

ADOPTED
BISHOPS LYDEARD & COTHELSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs A Shepherd, Rose Cottage, Oldway Lane, Wrantage, Taunton, TA3 6DE.
Phone: 01823 412922 Email: clerk@bishopslydeard.org Website: <http://www.bishopslydeard.org.uk>

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 11th August 2021 at 7pm at Bishops Lydeard Village Hall.

Persons present: Cllrs Martin (Chair), Allen, Pattermore, Armstrong, Lewin-Harris, Russell, Rigby, Warmington and Hunt.

Persons absent: Cllrs Morency and Watson.

In attendance: Mrs Amy Shepherd (Clerk) and Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew (District Councillor).

79/21 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Morency and Watson.

80/21 Declarations of interest relating to matters on the agenda

No declarations of interest were made.

81/21 Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2021

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting on 14th July 2021 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

82/21 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

83/21 Clerk's Report

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

Cllr Lewin-Harris and Warmington to confirm type and number of trees to be planted at Station Road.

Clerk to investigate the planting of trees at the A358 / Taunton Road junction with SCC.

Clerk to request the Parish Lengthsman to tidy Mill Lane including collecting litter, dealing with weeds, and cutting brambles and remove the ragwort on the A358 particularly around the Taunton Road junction.

The purchase of a bin to replace the existing bin next to the MUGA was agreed.

84/21 Chairman's Report

Chair reported that he had carried out the following activities since the last Parish Council meeting:

- Investigated a complaint about construction noise from a resident in Webbers.
- Attended a meeting with neighbouring parishes about LCNs. SCC attended the meeting and talked through the proposals. A further meeting may be arranged along with a visit to another LCN that is already in place in a neighbouring unitary authority.
- Working with Traffic Consultant.
- Welcome Pack leaflet for DWH homeowners developed and printed and delivered to the DWH Sales Office for inclusion in the Welcome Packs.
- Followed up SWT about Quantock View.

- Fiveways Trust are prepared to fund a plaque to go on the Poppies in the Breeze Memorial with three names. The Parish Council confirmed that it was content for the Fiveways Trust to proceed.

85/21 Comments from members of the public on matters not listed on the agenda

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

86/21 Planning applications for comment

06/21/0029 Construction of pitched roof above garage with conversion to ancillary accommodation at 1 Bull Meadow, Bishops Lydeard

It was noted that permission was granted in respect of this application on 10th August 2021

06/21/0030/T Notification to one Ash tree and one Robinia within Bishops Lydeard Conservation Area at 43 Mount Street, Bishops Lydeard

It was noted that permission was granted in respect of this application on 10th August 2021

06/21/0032 Erection of porch to the front of 16 Darby Way, Bishops Lydeard

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission.

87/21 To receive an update regarding Station View Public Open Space transfer

Chair confirmed that the solicitor at Ashfords dealing with the matter has been away on holiday, but it is hoped the matter will be near completion by the next Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Armstrong reported that he had received complaints about young people playing football on the open space at Station View and although signs were put up, they have since been removed. It was agreed to add an item to the agenda for the next meeting with a view to a discussion taking place about finding alternative locations for young people to play football in the vicinity.

88/21 Update regarding Sandhill Park Mansion

Cllr Rigby reported that the buildings have been sold to a company called Akkeron who are based in Devon. An amount of money has been put aside for emergency repairs over the winter to make the mansion house watertight. The company will then come forward with plan on how to develop the house.

89/21 Road and Traffic Issues – consideration of updated report from consultant

Chair reported on the following in relation to the Road and Traffic issues:

Quantock View – there is still a lack of clarity as to what is acceptable from SWT in terms of the number of parking spaces. The Locality Officer at SWT has confirmed that another consultation exercise will be conducted with tenants in the area. SWT won't come to a view on the number of parking spaces that are acceptable until the consultation has been carried out.

20mph speed limit – there has been an exchange of views between the Traffic Consultant and SCC Highways in terms of signage and markings for the 20mph speed limit. The Traffic Consultant would prefer small signs on lampposts rather than large roundels on roads. Originally 6 roundels were proposed through the limit area. SCC have confirmed that 2 could be removed but rest would need to stay, the main reason for 4 remaining is that they are not in the conservation area and posts couldn't be found for the signs. Chair and Traffic Consultant have put forward their views to SCC Highways, Cllr Rigby to follow up and make sure roundels are removed and are only at the start of the speed limit. Cllr Rigby confirmed that SCC are putting a works order in next week and the work is therefore close to being done, hopefully in September.

Broader traffic measures in the village – the original plan was to move to a consultation event in September following a meeting with SCC Highways, this is now unlikely because a meeting hasn't been arranged with SCC yet. SCC have also indicated that a member of the Parish Council cannot be

present at the meeting. Cllr Rigby to talk to SCC about their approach. The hope is the meeting will enable broad agreement to be reached about the types of work that can take place in the village. The consultation event will now likely take place in mid-October.

90/21 Community Infrastructure Levy – approval of application form for small scale projects

The application form circulated in advance of the meeting was agreed and it was also agreed that guidance will be produced confirming that application should normally not be for more than £500.00.

91/21 MUGA repairs / replacement

Chair reported that Jim Bletcher has agreed to work on behalf of the Parish Council to oversee the works required on the MUGA. An update is awaited from Jim Bletcher. Item to be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

92/21 To receive an update on Village Hall projects

Cllr Allen provided an update in respect of the current Village Hall projects including:

1. Car Park extension – The total cost of the project is £50k and it is being funded from CIL money and a contribution from Village Hall funds. The extension is complete apart from white lining which is due to take place on Friday. When the extended car park is open it will be available for everyone to use. Two new disabled spaces are included.
2. Large hall roof – The total cost of the project is £40-50k. £25k of National Lottery funding has been secured and the remaining cost will be covered from Village Hall funds. The original roof covering from 1939 is being replaced and two inches of insulation is being added.
3. Play Park – new equipment is being added to the bottom end. In addition to the new play equipment, new surfacing under some of the existing equipment will be delivered as well as on the pathways in between. The wooden fencing will also be replaced with galvanised metal fencing. The cost of this project is £40-50k, £17k of S106 funding from the Paddock Development has been secured, Village Hall funds will be used, and the Village Hall will be applying for CIL money for the groundwork. The project is planned to commence in the Autumn.

Despite the hall being closed for a year during the pandemic, grants received have made up to the lost revenue from hire charges. Most groups have now restarted, and two new groups have started to use the hall. In addition, the Christmas Prize Bingo and festival is planned (information to be included in Fiveways). The Village Hall AGM is scheduled to take place in September.

At the moment the Youth Shelter is being used a lot of by young people to smoke cannabis, there are also other areas in the village where drug dealing is going on. This has been reported to the PCSO but behaviour in play park is better and rubbish is being put into bins.

Cllr Rigby thanked Cllr Allen and all the Village Hall volunteers for all their hard work. Cllr Allen confirmed that new working trustees for the Hall were needed but they are difficult to recruit.

Cllr Pattermore echoed Cllr Rigby's gratitude and requested that the Parish Council publicly record its thanks to Cllr Allen, Richard Peacocke and Alan Ball.

93/21 To discuss Parish and Town Councils Opening Up Safely and Reconnecting Communities Fund

Chair outlined the fund that is available for the Parish Council to make an application for up to £1500.00 of funding for projects or activities that support opening up safely and reconnecting communities.

Events such as the Christmas Street Fayre and Open Café in Daisy Cottage Tea Rooms were discussed as well as the Bishops Lydeard Good Neighbour Scheme developed by the Village Agent, Christine Brewer. Cllr Allen raised that the Age UK group which operated from the Village Hall hasn't

restarted and said that he would make enquiries with the organiser to see if funding was required to restart the group. Providing an activity for Young People, perhaps in Greenway Hall was also discussed. It was agreed that Councillors would gather further information for consideration at the September meeting with a view to deciding what activities would be included on the application form.

94/21 Somerset County Council and Somerset West and Taunton Council matters

Cllr Rigby reported on the following:

Local Government Reorganisation – Unitary Authority will be in place in April 2023. A meeting took place this week with MHCLG to discuss the way forward. The business case suggests 110 councillors initially, based on existing 55 divisions x 2. There has been an indication that the Boundary Commission want alterations to boundaries but still want elections to take place in May 2022. The way forward at the moment is not clear. A lot of work is now starting to take place putting together the new structure. The Structural Changes Order will be agreed by parliament in January or March and therefore the timescales are tight.

Phosphates - remains an issue. SWT trying to find ways to help the developments get approval. Need a thriving development industry in Taunton and need more houses. Massive backlog of 100s of planning applications for over 10,000 houses. One option is to accelerate investment on Wessex Water treatment plants but it's unclear who will pay for that.

Director of Place – the existing Director leaving at the end of the week, interviews are taking place for a replacement.

Delta Rise wall – bore holes were done but a report of the work required is awaited. Likely to be quite substantial works including a road closure.

Ash Priors – not able to provide an update at the moment.

Council Offices are beginning to open gradually.

Waste collections – green waste collections suspended. System is struggling at the moment because of a lack of drivers, Brexit, no driving tests for a period, delivery has increased so demand for drivers has increased. The contractor has put in place bonuses to try to recruit new drivers.

Cllr Trollope-Bellew reported on the following:

Waste Collections - in Somerset there are a lot of distribution centres which are taking the drivers in the area and there is a backlog of drivers being qualified / doing tests. Recycle More is coming in September / October which will enable more items to be recycled. As that comes in less HGV drivers will be needed as the black bins will be collected every 3 weeks and recyclables every week.

The following questions were asked:

Cllr Allen requested an update on the underpass / roundabout adoption and the latest regarding Woodland Walk. Tree work is required in the woodland. Cllr Rigby to follow up and item to be added to the agenda for the meeting to discuss.

95/21 Avon and Somerset Police Report

The contents of the Police Report for July was noted.

96/21 Parish Lengthsman Report

The contents of the Parish Lengthsman report for July was noted. It was agreed that the Lengthsman be requested to do more cutting of the visibility splays on the A358 particularly the West Street and Taunton Road junctions and spray the weeds around the gravel on the MUGA.

97/21 Finance

To note income received

Interest

£0.18

SCC (Library contribution)	£500.00
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To approve payments

Payments to be made by Direct Debit:

BT (Telephone and broadband)	£75.36
Somerset Web Services (Email account)	£5.52
British Gas (Public Conveniences Electric)	£58.27

Payments to be made by BACS:

Jack Council (Parish Lengthsman Work – June)	£655.70
Jack Council (Footpath clearance)	£400.00
Jack Council (Parish Lengthsman Work – July)	£996.75
Clerk's expenses (Travel, office 365)	£55.92
Intelligent Workplace Solutions (Cleaning Toilets and Library)	£445.66
Viking (Stationery)	£33.36
SWT (Grass cutting and dog bin emptying Q1)	£1193.54
Transport Planning Associates (Site visit and review of street design report)	£3870.00

It was proposed, seconded, and voted unanimously that these payments be approved.

98/21 To note planning permissions granted

06/21/0002 Erection of extension to pavilion to form enlarged shower area with formation of disabled WC at Wombat Cricket Club, Watts lane, Bishops Lydeard – Decision of Conditional Approval on 5th July 2021.

06/21/0021 Conversion of garage into ancillary accommodation with replacement of flat roof to pitched roof at 9 Mill Lane, Bishops Lydeard – Decision of Conditional Approval on 14th July 2021.

06/21/0022 Replacement of conservatory with the erection of an orangery at Grendon House, Grendon House Road, Bishops Lydeard – Decision of Conditional Approval on 15th July 2021.

99/21 To note planning applications refused/withdrawn

None received.

100/21 Any Other Business - for report only

Cllr Russell reported that he has been liaising with Dixie Darch, the Executive Member for Climate Change at SWT, about getting a group of PCs together to share information and ideas. A meeting has been scheduled to take place on 17th August. Dixie Darch has also circulated information about free training. Cllr Russell has signed up for training on carbon literacy and flooding.

101/21 Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th September 2021, 7pm at Bishops Lydeard Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. K.' or similar, written in a cursive style.

Date: 8th September 2021