

Chairman's Report – Parish Council meeting January 2020

Progress is being made on the resolution of the closure of the Portway Play Area. It has been confirmed that Falcon Housing does have a legal requirement, included in the planning approval, to provide a play area for the use of Holford residents' children not just those living at Portway. Falcon Housing has emailed proposals to enable the use of this area. This will be discussed and voted on at the meeting.

Legal documentation of the Dog Pound is awaited from the Land Registry following submissions from the Parish Clerk.

The reorganisation of the planning system at SWT has resulted in a delay in making decisions. After a request from the PC, SWT has confirmed that the Silk Mills development planning application is to be decided shortly.

A public meeting was held on Dec 2nd to discuss the new planning application received for the Strawberry Field site. The full details of the discussion are available on the PC website and the public can view the submitted Parish Council report on the SWT Planning portal.

After the last meeting it was agreed that the Parish Council would support local residents in establishing rights of access to the Hunt and in view of the reports of anti-social behaviour the Police have been consulted on the best way forward. Councillors Copleston and Campbell will liaise and report on the issue.

Replacement memorial trees have been planted including more substantial plants with sturdier tree guards in place. This has been jointly funded with Kilve Parish Council.

The ongoing issue of road naming in the village will be an item for discussion later in this meeting. It has been established that only road names that are in the official 'Gazeteer' can be used for road signs and not those in common usage.

There are a number of grants available which Parish Councils may apply for. Almost all of them require public consultation before a grant can be awarded. With this in mind The Chairman is proposing that a questionnaire is distributed to Parishioners to find out what issues they would like addressed.

Councillor Copleston has been looking into the possibility of getting some of the roads in Holford designated 'Quiet Lanes' which would enable a reduced speed limit to be introduced. He will report on this during the meeting.

At an extraordinary meeting on Dec 2nd it was agreed to increase the precept by £250 per annum to enable an increase in the salary of the Clerk.