

ADOPTED
BISHOPS LYDEARD & COTHELSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs A Shepherd, Rose Cottage, Oldway Lane, Wrantage, Taunton, TA3 6DE.
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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 8th December 2021 at 7pm at Bishops Lydeard Village Hall.

Persons present: Cllrs Martin (Chair), Allen, Armstrong, Warmington, Pattermore, Hunt, Watson, Russell and Lewin-Harris (until 8.30pm).

Persons absent: Cllr Rigby and Morency.

In attendance: Mrs Amy Shepherd (Clerk), SWT Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew and 2 members of the public.

173/21 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Rigby and Morency.

174/21 Declarations of interest relating to matters on the agenda

Cllr Warmington declared a prejudicial interest in respect of planning application number 13/21/0004.

175/21 Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2021

Subject to one amendment to the date recorded in the minutes, the minutes from the Parish Council meeting on 10th November 2021 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

176/21 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

177/21 Clerk's Report

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

Clerk to gather quotes from Arboriculturists in respect of the tree management work required now and the on-going maintenance work in respect of Woodland Walk.

178/21 Chairman's Report

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

- Written an article for the last edition of Fiveways.
- Attended the Remembrance Service and laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.
- Agreed in consultation with Cllr Pattermore and the Librarian that the library will be closed between Christmas and New Year.
- Corresponded with Mr Durban on behalf of the Quantock View Southside Residents Group in respect of the Quantock View proposals.

179/21 Comments from members of the public on matters not listed on the agenda

No comments were made from the members of the public present at the meeting.

180/21 Planning applications for comment

13/21/0001 Replacement of dwelling with associated works at Fennington Farm, Fennington Lane, Kingston St Mary - Amended plans reducing the size and scale of the proposed replacement dwelling
The Parish Council supports the granting of permission.

06/21/0040/T Notification to carry out management works to one Lime tree within Bishops Lydeard Conservation Area at Warre House, Bishops Lydeard
The Parish Council supports the granting of permission subject to the observations of the Tree Officer.

06/21/0041 Variation of Condition No. 02 (approved plans) of application 06/21/0027 to reduce the size of the extension to the stables at Luxborough Farm, Frenchies Lane, Aisholt.
The Parish Council supports the granting of permission.

Cllr Warmington left the meeting at 7.08pm

13/21/0004 Application for removal of Condition No.12 (regarding details of prospective occupiers and their occupation/range of goods) of application 13/05/0007 at Manor Farm, Cothelstone
The Parish Council has no comments to make in respect of the application.

Cllr Warmington re-joined the meeting at 7.10pm

181/21 Station View Open Space Update

Cllr Armstrong expressed his disappointment that the plans in respect of the Station View Open Space weren't available for the consultation event.

Chair confirmed that the plan is now available. Clerk to send a copy of the plan to Cllr Armstrong and add details to website / facebook / noticeboards to gather feedback on it.

Clerk provided an update on the litter bin and outlined a quote provided by SWT. It was agreed that the Clerk would make some enquiries with other companies to gather alternative quotes.

Chair confirmed that the legal transfer of the open space is imminent.

182/21 Road and Traffic Issues

Cllr Martin summarised the communication that he has had with the Quantock View Southside Residents Group and how on reflection, because the Quantock View proposals are more advanced than the rest of the suggested road improvements for the village, it would be quicker and more effective to move forward with the Quantock View proposals sooner and separate these proposals from the wider suggested road improvements.

There is clear agreement that 5 additional parking spaces is acceptable to SWT. The Quantock View Southside Residents Group are also keen to move progress forward.

The proposal is now to arrange a meeting between the Southside Residents Group, Parish Council, School and SWT in the new year to discuss the proposal.

In terms of the drain works, it is recognised by the Parish Council and SWT that the drain works are the most pressing issue and should be dealt with prior to any other works in Quantock View. Following the Parish Council commissioning a drain survey, SWT have also arranged their own survey which has been carried out and confirms the result of the Parish Council survey. The required works have been agreed and are scheduled to start on 13th December.

In summary the proposed order of activity in respect of Quantock View is now to get the drain work done, agree the proposals for the green (which will incorporate the parking spaces, footway across the road to the footpath, virtual footway from Mount Street, green improvement and signs / lines), final consultation with all residents of Quantock View on the proposals.

The Parish Council confirmed that it was happy to proceed with this approach. Chair provided some feedback on the Consultation event that took place on 25th November, approximately 100 people attended, the feedback received so far was tabled at the meeting. The plans and the survey continue to be available at the library and on the website. It was agreed that further activity should take place to raise awareness of where the plans are available and to encourage more people to provide their feedback. Clerk and Cllr Russell to share the information on the website and Facebook pages. It was agreed that the deadline for responses to the survey would be 12th January 2022. Chair summarised some of the feedback provided at the meeting including in particular a gateway feature being added near the football ground, this feedback has already been shared with the Traffic Consultant. The next step is to draw up some specific plans for further consultation. Chair confirmed that TPA had completed the work stated in the contractual agreement with the Parish Council and a further fee proposal is being prepared for the next stage of work for approval at the next meeting.

183/21 To discuss MUGA repairs / replacement

Cllr Lewin-Harris confirmed that some suggestions of the work required to the MUGA have been developed by Jim Bletcher and shared. The suggestion is that it would be better to go for a new metal structure rather than replacing like for like. This will be more expensive. Cllr Lewin-Harris confirmed that the information has been circulated to the MUGA committee. Cllr Lewin-Harris to respond to Jim Bletcher confirming that the Parish Council and MUGA Committee are happy to continue along the lines suggested by Jim Bletcher.

184/21 Avon and Somerset Police Report

Report circulated at the meeting and its contents noted.

185/21 Parish Lengthsman Report

Report circulated at the meeting and its contents noted.

Clerk to request that the Parish Lengthsman increases the frequency that leaves outside Warre House are cleared.

Cllr Russell confirmed that the work to the Mount Street Phonebox is complete and that arrangements for the seed swap to return are being made.

186/21 To consider quotes for the cleaning of public conveniences and library

Clerk outlined two alternative quotes from local contractors for the cleaning of the public conveniences and library. It was noted that the quotes presented a very large increase in cleaning costs to the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Clerk would take steps to advertise a cleaning position locally.

187/21 Update regarding Climate Change

Cllr Russell tabled a paper and provided an overview of some of the activity that he has been involved in recently regarding climate change matters including:

- Meeting with SWT Cllr Dixie Darch regarding Parish Councils sharing information amongst themselves, conducting a survey amongst residents on their climate awareness and having a regular item on the Parish Council meeting agenda.
- Attending Somerset Prepared workshops about many relevant subjects. Specific initiatives that are relevant to the Parish include a volunteer flood warden system (£5k of funding available) and developing a Community Resilience Plan. There is also a Priority Services Register held

by Western Power Distribution. They will deliver generators / waters / supplies to those people registered if they are without power.

- Attended COP 26. A software tool is being developed with shared access which helps to identify which species of plants can be best planted in areas to reduce issues like phosphates and nitrate build up.
- Signed up for Carbon Literacy training in January run by SCC.

The following actions were agreed by the Parish Council to take forward:

- Developing a survey to find out how residents feel about climate change matters
- Developing a volunteer Flood Warden scheme and see if there are volunteers for the scheme in the Parish.

Cllr Hunt suggested starting with the school, perhaps the survey could go out to parents. Cllr Russell to draft a survey for consideration at the next meeting.

188/21 To discuss repair / replacement of noticeboard at Stairfoot

Clerk outlined two quotes to replace the noticeboard at Stairfoot with a similar wooden noticeboard. It was noted that the location of the noticeboard was quite open, and it was suggested that a metal noticeboard may be more appropriate for the location.

Clerk to gather quotes for a metal noticeboard for consideration at the next meeting.

189/21 To discuss Fiveways Trust grant funding – Platinum Anniversary

Cllr Hunt confirmed that she had been in touch with the school about the Platinum Jubilee and about planting trees. There are currently 140 students at the school and only 5 classes. The suggestion is that trees or seeds are made available to students / families. The school has confirmed that it doesn't have any plans for the jubilee event at the moment. It was agreed that the idea should be explored further. Cllr Allen confirmed that the Village Hall isn't taking any bookings over that weekend at the moment so that it is available should an event be organised.

It was suggested that perhaps a picnic on the green with some activities like a bouncy castle being available could be organised.

Chair to respond to the Fiveways Trust to outline the ideas being considered.

Item to be added to the agenda for the next meeting to discuss further.

190/21 Somerset County Council and Somerset West and Taunton Council matters

Cllr Rigby was absent. Cllr Trollope-Bellew reported on the following SWT matters:

Elections – Government have decided that the elections for Unitary Councillors will take place in May 2022 and the Parish Council elections will be bought forward to coincide.

Unitary - A LG Reform Committee and a Scrutiny Committee have been set up.

Recycling – New blue bags are now in use. Collections were a little chaotic to begin with but are ok now. Cllr Armstrong outlined the impact and changes to the green bin collection. Cllr Trollope-Bellew to raise / investigate.

Cllr Hunt confirmed that there is less rubbish on the streets after each collection.

Cllr Allen commented that the calendar confirming collection dates is very helpful.

191/21 Update regarding Sandhill Park Mansion

Cllr Trollope-Bellew confirmed that Sandhill Park has recently been considered by SWT Full Council and that a company is in the process of buying it.

192/21 Finance

To consider opening a CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund

Clerk outlined the need to open another bank account due to the high level of CIL receipts received by the Parish Council.

It was resolved to open a Public Sector Deposit Fund account with the CCLA. The four signatories for the account will be Chair, Vice Chair, Cllr Allen and Cllr Pattemore.

It was agreed that the initial deposit would be £100,000.00.

Clerk to complete application form as required.

Member audit

Cllr Lewin-Harris confirmed that she had completed the member audit of the Parish Council accounts for the period 1st April 2021 to 30th September 2021 (Quarter 1 and 2)

To consider the draft 2022/23 budget

The contents of the draft budget were discussed and noted and amendments to reduce the budget were identified. Clerk to amend the budget for its formal approval at the January meeting alongside the precept requirement.

To note income received

Interest	£2.81
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To approve payments

Payments to be made by Direct Debit:

BT (Telephone and broadband)	£80.58
Somerset Web Services (Email account)	£5.52
British Gas (Public conveniences Electric)	£87.64
	£75.58
EDF (Library Electric)	£52.61

Payments to be made by BACS:

Jack Council (Parish Lengthsman Work – November)	£797.85
Clerk's expenses (Travel, office 365)	£74.57
Intelligent Workplace Solutions (Cleaning Toilets and Library)	£445.66
James Russell (Telephone box parts reimbursement)	£44.03
Clive Martin (Remembrance Service Wreath)	£27.00
Transport Planning Associates (Traffic consultant)	£2005.30
Intelligent Workplace Solutions (Toilet roll for public conveniences)	£33.26

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

193/21 To note planning permissions granted

None

194/21 To note planning applications refused/withdrawn

None

195/21 Any Other Business - for report only

Cllr Armstrong requested that enquiries be made to understand the road adoption status in respect of Station Green and Station View – Clerk to make enquiries.

Cllr Hunt reported that the Lydeard illuminated insurance has been carried forward to next year. A star is on the church tower and the remainder of the Christmas lights in the village will be completed on Saturday. There will be a Church Choir around the church Christmas trees on Sunday at 5pm and again on Christmas Eve at the War Memorial.

Cllr Armstrong requested an update in respect of the installation of the 20mph speed limit. Clerk to request an update.

Cllr Pattemore reported that the traffic warden has not visited. Clerk confirmed that she had requested a traffic warden visit. Clerk to request a traffic warden attend again and visit in particular Gore Square and Mount Street

Cllr Pattemore reported that the tarmac on the station side of the Underpass has been renewed and electric has been added to pole at the end of Minehead Road.

Cllr Pattemore and Allen reported that the hedge still has not been cut on Gore Square and there is also a hedge on Station Road that needs to be cut. Clerk to make requests.

A member of the public who has volunteered to update the Welcome Pack on behalf of the Parish Council put forward some observations about the Welcome Pack, it was agreed to add an item to the agenda for the next meeting to decide on the best way forward with updating the Welcome Pack.

A member of the public reported concerns about the behaviour of road users during the Remembrance Service. Cllr Hunt confirmed that the SCC advice is that a formal road closure is not needed. It was felt that the Church had more “ownership” of the event than the Parish Council. Item to be added to the agenda for the next meeting to discuss further.

196/21 Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th January 2022, 7pm at Bishops Lydeard Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. K.', written over a faint rectangular stamp.

Date: 12th January 2022