

ADOPTED
BISHOPS LYDEARD & COTHELSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs A Shepherd, 6 Farriers Green, Monkton Heathfield, Taunton, TA2 8PR.
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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 12th April 2023 at 7pm at Bishops Lydeard Village Hall.

Persons present: Cllrs Martin (Chair), Allen, Bainbridge, Ball, Hunt, Lewin-Harris, Rigby, Pattermore.

Persons absent: Cllrs Delderfield and Warmington.

In attendance: Mrs Amy Shepherd (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

265/22 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Delderfield.

266/22 Declarations of interest relating to matters on the agenda

Cllrs Pattermore and Lewin-Harris declared personal interests in respect of item 13 'MUGA repairs / replacement update'.

267/22 Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 8th March 2023

Subject to an amendment at item 263/22 to amend 4pm to 5pm, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 8th March 2023 were approved.

268/22 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

269/22 Co-option into Parish Councillor Casual Vacancy

Chair explained that since the agenda for the Parish Council Meeting was issued, notification had been received from Somerset Council Electoral Services confirming that more than 10 electors have requested that an election take place to fill the casual vacancy.

An election will therefore take place on 1st June 2023. Notices of the election will be displayed in due course as required.

270/22 Clerk's Report

Clerk's report was read to the council (attachment 1).

Actions required:

- Schedule an Extraordinary Parish Council meeting on either Wednesday 19th or Thursday 20th April for the Parish Council to consider purchasing the land at Greenway.

271/22 Chairman's Report

Chair reported that since the last meeting he had:

- Produced an article for Fiveways.
- Carried out further work on road and traffic issues matters including talking to residents in Quantock View about the crossing point to report the decision of the Parish Council that was made at the last meeting.

- Met with a company about the installation of electric vehicle charging points in the Village Hall car park; a report is awaited.

272/22 Comments from members of the public

No comments from members of the public.

273/22 Avon and Somerset Police Report

The Avon and Somerset Police Report for March was circulated in advance of the meeting and its contents noted.

Clerk to enquire as to whether information about the outcome of the crimes included in each report can be included in the monthly report e.g. if arrests for an offence have been made.

274/22 Planning applications for comment

13/23/0001 Erection of 1 No. dwelling, (as an alternative to the conversion of barn into a single dwelling under Class Q), garaging and associated works at Middlebrooks, Kingston St Mary Road, Bishops Lydeard (resubmission of 13/22/0009)

The Parish Council had no comments to make in respect of the application.

275/22 Road and Traffic Issues update

To consider analysis of feedback from consultation

The analysis of feedback from the consultation on the traffic management proposals was circulated in advance of the meeting. 121 responses to the consultation were received covering a number of postcodes.

Chair confirmed that the Parish Council had previously suggested that the analysis would enable the ranking of the proposals in terms of popularity, although the analysis does enable this it includes a number of quite detailed responses which should be considered in more detail.

It was agreed that the Road and Traffic Issues Working Group meet to discuss and consider the feedback in more detail and make recommendations to the Parish Council for consideration at its May meeting. It was agreed to schedule a Working Group meeting prior to the next Parish Council meeting. The feedback was discussed, and it was noted that broadly there was appetite for all the proposals, in particular sites 14, 5 and 9 but not either of the proposals for site 1 (Gore Square).

Site 14 received substantially more support and it was suggested that negotiation with Somerset Council to enable the delivery of this proposal should progress. Chair advised that detailed discussion with Somerset Highways had already taken place in respect of the proposal. It was agreed to continue with negotiations with Somerset Highways in respect of site 14 to move delivery forward. It was noted that the proposal would incorporate the movement of speed limits so that the 20mph limit is moved back, to be followed by a 30mph limit before increasing to 50mph.

Clerk to add the analysis of the feedback document to the Parish Council website and make copies available at the Library.

Clerk to share the speed loop data from Mount Street and Station Road with Councillors and add copies to the website.

A member of the public asked about the responses received in respect of site 5. The member of the public expressed a feeling that there are two elements to the proposal, one for junction works at Quantock View and another to widen the footpath on Mount Street. The member of the public asked if anyone else who provided feedback also highlighting this point. Chair confirmed that this point had not been made by anyone else in the feedback received.

Cllr Allen stated that although the Gore Square proposals received the least support, the junction is the most dangerous junction in the village.

Cllr Hunt expressed her support for distributing 20mph pace car stickers in the Parish.

276/22 To discuss Woodland Walk Community Asset Transfer

Clerk confirmed that further information about the terms of the asset transfer were still awaited from Somerset Council.

Clerk also confirmed that the tree specialist that advised the Parish Council previously about the tree works required in the Woodland was not instructed to carry out the work that has taken place.

Clerk suggested that a condition of the community asset transfer could be for Somerset Council to provide a tree report on the trees that remain.

Clerk to include an item on the next agenda to consider the matter again once further information is received from Somerset Council.

It was noted that fencing work and tree planting costs would need to be incurred once the asset is transferred to the Parish Council.

277/22 MUGA repairs / replacement update

The final work on the MUGA hasn't been completed, all the issues previously highlighted remain outstanding. Clerk to follow up and not pay the final invoice until all outstanding issues are rectified.

278/22 Station View Public Open Space update

Clerk reported that Abacus planned to commence work on the open space in mid-April but it was too wet and there was concern that the existing grassed area would be damaged. The work is now scheduled to start in early to mid-May.

279/22 Climate Change Update

In Cllr Delderfield's absence it was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

280/22 Parish Lengthsman Report

The Parish Lengthsman report for work carried out in March was circulated in advance of the meeting and its contents noted.

Clerk to ask Parish Lengthsman to only leave bags of rubbish next to the village hall for collection, not cones / tyres.

Cllr Hunt stated that it was good to see dandelions and daffodils being allowed to grow on the A358 verges.

Cllr Bainbridge stated that the pathway between Hamber Lea and Quantock View had been strimmed and asked if the work was carried out by the Lengthsman. Clerk to check.

281/22 Somerset Council matters

Cllr Rigby reported on the following matters:

Delta Rise wall – work was supposed to commence on 20th March but it included a full 10 week road closure. A site meeting took place two weeks ago with everyone involved to try to find an alternative way of carrying out the work without a full road closure because of the impact of it. Unfortunately, the work cannot take place without a road closure due to the size of the equipment needed to carry out the work. A compromise has been agreed whereby the road will only be closed during the day / working hours. It is likely that this compromise will result in a longer road closure being needed. The anticipated start date is now 5th May.

Yonder Mead – road closures are scheduled for Airband to carry out works.

Roundabouts – requested that required resurfacing works are brought forward.

Roads generally – bid made by Somerset Council for highways maintenance. £5.4m of funding has been achieved.

Greenway Road – Meeting took place with a Highway Engineer last year. White lining proposed to make vehicles travel more slowly. The white lines weren't put in last year because surface dressing was needed. The surface dressing has been delayed because Wales and West are scheduled to carry out some work. Cllr Rigby confirmed that he has managed to enable the work to be carried out in the Summer anyway.

LGR – one Somerset Council now in place, posts in tiers 1, 2 and 3 have been appointed. Recruitment into the structures beneath will now get underway.

Cycle Path between Minehead and Carhampton - been successful with a grant bid and achieved £1.6m of funding. £6m has also been secured to decarbonise the highways team.

Bus fares - cap in place, but bus services haven't been reliable. 6% of journeys were reported to have not been fulfilled, this has improved to 0.8% now. £1 cap to end of June, £2 cap for wider area for two years.

Taunton Town Council - came into being last week. Temporary body of Councillors in place until elections take place on 4th May.

A358 drainage works between Farmers Arms and Yards Farm underway.

Ash Priors to Combe Florey ROW re-direction – Clerk to move this forward.

Cllr Allen raised the condition of Ash Priors Common Car Park. Cllr Rigby to follow up.

Cllr Lewin-Harris requested an update on the Live West housing. Cllr Rigby confirmed that there is a problem with surface water drainage which needs to be overcome before the housing can be occupied.

A member of the public requested an update on the roundabout safety audit – Cllr Rigby to follow up.

282/22 Finance

To review the Clerk's Salary

Paper circulated in advance of the meeting. Clerk left the meeting whilst a salary review took place. It was proposed, seconded and agreed with all in favour that the Clerk's Salary increase to point 20 with affect from 1st April 2022. An annual appraisal to be scheduled, the first to take place in 2024.

To consider quote to empty dog bins and cut grass during 2023/24.

Clerk outlined the quotation received from the DLO for emptying dog bins and cutting grass in 2023/24. It was noted that the prices quoted were below the amount allocated in the budget. It was proposed, seconded and agreed with all in favour to accept the quotation.

To consider quote for new bins

Clerk outlined a quotation received from Somerset Council for a litter bin at Mount Street and Taunton Road.

Clerk outlined a quotation received from Somerset Council for a dog bin at Ryepool.

It was agreed to accept the quotations subject to discussion and agreement with neighbouring properties.

Review Draft 2022/23 Annual Accounts (including CIL and Library Accounts)

The draft accounts were circulated in advance of the meeting. Clerk confirmed that the accounts were subject to change as one bank statement to year end is awaited.

A final version of the accounts will be presented at the May PC meeting.

Clerk to add an item to the agenda for the next meeting to review the Parish Lengthsman Work Schedule.

To note income received

Interest	
HSBC	£234.96
Nationwide (annual)	£1437.22
Unity Trust Bank	£126.28
CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund	£1046.48
Library (fees and charges)	£158.75
China Cottage (Hanging Basket Sponsorship)	£100.00
Miles Estate Agents (Hanging Basket Sponsorship)	£200.00
Church House Dental Clinic (Hanging Basket Sponsorship)	£200.00

To note payments made via BACS (authorised by Chair)

Mrs C. James (Leaflet Delivery)	£50.00
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To approve payments**Payments to be made by Direct Debit:**

BT (Telephone and broadband)	£92.17
Somerset Web Services (Email account)	£5.52
British Gas (Public conveniences Electric)	£50.99
	£45.55
EDF Energy (Library Electric)	£96.04

Payments to be made by BACS:

Jack Council (Parish Lengthsman Work – March)	£1089.20
Clerks Expenses (Office 365, Travel)	£43.79
AIS Cleaning Contractors Limited (Toilet and Library cleaning)	£690.60
Viking (Stationery for consultation event and oil fire for library)	£186.60
Somerset Council (Business Rates – Public Conveniences)	£1497.00
Somerset Council (Business Rates – Library)	£2488.76
Somerset West and Taunton Council (Q4 Dog bin emptying and grass cutting)	£950.21
Somerset West and Taunton Council (May 2022 Uncontested Election costs)	£200.00
Mr C Back (Library Lease)	£800.00
HMRC (Tax and NI contributions)	£593.65
Transport Planning Associates (Traffic Management Proposals / Plans)	£9930.48
Atworth Arboriculture Ltd (Tree Report Quantock View)	£660.00
Ted Lambe (Church Flower Box x 1)	£218.00
Bishops Lydeard Village Hall	£53.60
	£33.50
	£50.25
Rebecca Hill (Library expenses)	£17.30
Nigel Foster (Library volunteer expenses)	£9.90

Clerk outlined the cost of materials required to refurbish the telephone box at Darby Way. Clerk to add an item to the agenda for the next meeting to discuss the Darby Way Telephone Box refurbishment.

It was proposed, seconded, and voted with all in favour that the payments be approved.

283/22 To note planning permissions granted

13/22/0011/LB Restoration of the water wheel at Cothelstone Manor, Cothelstone Road, Bishops Lydeard – Decision of Conditional Approval on 21st March 2023

284/22 To note planning applications refused/withdrawn

06/23/0002/T Application to carry out management works to three Ash trees included in Taunton Deane Borough (Bishops Lydeard No.2) Tree Preservation Order 1997 at 56 Greenway, Bishops Lydeard (TD705) – Withdrawn

06/22/0025 Change of use from shop to 1 No. dwelling with various alterations at 5 West Street, Bishops Lydeard – Withdrawn

285/22 Any Other Business - for report only

Cllr Hunt reported that Dr Piotrowski is retiring from Quantock Vale Surgery and expressed concern as the waiting time is already long.

Cllr Bainbridge requested that discussion of the Civility and Respect Project be added to the agenda for the next meeting. It was agreed that any action by the Parish Council would be considered after the outcome of the code of conduct complaints have been determined by the Monitoring Officer.

Cllr Pattermore reported the following:

- dog poo is not being put into dog bins and asked Councillors to encourage people to tidy up properly after their dogs.
- Kingfishers Catch an electric / telephone post is leaning. Clerk to report.
- That the Parish Council may wish to investigate the purchase of a bleed out kit. Clerk to make enquiries.

Cllr Allen reported that Dr Sewell is also reducing her working hours at Quantock Vale Surgery.

Cllr Bainbridge requested that the draft Parish Council meeting minutes are added to the website.

286/22 Date of next meeting:

Annual Parish Council Meeting: Wednesday 10th May 2023, 7pm at Bishops Lydeard Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. T.', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Date: 10th May 2023