

KINGSTON SEYMOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Kingston Seymour Parish Council held on
Monday 3rd September 2018 at 19.45
In the Kingston Seymour Village Hall

Councillors Present:

Mike Sewell (MS) Chairman	Peter Harris (PH) Vice Chairman	
Paul Cox (PC)	Caroline Harris (CH)	Fred Malton (FM)
Mike Wallis (MW)	Ian Wariner (IW)	

In attendance:

Steve Dixon (SD) Clerk & RFO	Jill Iles, District Councillor	David Fish, North Somerset Council (DF)
4 Parishioners		

1. Apologies for absence

District Councillors: Judith Hadley. NSC Representative: Carolyn Hills. PC Adam Clarke

2. Declarations of Interest on items on the Agenda

Councillor Caroline Harris declared an interest in the Cycle Route

3. Members of the public are invited to address the council

Prior to the presentation, there were no comments from parishioners. The Chairman stated that he would allow further comments and questions to come from parishioners after the presentation.

4. To receive an update from North Somerset Council on the proposals for a cycle route across Tutshill Sluice and through the village.

DF reflected on his visit one year ago when the current proposal was first aired with the Parish Council (although the concept had been around for several years) and he thanked the Parish Council for the inputs they had provided at that time.

Since then, matters have progressed such that DF is preparing to submit a planning application for the required changes within the next few weeks and this visit was to brief the Council on the context and content of such an application. DF commented that this project was a key focus for NSC and was receiving much support from within NSC.

The key to the scheme is to provide a separate bridge for farm traffic of livestock and vehicles associated with Yeo Bank Farm and a way forward has been identified through construction of a separate – dedicated - bridge. Moving this farm traffic will allow the Tutshill and Samson sluices to be used safely and exclusively by cycle (and foot) traffic to access Wick St Lawrence and beyond.

The other fundamental of the scheme would be the use of existing farm tracks (with permissive access) from Wick Road – to the sluice into KS and then north, before turning into Mud Lane to join the public highway near Mendip View Farm. The remainder of the proposed route in the Parish would use existing public lanes and cross the parish boundary beyond the entrance to Sea Wall Farm on Lower Strode Road.

DF was aware of the nascent Coastal Footpath proposals but there was never an intention to create a coastal cycle route so the two projects only come together to cross the Tutshill Sluice.

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DF accepted that creating more of the route away from the public highway would have been preferable but with limited budget, it is felt that the route on existing lanes is better than the only available current route via the A370.

The Chairman thanked DF for giving us the opportunity to see the proposals in advance of the formal planning application and in the ensuing discussion, the following points were made:

- The route will be signposted on the existing lanes
- Concerns were expressed that promoting cycling through the narrow parish lanes was not safe
- Was permission to use Mud Lane in place and has the optimum route being taken to access the sluice?
- Had planning permission for change of use of the farm tracks been obtained?
- Are all land ownership issues fully understood
- Where was the budget to come from?
- It is unfortunate that so much public money is being spent on a private asset (new bridge) to allow a publicly owned asset (sluice) to be accessed by the public. It was explained that the scheme as proposed is the lowest capital cost option
- Access to the cycle path from the public highway will automatically give access to the Coastal Footpath (when created)
- It was not intended to make the cycle route a bridleway but no guarantees are provided re future use / access
- The Weston to Brean route sees some 100,000 trips a year

DF stated that he expected the formal planning application to be submitted in two/three weeks and be registered in 4 weeks. Then the consultation period of 8 weeks would commence – allowing the Parish Council to formally express their view on the application

The Chairman thanked DF and everyone for their inputs and the meeting was closed at 21.15

Steve Dixon

Steve Dixon,
Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer,
5th September 2018