from the earmarked reserve for the Plox traffic scheme.

Resolved 10-0-1

Councillor Robinson stated a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in the Somerset Playing Fields Association and left the meeting for items 19/130 and 19/131

19/130 Somerset Playing Fields Association (SPFA) and Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)

Council agreed to being a member of the SPFA for 12 months to December 2020 at £15 and to pay for the Town Clerk to be a member of the SLCC at £211 pa (19/20).

Resolved 10-0-0

19/131Accounts for Payment: Members agreed the schedule of payments.

Councillor Buckland declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in 19/131 and left the meeting.

Accounts for Payment (17 December 2019):

Name	Amount	Purchased	Date
GB Sport & Leisure	£270.00	Annual Inspections	25/09/19
Somerset PFA	£15.00	Annual Subscription	28/11/19
Google (DD)	£74.52	Cloud GSuite (Sept 2019)	30/09/19
Google (DD)	£74.52	Cloud GSuite (Oct 2019)	31/10/19
Google (DD)	£74.52	Cloud GSuite (Nov 2019)	30/11/19
SALC	£35.00	Allotment Management	29/11/19
SLR Grounds Maintenance	£1,600.80	Christmas Trees and Lights	01/12/19
SLCC	£211.00	Clerk Membership 19/20	02/12/19
Cllr J Buckland	£89.85	Christmas Trees Lights	24/11/19
Lyreco	£33.22	Community Office PC Tissues	30/11/19
No Job Too Odd	£52.00	Community Office Toilet	4/12/19
Total Gas & Power (DD)	£177.65	Jubilee Park MUGA	6/12/19
SALC	£60.00	VAT training	6/12/19
DIG-Geotech Ltd	£1,380.00	Station Rd CP Ground Test	6/12/29
V Gac	£78.00	Comm Office Cleaning	12/12/19
SLR Grounds Maintenance	£168.00	Removal of Willows (Durslade)	15/12/19
PATA	£66.35	Payroll Admin	16/12/19
Town Clerk	£1,807.47	Salary December 2019	16/12/19
Assistant Town Clerk	£408.83	Salary December 2019	16/12/19
TPT Retirement Solutions	£149.48	Pension December 2019	16/12/19
HMRC	£194.36	PAYE -£102.60; NI £296.96	16/12/19
SLR Grounds Maintenance	£192.00	Riverside Signboard Repair	16/12/19

Resolved 9-0-0

Meeting end 8:50 pm

Members of Council considered the following matters in the exercise of their functions: Equal opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights.