

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 13th July 2022 at 7pm at Bishops Lydeard Village Hall.

Persons present: Cllrs Martin (Chair), Allen, Ball, Bainbridge, Warmington, Lewin-Harris, Hunt, Pattermore (from 7.39pm) and Rigby (from 7.23pm until 8.56pm).

Persons absent: Cllrs Russell and Morency.

In attendance: Mrs Amy Shepherd (Clerk), Cllr Trollope-Bellew (SWT District Councillor) and 1 member of the public.

60/22 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Russell and Morency. Clerk confirmed that Cllr Russell had tendered his resignation due to personal and work commitments, the vacancy will be formally declared at the next meeting.

61/22 Declarations of interest relating to matters on the agenda

Cllr Warmington declared a prejudicial interest in respect of planning application numbers 13/22/0008/LB.

Cllrs Lewin-Harris declared a personal interest in respect of item 14 'MUGA repairs / replacement update'.

62/22 Adoption of the minutes of the meetings held on 8th June 2022

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting on 8th June 2022 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

63/22 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

64/22 Clerk's Report

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

Actions required:

- Clerk to consult with nearby residents of Quantock View in relation to the siting of the new dog bin.
- Clerk to publish information about current status of volunteers helping with the library on the PC website.
- Clerk to proceed with the purchase of the Speed Indicator Device
- Clerk to call manufacturer of hand drying units in public convenience to see if the one in the men's toilets can be repaired.

65/22 Chairman's Report

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

- Written an article for Fiveways

- Held a series of online meetings with SCC Highways and the Traffic Consultant, SWT and SCC regarding traffic issues.
- Met online regarding proposals for Quantock View.

66/22 Comments from members of the public

No comments were received from members of the public.

67/22 Avon and Somerset Police Report

The June Police Report was tabled at the meeting and its contents noted. The low crime levels in the report were noted.

68/22 Planning applications for comment

06/22/0006/T Application to carry out management works to one Oak tree included in Taunton Deane Borough (Bishops Lydeard No.1) Tree Preservation Order 1994 to the front of Little Acorns, Lydeard Mead, Bishops Lydeard (TD614)

The Parish Council supported the granting of permission subject to the comments of the Tree Officer.

06/22/0018 Replacement of conservatory with the erection of a single storey extension to the rear of 46 Greenway, Bishops Lydeard

The Parish Council supported the granting of permission.

Airband proposed installation consisting of a new telegraph pole for the provision of FTTP at:

Bishop's Lydeard Cricket Ground, Eastcombe Lane, Eastcombe, Bishop's Lydeard, TA4 3HU

Watts Lane, Eastcombe, Bishop's Lydeard, TA4 3HU

Stoneage Farm, Kingston St Mary Road, Cushuish, Cothelstone, TA4 3ED;

Stoneage Farm, Kingston St Mary Road, Bishop's Lydeard, TA4 3ED;

Stoneage Farm, Kingston St Mary Road, Bishop's Lydeard, TA4 3ED;

Stoneage, Kingston St Mary Road, Bishop's Lydeard, TA4 3ED;

Stoneage, Kingston St Mary Road, Bishop's Lydeard, TA4 3ED

Little Bothy, Terhill Lane, Bishop's Lydeard, TA4 3EA;

The Rose Garden, Terhill Lane, Bishop's Lydeard, TA4 3EA;

Erkindale, Terhill Lane, Bishop's Lydeard, TA4 3EA;

Erkindale, Terhill Lane, Bishop's Lydeard, TA4 3EA;

Lower Terhill Cottages, Terhill Lane, Bishop's Lydeard, TA4 3EA

The notification of the proposed new telegraph pole installations from Airband was noted.

Cllr Warmington left the meeting at 7.20pm

13/22/0008/LB Internal alterations and repairs to convert Cothelstone Gatehouse into ancillary accommodation for Cothelstone Manor, Cothelstone Road, Bishops Lydeard.

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission.

Cllr Warmington re-joined the meeting at 7.21

06/22/0022/T Application to carry out management works to one Oak tree included in Taunton Deane Borough (Bishops Lydeard No.2) Tree Preservation Order 1997 at 38 Lethbridge Park, Bishops Lydeard (TD705)

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission subject to the views of the Tree Officer.

69/22 To discuss Church Street Flower Boxes

A member of the public who volunteers his time to maintain the eight boxes on the church wall attended the meeting. The member of the public explained that the boxes have been there since the Queens Diamond Jubilee and are in part funded through local business sponsorship. Although the boxes are on the wall of the church they are not directly owned or managed by the church. The member of the public confirmed that he and his wife have been responsible for maintaining the flower boxes, but that they have been looking for alternative volunteers for maintaining them. Volunteers or alternative arrangements need to be put in place by November to take over responsibility for the day-to-day care of the boxes. The boxes cost around £400.00 a year to maintain with two seasonal plantings one in the summer and one in the winter. Water is available in the church yard for watering when required.

The boxes aren't in the best condition and may need replacing in another couple of years.

A discussion followed about potential solutions including the use of the Lengthsman to maintain the boxes and the hanging basket company to water them.

It was agreed that the Chair would include a request for volunteers to help in the next edition of Fiveways and that an item would be included on the agenda for the next meeting to review all the planting in the village including the boxes and hanging baskets.

70/22 To discuss Piffin Lane Access and Road Sign Request

A request received from residents of Piffin Lane to add a road sign at the entrance of the lane designed to prevent parking and enable better access for residents was circulated in advance of the meeting.

A discussion about the request followed. The general opinion of the Parish Council was that a sign at the location would be unlikely to prevent people from parking and blocking access to Piffin Lane, particularly if there is no enforcement.

Cllr Rigby confirmed that parking enforcement have indicated that they have visited Bishops Lydeard but that he has requested further visits

Cllr Rigby confirmed that he would also request that the road markings at the entrance to Piffin Lane be refreshed.

Cllr Bainbridge to send information about accreditation schemes in other areas for parking enforcement to the Clerk.

71/22 To consider supporting the reduction of the speed limit on the A358 at Eastcombe

Clerk outlined a request received from a member of the public who resides in Eastcombe to reduce the speed limit on the A358 following pets being hit by cars and a number of near misses. The request is supported by more than 17 other residents in Eastcombe.

A discussion followed. It was agreed to support the request for a reduction in the speed limit to 40mph from the far sides of each Watts Lane junction with the A358. Clerk to liaise with SCC Highways.

72/22 Road and Traffic Issues

Chair outlined the proposed phases in respect of the road traffic proposals.

Phase 1 to include:

- New crossing near football pitch which will require a mini S278 agreement. Anticipated delivery in the Autumn.
- Quantock View proposals which includes four elements

1. Car parking spaces

A formal planning application is required to undertake the works. SWT will grant a licence for work on the green. The South Side Residents Group have accepted that although they believe they have the rights to obstruct work, they won't. Cllr Morency's email stating there was in his view no public right of way over Quantock View was noted. The Planning

Application may be derailed by the status of the road as an unadopted road and the application for village green status on Quantock View green made by the South Side Residents Group. Although the Group have confirmed that they are willing to withdraw the application, the officer dealing with the application has indicated that the application cannot be withdrawn. The submission of a planning application may prevent the green being delegated as a Village Green. During the meeting with SWT it was suggested that the surface of the car parking spaces should be permeable rather than tarmac to not add any additional drainage issues in the area. Jim Bletcher who is acting as the Project Manager is looking at the details of this element.

2. Crossing from pavement to cut through to Hamber Lea.
The proposed crossing is very extensive in the plans but is only a graded surface to emphasise that there is a crossing there. Chair is in discussion with the owners of number 12 about the proposed crossing to ensure they are happy with it. Although the design of the crossing is under discussion no one is opposed to emphasising the crossing to make it safer.
3. Zig Zag yellow lines at rear entrance to the primary school - SCC Highways plan to add zig zag yellow marking near school entrance extending to the front of some properties. The majority of the residents of these properties are in support. This element is being taken forward by SCC Highways.
4. Virtual pavement – to go up Mount Street to the back entrance of the school. SCC Highways are not generally in support of virtual pavements. Plan will need approval of SWT and SCC before this element progresses. Cllr Rigby to follow up this element of the proposal with SCC Highways.

Consultation for phase 1 will include an information leaflet to all of Quantock View regarding the proposal after the planning application is determined.

Phase 2:

A map has been circulated with suggestions of interventions across the village.

All of the interventions that are taken forward will need to be included in a normal S278 agreement.

The interventions include widening and extending an existing virtual pavement which SCC Highways are not generally supportive of. SCC Highways have a very traditional approach to measures generally and virtual pavements would require a departure from policy. Cllr Rigby to begin the conversation about virtual pavements with SCC Highways.

The process for agreeing the phase 2 interventions needs to be agreed including consultation to inform the measures that are taken forward. Although measures have been suggested by the traffic consultant none of the measures are set in stone. Feedback on each location is needed before the detailed specification is developed.

Chair confirmed that a planning application will not be required for the phase 2 works as they will all be included in the S278 agreement.

It was agreed that phase 1 should be delivered before consultation commences on the remainder of the measures, towards the end of this year.

It was also agreed that establishing a sub-committee to take phase 2 forward should be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

A member of the public raised the lack of enforcement of 20mph speed limit but understood that traffic measures being discussed are needed to slow vehicle speeds through the village. The member of the public suggested that the Parish Council communicate the work that it is doing with the community on the PC website. The member of the public also raised the need for a speed watch group but acknowledged that there was no support in the local community.

73/22 MUGA repairs / replacement update

Cllr Lewin-Harris explained that the MUGA Committee and Village Hall Management Committee were happy to progress with a specification for the fencing which is slightly higher (5.2m) at both ends of the MUGA, with the side fencing being 4m. The second gate has also been moved away from the youth shelter.

Clerk confirmed that the specification has been circulated by Foothills Landscaping to four contractors to provide quotes. The quotations are expected to be received by 29th July and available to discuss at the next PC meeting.

74/22 To discuss the David Wilson Homes development Public Open Space

Clerk confirmed that there was no update, a response is awaited from DWHs solicitor.

75/22 Station View Public Open Space update

Clerk confirmed that as with the MUGA quotations, the quotations for the Station View Public Open Space works is expected by 29th July and will be available for discussion at the next PC meeting.

76/22 Update regarding Climate Change

In Cllr Russell's absence there was no update. It was noted that a new Councillor would need to be assigned to the Climate Change lead role following Cllr Russell's resignation.

77/22 Parish Lengthsman Report

Clerk confirmed that a report was not received from the Parish Lengthsman in advance of the meeting and that it would be circulated by email when it is received.

78/22 Somerset County Council and Somerset West and Taunton Council matters

Cllr Rigby confirmed that a report from Cllr Andy Sully had been circulated in advance of the meeting and reported on the following:

Vacancies in SCC Highways Department – there is a 12% vacancy rate due to SCC not paying high enough salaries. The same applies in SWT Planning Department. It is difficult to find locally qualified people to fill the roles and the reorganisation is also not helping to fill the roles available. Work in these departments will be slower in the interim. Levels of pay need to be assessed going forward.

Unitary – the savings proposed from the Unitary Authority of £18.5m doesn't look as though it is deliverable.

LCNs – no budget for LCNs included in the One Somerset Business Case – there is a lot of work to do about the detail and delivery of LCNs.

Covid - levels very high but there is not a huge amount of serious illness. Hospital levels are however increasing again.

Young Persons Bus Discount Card – young people in rural areas find it difficult to get to employment, education, and opportunities. The scheme will be live next year.

Road Works – there have been periods of time in the past where multiple road works have been happening in the area at the same time – work to look at all the timetables for work is taking place to make sure that works are scheduled effectively and not all at the same time. As a result, the Trenchard Way scheduled work is being pushed back a month so that it doesn't coincide with other works.

Small Improvement Scheme – being resurrected – hoping to bring it back for next year.

Bishops Lydeard Station Car Park – SWT are considering the sale of the car park and toilets, an offer from WSR has been received which appears agreeable and will probably proceed.

Cllr Trollope-Bellew reported on the following:

Quantock Hills AONB – Every 5 years a management plan is developed. Government is rejigging the requirements and therefore the review of the management plan will be delayed for a year.

The following questions were asked following the SCC / SWT Reports:

Cllr Lewin-Harris requested an update in respect of the Cycle Path. Cllr Rigby confirmed that work is underway, and more information should be available to share by the end of the year. The project involves getting agreement from 12 landowners so there is quite a lot of work to do.

Cllr Pattermore requested an update regarding the phosphates issue. Cllr Rigby confirmed that this element is now the responsibility of the Deputy Leader – Cllr Derek Perry. A QC is coming to talk to SWT in a couple of weeks' time to discuss a few ideas about a proposed scheme involving working with Wessex Water treatment works. Cllr Rigby confirmed that the issue can only be fixed across the country by Government and that Developers are struggling because of the delays caused by phosphates.

79/22 Finance

Quarter 1 Financial Statements

The quarterly statements were noted.

To note income received

Library income	£74.10
Somerset County Council (Library quarterly contribution)	£500.00
Interest	
HSBC	£19.27
Hampshire Trust Bank	£212.51
CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund	£50.88

To approve payments

Payments to be made by Direct Debit:

BT (Telephone and broadband)	£84.54
Somerset Web Services (Email account)	£5.52
British Gas (Public conveniences Electric)	£67.72
EDF Energy (Library Electric)	£51.09
	£48.83

Payments to be made by BACS:

Jack Council (Parish Lengthsman Work – June)	£1240.85
Clerks Expenses (Travel, Office 365)	£55.49
HMRC (Tax and NI Contributions)	£508.53
Mr C Back (Library lease Q1 2022/23)	£800.00
Bishops Lydeard Village Hall (Contribution to Platinum Jubilee Event)	£1217.26
AJ Rauki and Son Ltd (Investigate issues at public conveniences)	£51.60
Foothills Landscape Design and Planning (Interim payment in respect of MUGA and Station View POS design / tendering work)	£683.75
Advancedscape Limited (Dog bin for Quantock View)	£199.00
Somerset West and Taunton Council (Grass cutting and Dog bin emptying – Quarter 1)	£1277.04
Somerset County Council (Library PAT Testing)	£85.10

Viking (Stationery)	£75.08
	£91.66
Village Hall	£48.00
SCC (Library staffing Q4)	£2311.56
SCC (Library staffing Q1)	£2269.38
Shelter Solutions (Hither Mead Bus Shelter repair)	£258.00
Bishops Lydeard Church School (School crossing patrol contribution)	£1000.00
SWT (Hanging Baskets)	£936.00
AIS Ltd (Cleaning at library and public conveniences)	£690.60

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

80/22 To note planning permissions granted

13/22/0005/LEW Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the existing use as a wedding venue and bed and breakfast at Cothelstone Manor, Cothelstone Road, Bishops Lydeard – Decision of Approval on 17th June 2022.

06/22/0017/T Notification to fell one Holly tree within Bishops Lydeard Conservation Area at Bell Inn, 6 West Street, Bishops Lydeard – Decision of No Objection – Trees on 28th June 2022.

81/22 To note planning applications refused/withdrawn

06/22/0012 Erection of 1 No. dwelling (to replace approved planning consent 06/20/0061CQ) on land at Dene Road, (North of Oak Dene and The Mews), Bishops Lydeard – Decision of Refusal on 27th June 2022.

82/22 Any Other Business - for report only

Cllr Hunt reported that she had attend the first Village Events Committee Meeting – the realms of the Committee are still being developed. Although there was a good initial response was received from potential volunteers only a few attended the meeting.

Cllr Bainbridge asked if the Parish Council could look at providing electric charging points. Cllrs Allen and Ball confirmed that the village hall is looking at the possibility of providing charging points in the village hall car park and a response is awaited from Western Power Distribution who will be able to confirm if there is capacity in the network.

Cllr Pattermore reported that the gate at the WSR play park has been repaired.

Cllr Ball raised the stone on the wall with 1661 on it at Crawlic Lane which is no longer visible due to vegetation growing over it. Clerk to ask Lengthsman to clear the vegetation.

83/22 Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th August 2022, 7pm at Bishops Lydeard Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Signed



Date: 10th August 2022