

WITHYCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Withycombe Parish Council meeting held at the Memorial Hall on Tuesday 27th March 2018 at 7.00pm

PRESENT

Councillors: Emma Wright (Chairman), Chris Thomas, Richard Barnham, Amanda Gardiner, Steve Crossman.

In attendance: S Rawle (Clerk)

Also present: Brenda Maitland-Walker (WSC), Christine Lawrence (SCC)

For future reference attendees will be referred to in these, and subsequent, minutes by their initials viz:

Emma Wright (Chairman) EW, Chris Thomas CT, Stephen Crossman SC, Richard Barnham RB, Amanda Gardiner AJG, Susan Gill SG, David Tilley DT, Brenda Maitland-Walker (West Somerset District Council) BMW, Christine Lawrence (Somerset County Council) CL, Sam Rawle (Clerk) SR.

The Meeting was digitally recorded

1830 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from DT.

1831 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM CLLRS

None.

1832 TITHOLES ORCHARD

The Chairman explained that following the informative discussion in the Public Open Session the Parish Council needed to decide its next steps on how it would proceed. Any further on-going costs needed to be decided on, should Eric Beaven be further instructed or were there alternative options.

CL mentioned it would be worthwhile going back to SALC and asking whether they could help financially.

The letter from Savills dated 23rd March, 2018 had hinted that cost savings could be made on the project by simplifying the scheme by doing something different with the activity field area as the area was expensive to deliver because of the natural slope of the site and would not be suitable for ball games. It was suggested that the resultant savings could be shared with the Parish Council as a 'goodwill gesture'.

BMW explained there was the option to leave it to LPA Enforcement and for Savills to come back with an amended plan which would need to be acceptable in terms of the Section 106 and acceptable to the Parish Council. EW questioned what action the Enforcement Officer had taken. BMW will check to see what progress Enforcement had made with the case and whether an amended plan had been submitted.

It was decided that before discussing any alternative proposal with Savills that a better understanding was needed of what the district council could do in moving the matter forward by enforcing Savills to putting the site right as per the original planning consent. EW stressed that the Parish Council needed assurance from WSC of their realistic prospects for success in doing this.

BMW would check with Enforcement and Planning at WSC to find out the current status and what could be done.

Clerk to write an acknowledgement letter to Savills thanking them for their suggestion and advising that the Parish Council would consider the proposal.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Signed _____
CHAIRMAN

Date _____