



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024, starting at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Sue Isherwood, Ros Wyke (also Somerset Cllr) Buffy Fletcher, Guy Timson

**In attendance:** Rachel Spiller, Clerk,  
Public – 2 members present.

**1. Welcome by the Chairman**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

**2. Apologies for Absence.**

Cllr Adamos Euripodou, Cllr Maggie Beebee, Cllr Penny Colwill,

**3. Absent.** None

**4. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

Cllr Sue Isherwood has a written request for dispensation in relation to the Village Hall matters for four years (expires May 2027).

Cllr Ros Wyke declared an interest as a Somerset Councillor.

Cllr Guy Timson declared an interest in the Brownfield Site.

All Parish Council members of the Neighbourhood Plan have an ongoing dispensation

**Action: Clerk awaiting new updated declarations of interests for all councillors. New forms given to councillors at meeting to complete.**

**5. Public Session – None**

**6. Somerset Councillor Reports.**

Cllr Ros Wyke advised that there would not be a report this month due to the election on 4<sup>th</sup> July but was available to answer any questions if needed.

## **7. Local Community Network Report.**

Next LCN meeting was postponed from 4 July due to election and is now rescheduled for 23<sup>rd</sup> July. Members of public welcome to attend, please contact Clerk for details.

Mick Fletcher has joined the transport group, Cllr Fletcher is attending the forthcoming meeting of the flooding committee and will report back.

## **8. Report from Mark Smith the Webmaster Administrator.**

Tickbox training still awaiting date in September. Dates suggested are the 18<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> September. Mark Smith to get new Gmail address and put it in the Pew as the contact for website matters.

**Action: Date for training to be agreed and circulated to village groups**

**Action: Mark Smith to let the Pew know new email address details**

## **9. The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024, were agreed as true record and signed**

## **10. Planning Applications**

- **2024/1106/DEM**

Sent for notification purposes only but location name is incorrect. Not Court House Farm but refers to the buildings on land adjacent.

**Action: Clerk to contact planning officer to get the name corrected**

## **11. Planning Applications – Responses to be noted from Somerset Council**

a. None received

b. **2013/0055 Enforcement enquiry re: bright 24 hr lighting on Perch Hill Vineyard agricultural building in Top Road.**

External light still being used despite contact with Enforcement department. Complaints have been received from villagers.

**Action: Clerk to contact Planning Enforcement again**

## **12. Roughmoor Lane Housing Development**

Public meeting at village hall on 10<sup>th</sup> July open to all between 2pm and 7pm. Church Commissioners and Lichfields representatives will be there to answer questions.

## **13. Neighbourhood Plan.**

Another grant application towards this is being made, this time for £3844. The Council RESOLVED to approve this application.

## **14. Brownfield site development working group.**

No update. Deferred to next meeting.

**15. To discuss augmentation of emergency plan for flooding – audit of recent damage needed and development of action plan.**

Following the excellent talk by Emma Giffard at the Annual Parish Meeting, more people have come forward to report flooding at their properties in the village. Some villagers have seen an increase in insurance premiums though many have not. There is an Eco week in October which will be advertised nearer the time in the Pew. Cllr Fletcher also recommended the Flood Mary website for home protection against flooding tips.

**16. Request received for memorial tree or plaque**

Request to be referred to AONB for commenting, no appropriate site in village.

**Action: Clerk to refer the request to the AONB**

**17. Discussion regarding external lighting**

Councillors talked about the various light sources of various types on different premises causing concern to local residents.

**Action: Cllr Wyke to draft a statement to put in the Pew about light pollution in the village**

**18. Roadside Verges**

Complaints from villagers about verges being done too much or not enough. People not always educated in wildlife restrictions and the recommended timing of hedge cutting to protect wildlife. However road signs are being obstructed by vegetation. PC to consider taking on the verge cutting themselves.

**Action: Clerk to contact Jonathan Stevens at Somerset Council about ID Verde contract for verge cutting to clarify what grass cutting is planned and when and whether Highways are doing any cutting of verges outside ID Verde contract**

**19. Highways.**

Speed indicator is currently out of sync. Pot holes big problem as wet winter.

Godney Gathering – will be a lot of local traffic on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> July and no through road in the village.

**Action: Clerk/Website Manager to put major road closures on website and noticeboards for the attention of those in the village. To put Godney Gathering notice on website to inform people.**

**20. Clerk's / Councillors Report.**

AGAR forms all uploaded to website and Certificate of Exemption sent off.

Insurance renewed with Zurich insurance following council decision

Holiday booked for w/c 29<sup>th</sup> July and w/c 26 August but clerk will monitor emails for any urgent planning applications as well as putting out of office on emails

Dog bins – council suggested alternative site but Playing Field committee said it would cause confusion for dog walkers who are not allowed on playing field.

Shop would like bin outside (emptied by Council) removed as people are using it incorrectly for dog waste.

## 21. Finance

### a. Bank Balances at 23/06/2024

Current Account £9,191.00 Reserve Account £36,039.75

### b. Expenditure

Clerk Salary May	£364.05
St Andrews Press (questionnaires)	£208.00
ProBusiness Accounting (Audit)	£234.00
R Spiller Expenses – stationery supplies	£88.62
Denise Hoogesteger (survey prize)	£100.00
Zurich Insurance renewal	£459.00

### c. Committed expenditure (not yet paid or otherwise invoiced for)

2 x gift cards of £50 each as prizes for latest survey	£100
Clerk Salary June	£364.05

### d. Receipts

Bank Interest: June: £31.78

£20,000 transferred from Current Account into Reserve Account

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the above receipts and payments

## 22. Correspondence. None

**23. Verbal Updates from Community Groups** Updates were given on the Playing Field, Tree Group and Strawberry Line group and the Village Hall.

- Playing Field Group reported they currently have a shortage of Trustees, also the purchase of new goal posts, pickleball court. Repair of perimeter fence carried out, Glastonbury very successful this year.
- Tree Group have work party and AGM on 27<sup>th</sup> July. Received grant for new tools from Wessex Water.

- Strawberry Line has had a lot of work done recently on the path. Further money has been allocated for further sections. Also new Pier to Pier (Clevedon to Weston) route will open in July. Westbury to Easton path counter has recorded 35,000 people in less than one year.
- Village Hall had its AGM and prices staying the same for this year. New pickleball court lines in hall.

**24. Matters to report / items for next agenda**

Dog Bins, Emergency Plan review, Community grant applications. Budget review.

**Date and time of Next meeting** – to be held in the Village Hall. No meeting in August. Wednesday 4 September, Wednesday 2 October, Wednesday 6 November

Meeting closed at 9.35pm