

**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](mailto:clerk@bishopslydeard.org) Website: <http://www.bishopslydeard.org.uk>

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7pm at Bishops Lydeard Village Hall.

**Persons present:** Cllrs Martin (Chair), Morency (Vice Chair), Allen, Armstrong, Warmington, Pattemore, Hunt, Watson, Rigby, and Lewin-Harris.

**Persons absent:** Cllr Russell.

**In attendance:** Mrs Amy Shepherd (Clerk), SWT Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew, PCSO Vicky Henderson and 7 members of the public.

**197/21 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Russell.

**198/21 Declarations of interest relating to matters on the agenda**

Cllrs Lewin-Harris and Pattemore declared personal interests in respect of item 13 'To discuss MUGA repairs / replacement' as members of the MUGA Committee.

**199/21 Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

**200/21 Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

*The agenda was interrupted to take item 14 'Avon and Somerset Police Report'*

**201/21 Avon and Somerset Police Report**

PCSO Vicky Henderson attended the meeting and summarised the December Police Report tabled at the meeting.

PCSO Vicky Henderson drew attention to the 18 criminal damage offences included in the report which all relate to nails being left on the road causing damage to vehicle tyres. PCSO Vicky Henderson confirmed that a further new report was received on Monday. PCSO Vicky Henderson thanked the community for the information that had been passed to the police so far. Patrols of uniformed officers and plain clothes officers are taking place and as much intelligence is being gathered as possible to identify who is responsible.

*The agenda was resumed.*

**202/21 Clerk's Report**

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

Clerk to confirm permission for fish and chip van to trade from Mount Street Car Park on Friday evenings.

Clerk to sign petition on behalf of the Parish Council in respect of Local Councils having the choice to hold meetings virtually.

Clerk to lodge an objection with Airband regarding works in the village until such time as full details regarding the works are provided.

### **203/21 Chairman's Report**

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

Held a zoom meeting with the TPA Traffic Consultant to develop a fee proposal for the next phase of work for the Parish Council.

Attended a productive zoom meeting with representatives of the Quantock View Southside Residents Group, Primary School and SWT.

Attended an Almshouse Trustees Meeting. Trustees will need to be nominated by the Parish Council in the future as vacancies have arisen.

Received a response from Landmark Estates regarding the Co-Op move. Unfortunately progress with DWH has stalled again. The Co-Op would still like to continue with the move, but the timescales are not clear. Representations have been made about the post office being included – Landmark Estates have passed these onto the Co-Op. Cllr Rigby reported that he has had a meeting with the Regional Manager of the Co-Op who has said that the intention is to include a Post Office within the new Co-Op. Concern was expressed by Councillors that the land allocation for a care home within the DWH development could end up being used for more houses instead.

### **204/21 Comments from members of the public on matters not listed on the agenda**

A member of the public outlined correspondence that he had recently had with Airband about the works in the village. Airband confirmed that a contractor had already been assigned to carry out the work. Once the work is complete Airband will be in competition with BT, providing residents with two different options for superfast broadband.

A member of the public provided an update since the last meeting on conversations that had taken place with the Vicar about the 2022 Remembrance Sunday Service. Steps are being considered to make it a safer event. The member of the public confirmed that he would be putting together the points / process for next service and will share this with the Parish Council to ensure that a plan is in place for next year. Another member of the public suggested that the use of police road closed signs is more effective than normal road closure signs at diverting traffic.

### **205/21 Planning applications for comment**

06/21/0024 Appeal by: MR & MRS M GREEN SIMS Site: 1 TAUNTON ROAD, BISHOPS LYDEARD, TAUNTON, TA4 3BN Proposal: Change of use of vacant shop premises to residential accommodation with alterations to former shop front at 1 Taunton Road, Bishops Lydeard

The Parish Council has no further comments to make in respect of the application / appeal.

06/21/0036 Replacement of scooter storage building at Dunkirk Memorial House, Minehead Road, Bishops Lydeard

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission.

### **206/21 Taunton Road Development Public Open Space Handover**

Chair outlined correspondence that had been received from David Wilson Homes about the possibility of handing over the public open space in the development to the Parish Council once it is complete. A copy of a plan and the relevant schedule from the S106 agreement were tabled at the meeting. It was noted that a commuted sum was not included in the S106 to accompany the open space handover.

It was agreed that the Chair would respond to DWH to confirm that the Parish Council would contemplate the handover of the public open space to it but some concern about the ongoing costs to the Parish Council were expressed and it was agreed that further investigation of those costs was required before a decision could be taken.

### **207/21 Station View Open Space Update**

Clerk confirmed that the transfer of ownership of the Public Open Space in Station View completed on 14<sup>th</sup> December. Cllr Armstrong confirmed that he had received feedback from approximately 6 residents of Station Green / View who were in support of the proposed landscaping for the Open Space, although some concerns had been expressed about the bollard lights.

It was agreed that a more formal consultation needed to take place with residents. Clerk to hand deliver a copy of the proposed plan and a letter requesting feedback to each household in Station View / Green. The matter will be given further consideration at the February Parish Council meeting once the feedback had been received.

### **208/21 Road and Traffic Issues**

Chair outlined the fee proposal and work programme developed by TPA for the next phase of work in respect of the proposed road improvement measures in the village.

The first project is work to Quantock View to add parking spaces and improve the link / road crossing to the footpath that leads to Hamber Lea. This would be the limit of the work in Quantock View, the proposed virtual footpath from Mount Street and improvements to the Mount Street junction would be considered later. The drain works commissioned by SWT also seem to have been effective so the Quantock View project would not include any further work to the drain. Chair confirmed that SWT have certain stipulations in relation to the work, including a Project Manager being appointed.

Residents of Quantock View will be informed of the work to add parking and improve the footpath link and would be consulted on the improvements to the green space.

The next project will be the crossing point between the football pitches on Cothelstone Road and gateway feature at Delta Rise / Pound Lane. This will involve physically building out the road edges to reduce the width of the road to a single carriageway to force the slowing of speed. Those living nearby to the project will be consulted on the proposed work.

A discussion followed about the fee proposal.

It was noted that a virtual footpath should be considered along Taunton Road to Gore Square, particularly in view of the Taunton Road and Paddock Developments.

A member of the public suggested that some works were needed to add physical measures to slow traffic speed when it exits the A358 at Minehead Road. It was noted that this entrance to the village was the only one where there are no physical measures to slow the speed of traffic.

It was proposed, seconded, and agreed with all in favour to accept the fee proposal and proceed with the proposed work / projects listed in it.

Cllr Rigby provided an update on the 20mph speed limit. The limit is now in place, some 30mph speed limit roundels will be removed shortly as the weather improves. Once all the signage / roundels are in place the 20mph speed limit will be enforceable.

Chair outlined a meeting which took place between the Primary School, SWT, Parish Council and representatives of the Southside Quantock View Residents Group. During the meeting the school confirmed that they would like to adopt a School Travel Plan and that they would prefer that the Travel Plan was developed by External Consultants to give the Plan more weight. Chair outlined the fee proposal provided by TPA to develop a School Travel Plan and asked the Parish Council to consider if it would agree to cover the costs in the fee proposal.

The majority view of the Parish Council was not to fund the development of the Travel Plan but that the Parish Council would support the School in any other way that it could.

The latest school roll figures were outlined. It was agreed that the Chair would request that representatives of the School and Academy Trust attend a future meeting of the Parish Council to provide an update on the work of the school and its future plans.

#### **209/21 To discuss MUGA repairs / replacement**

Chair confirmed that he had received an email from Jim Bletcher requesting confirmation from the Parish Council that the tender process could commence.

It was noted that the proposed tender letter requests contractors to provide a quote for both the repair and replacement of the MUGA to enable a cost comparison.

The Parish Council agreed that the tender process could commence.

#### **210/21 Parish Lengthsman Report**

Report circulated at the meeting and its contents noted.

#### **211/21 To consider quotes for the cleaning of public conveniences and library**

Clerk outlined the enquiries made and advert posted to recruit a cleaner for the public conveniences and library. No interest in the vacancy had been received. It was suggested that the Clerk contact AIS Contract Cleaning for a quote. Clerk to request a quote for consideration at the next meeting.

#### **213/21 Update regarding Climate Change**

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

#### **214/21 To discuss repair / replacement of noticeboard at Stairfoot**

The quotes for a metal replacement noticeboard were tabled at the meeting and considered. It was agreed to proceed with the purchase of the Traditional 30 Post Mounted External Noticeboard from the Noticeboard Company.

#### **215/21 To discuss Fiveways Trust grant funding – Platinum Anniversary**

Cllr Hunt suggested that a Platinum Jubilee Big Lunch could be organised locally on the green with tea / coffee / cake / pudding being served from the Village Hall. It was noted that this would be in line with the national events that are being organised. It was agreed that Cllr Hunt would make some further enquiries / arrangements. Chair to respond to the Fiveways Trust about the plans and copy in Cllr Hunt.

#### **216/21 Somerset County Council and Somerset West and Taunton Council matters**

Cllr Rigby reported on the following:

Covid-19 - Figures are high across the Country. SCC are considering alternative methods of doing business to avoid lots of people meeting in one place. The indication from the figures is that infection rates seem to be peaking. The Omicron strain also appear to have less severe in symptoms.

Hospitality Business Grant Scheme – a new grant scheme has been launched for hospitality business - £1k to £5k grants are available.

Local Government Reorganisation – work is well underway to amalgamate the services of all the councils ready for 1st April 2023. Elections will take place in May 2022. Those elected will be County Councillors for 1 year and then Unitary Councillors for 4 years.

Community Governance Review to form Taunton Town Council – The formation of a Town Council for Taunton was a manifesto commitment and was also included in the One Somerset Business Case –

Taunton is the only area in Somerset that has no Town/ Parish Council. The Review is underway, the first consultation stage closed today.

Consultation on increase of taxi fares underway likely to go through SWT in some form next week.

Waste Collections - Some missed collections of waste, reduced rail timetable due to sickness.

Phosphates - remains an issue. Meeting with County MPs and Wessex Water / Natural England took place a couple of weeks ago. The problem is only going to be fixed by Wessex Water updating treatment plants. A Government intervention is required to bring forward plans.

Ash Priors Common – discussion between representatives of the Common and SWT about a year ago. Seems to have gone very quiet. Management Plan needs to be put in place with Natural England. The Plan is being put together by SWT on behalf of the owners. SWT are liaising with Wildlife Trust and FWAG to develop the Management Plan. Chair confirmed that Cllr Lewin-Harris has also been liaising with SWT about the Management Plan and it sounds as though the Management Plan is still outstanding but nearly complete.

Delta Rise wall - Consultants have designed a scheme. Cllr Rigby to provide an update by email.

### **217/21 Update regarding Sandhill Park Mansion**

Cllr Rigby confirmed that there was no update.

### **218/21 Finance**

#### **To consider and note Quarter 3 financial statements**

The quarter 3 financial statements were noted.

#### **To approve final 2022/23 budget and agree precept demand**

The final 2022/23 budget was approved.

It was proposed and seconded and approved with the majority in favour to increase the precept for 2022/23 by 5% to £61678.00

#### **To note income received**

Interest	£0.18
Library income	£90.20

#### **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)	£78.49
EDF Energy (Library Electric)	£57.47
	£71.34

##### **Payments to be made by BACS:**

Jack Council (Parish Lengthsman Work – December)	£924.35
Clerk's expenses (Travel, office 365, dog mess signs and Lengthsman jackets)	£124.55
Intelligent Workplace Solutions (Cleaning Toilets and Library)	£445.66
Richard Guise, T/A Context4D (Illustrative plan proposals for road and green space improvements)	£2091.80
Ashfords Solicitors (Legal work in relation to Station View POS transfer)	£1404.16

HMRC (Tax and NI contributions)	£501.67
Mr C Back (Library Lease)	£800.00
SWT (Dog bin emptying)	£583.10
Bishops Lydeard Village Hall	£73.60

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

**219/21 To note planning permissions granted**

13/21/0001 Replacement of dwelling with associated works at Fennington Farm, Fennington Lane, Kingston St Mary – Decision of Conditional Approval was made on 13/12/2021.

25/21/0032 Replacement of leylandii hedge to boundary with Montys Lane with close boarded timber fence with brick gateposts replacing timber posts at Riverfield House, Montys Lane, Norton Fitzwarren (retention of works already undertaken) - Decision of Conditional Approval was made on 17/12/2021.

06/21/0040/T Notification to carry out management works to one Lime tree within Bishops Lydeard Conservation Area at Warre House, Bishops Lydeard - Decision of No Objection - Trees was made on 21/12/2021.

**220/21 To note planning applications refused/withdrawn**

13/21/0003 Removal of Condition No. 12 (in respect of details of prospective occupiers and their occupation/range of goods of the Great Barn) of application 13/05/0007 at Manor Farm, Cothelstone – Withdrawn

**221/21 Any Other Business - for report only**

Cllr Pattemore reported that a traffic warden had not attended the village and requested that a further request is made to Parking Services at SCC for visits.

Cllr Allen thanked the Parish Council on behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee for the CIL contribution towards the play area upgrade.

Vice Chair reported that the leylandii hedge on the entrance to Hither Mead from Mount Street is overgrown and needs to be cut back. Cllr Morency to send the details to Cllr Rigby to ask SCC Highways to write to the property owner and request that the hedge is cut.

**222/21 Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022, 7pm at Bishops Lydeard Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed



Date: 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022