

**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 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7pm at Bishops Lydeard Village Hall.

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

**Persons absent:** Cllr Morency.

**In attendance:** Mrs Amy Shepherd (Clerk), PCSO Vicky Henderson, Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew (SWT District Councillor) and 5 members of the public.

**252/21 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Morency.

**253/21 Declarations of interest relating to matters on the agenda**

Cllr Allen declared a personal interest in respect of planning application number 11/22/0002.  
Cllrs Lewin-Harris and Pattermore declared personal interests in respect of item 13 'MUGA repairs / replacement update and to consider tenders received'.

**254/21 Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

**255/21 Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

*The agenda was interrupted to take item 21 'Avon and Somerset Police Report'*

**256/21 Avon and Somerset Police Report**

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

*The agenda was resumed.*

**257/21 Clerk's Report**

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

Cllr Rigby reported that an alternative form of road closure may be available for the Remembrance Sunday event and confirmed that he would pass the details on to Cllr Russell who is supporting the Community Group with arrangements for the event.

Clerk to pass the details of the Outreach Bus to Cllr Allen to see if the Village Hall car park is available to accommodate the bus.

Cllr Rigby confirmed that work to the trees along Cothelstone Road that need some work following the recent storms is on the list to be carried out as soon as possible.

Cllr Armstrong reported that the bus shelter on Station Road is damaged, Clerk to report / investigate.

### **257/21 Chairman's Report**

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

Continued to liaise with the Traffic consultant regarding plans for the village

Met online with the school and Quantock View Southside Residents group

Wrote and submitted the Fiveways article on behalf of the Parish Council.

Liaised with David Wilson Homes regarding the footpath connections to the stream footpath which DWH have confirmed that the work should be completed between April and June. 68 of the 173 homes in the development have now been completed and many of those are occupied.

Made enquiries about the bridge over the stream and the history regarding the idea. Further enquiries regarding ownership of the land next to the stream and what is possible will continue.

### **258/21 Comments from members of the public on matters not listed on the agenda**

Members of the public present at the meeting had no comments to make.

### **259/21 Planning applications for comment**

06/22/0001/T Application to fell (and replace) three Leyland Cypress trees included in Taunton Deane Borough (Bishops Lydeard No.1) Tree Preservation Order 2012 at The Paddock development, Taunton Road, Bishops Lydeard (TD1098)

Clerk outlined comments received from a member of the public who had expressed concern that a number of trees along the same boundary to the one that the application relates also have TPOs but may not still be there.

It was agreed that the Clerk would liaise with the Tree Officer at SWT about the application and establish the status of the trees for which other TPOs relate and establish the species of trees that will be planted to replace the three Cypress Trees.

11/22/0002 Erection of 1 No. dwelling with detached garage, garden and associated works on land at Knapp Lane, East Combe, Bishops Lydeard

The neighbour objections were discussed that identified potential drainage issues in relation to the proposal. The applicants were in attendance at the meeting and outlined the drainage solutions that would be included and the improved access / turning area that was proposed.

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission.

### **260/21 Library Update**

Clerk provided a summary of the recent review meeting held with SCC representatives. Actions for the Clerk / Parish Council were identified including:

- Replenish items in the First Aid kit
- Explore alternative electric heater options
- Updating risk assessments

Clerk confirmed that an updated Asbestos Management Survey of the Library was required and a quote of £235.00 plus £15 for the analysis of each sample taken, all plus VAT had been received from SCC to carry out the survey. The quotation was agreed.

The Clerk provided a summary of the latest library statistics.

### **261/21 Station View Open Space Update**

Clerk confirmed that a site meeting with SWT at the play park next to the WSR about siting goals posts in the park had been requested but a response was awaited.

Clerk confirmed that the proposed plan for the public open space had been sent to three local companies asking if they were interested in quoting to deliver the open space. A site meeting with one of the companies, who is based in Bishops Lydeard, is scheduled to take place on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March.

### **262/21 Road and Traffic Issues**

Chair provided an update on the main pieces of work relating to road and traffic issues: Quantock View – the traffic consultant has expressed a need to understand the works that have been carried out in relation to the drain in Quantock View. This information has been received from SWT and passed on. It looks as though work to the pipes and to enlarge the size of the soakaway has been carried out. If this work isn't successful, the drain will need to be connected to the storm drain – SWT have taken ownership of the issue and therefore works to the drain does not need to be incorporated into the specification for the work that the PC commissions. The QV Southside Residents Group are keen to see some hatched yellow marking at the back entrance to the school to prevent parking. SCC Highways have reviewed the area.

Pound Lane Gateway Feature – feedback from Councillors is awaited. The consultant is at the point of preparing detailed plans for the project so some ideas of what it should look like are needed.

Crossing somewhere between the Co-Op and Daisy Cottage – Chair outlined the observations / suggestion of the Traffic Consultant to move forward with a crossing in this location. After discussion it was agreed not to proceed with the crossing point yet but to push forward with the other two projects. Cllr Allen raised the slip road from A358 onto Minehead Road, vehicles travel at speed from the A358 into Minehead Road. Cllr Allen asked if consideration could be given to closing the slip road from the A358 to help with the issue. Chair confirmed that the plan is to add a gateway feature at all entrances to the village but that this option would be discussed with the Consultant during the next walkaround in the village.

### **263/21 To consider quotes for a Speed Indicator Device**

A paper summarising two Speed Indicator Devices was tabled at the meeting. Clerk outlined the SCC Memorandum of Understanding that the PC must sign and comply with in order to place a SID in the village. It was agreed to proceed with ordering a SID from Elan City once locations for the SID have been agreed with SCC. Clerk to liaise with SCC prior to ordering the SID.

### **264/21 MUGA repairs / replacement update and to consider tenders received**

Chair confirmed that the no quotes had been received following the tender exercise carried out by Jim Bletcher for the MUGA repairs / replacement on behalf of the Parish Council.

Chair confirmed that chasers will be sent to the contractors and alternative / additional contractors would also be contacted / invited to tender.

### **265/21 To consider SWT grounds maintenance quote for 2022/23**

Clerk outlined the quote received from SWT for ground maintenance in Bishops Lydeard for 2022/23. It was proposed, seconded and agreed with all in favour to accept the SWT quote.

### **266/21 To discuss the David Wilson Homes development Public Open Space**

Clerk outlined the investigations that she had been undertaking about the management of public open spaces in the Development.

The Council Tax band information in respect of the Development had been shared by DWH and as a result the anticipated income from precept could be calculated. These calculations were shared at the meeting.

Clerk also outlined a very rough quotation provided by SWT for the maintenance of the POS. It was noted that the additional precept income would cover the cost of the anticipated maintenance cost for the POS.

The Management Company for the POS and the options of how it could be managed were discussed. It was agreed that further investigation was needed regarding the Management Company route. In the meantime, it was agreed that the Chair could respond to DWH to confirm that the PC would be agreeable to taking on the management of the POS in the Development but that the PC is making further enquiries regarding the options available to do this.

### **267/21 Darby Way**

#### **Quotes for dropped kerbs**

Clerk outlined two quotes for two pairs of dropped kerbs at Darby Way. It was agreed to accept the quote from RW Gale to carry out the works.

#### **Quotes for replacement noticeboard**

Options for a replacement noticeboard at Darby Way was tabled at the meeting and considered. It was agreed that an order would be placed for the Traditional 30 Post Mounted External Notice Board from the Noticeboard Company.

#### **Quote for bus shelter repair**

Clerk confirmed that the condition of the bus shelter at Darby Way had been reported to SWT who have responded to confirm that their records indicate that the bus shelter is owned jointly by SWT and the PC. SWT has obtained a quote for repairs to the bus shelter totalling £543.20 + VAT. It was agreed that the Parish Council would contribute 50% towards the repair costs of the bus shelter.

### **268/21 To agree next steps in relation to Woodland Walk**

Clerk provided the background to negotiations with SCC regarding acquiring Woodland Walk. Clerk also outlined a site meeting that had taken place with an Arboriculturist. The Arboriculturist advised that all the trees on the A3258 side of the woodland are diseased with Ash dieback and require felling – the likely cost to fell just this area of trees would be approximately £8k. In addition, there are other diseased trees that need felling close to the underpass and properties on Minehead Road. The advice from the Arboriculturist is that the risk and financial liability is high and recommended that the PC ask SCC to carry out the required work to fell the diseased trees and then hand it over. The ongoing maintenance costs for the woodland will be approximately £1k per year. It was also noted that SCC had requested that the PC cover SCCs legal costs to transfer the land of £2000.00.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to SCC and outline the advice received from the Arboriculturist and outline the concerns about the fencing that needs replenishing and request that SCC carries out the work before the PC considers taking ownership and responsibility for the land.

### **269/21 Update regarding Climate Change**

Cllr Russell outlined a request received from a member of the public about an electric vehicle charging point being added to the Village Hall car park. Cllr Allen confirmed that a charging point was considered previously when it was noted that the point would need a separate electric supply. Cllr Russell confirmed that he would progress with obtaining some quotes.

Cllr Russell reminded Councillors to send him feedback on the proposed Climate Survey.

Cllr Russell also reported that he was continuing to look through the Bicknoller Contingency Plan to inform the development of one for Bishops Lydeard.

Chair asked Councillors to look up '15-minute neighbourhood'. It promotes the idea of everything that someone needs in a neighbourhood / village being within a 15-minute walk. Chair noted that most

services are available in Bishops Lydeard and therefore the focus should be on getting people walking and cycling.

Chair confirmed that he had followed up Landmark Estates about the new Co-op incorporating the post office but had not received a response.

Cllr Rigby reported that SWT and SCC had been identified as the best District and County Council for Climate Action planning.

### **270/21 To receive an update on the Platinum Jubilee Picnic Lunch**

Cllr Allen reported that celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee are going to be organised by the Village Hall. If there are any costs that arise from the events, an approach will be made to the Parish Council / Fiveways Trust.

Cllr Allen urged Councillors to help the Village Hall with organising the celebrations. Clerk confirmed that one member of the public had come forward offering his support. Clerk to pass details to Cllr Allen.

### **271/21 To confirm Almshouse Trustees Nominations**

Clerk confirmed that of the 11 Almshouse Trustees, six are trustees nominated by the Parish Council. There are currently two vacancies, and one Trustee nomination needs to be renewed for a further four-year period.

It was agreed to nominate Carole Balston and Susan Cahalin as Trustees for the two vacancies and renew Abbie Cook's nomination for a further four years.

### **272/21 Parish Lengthsman Report**

The Parish Lengthsman Report for February was tabled at the meeting and its contents noted.

Cllr Russell reported that one of the glass panels in the telephone box on Mount Street has been smashed.

Cllr Armstrong reported that the Lengthsman is fighting a losing battle in respect of the underpass dealing with litter and broken glass. A graffiti project was discussed and will be explored further once the underpass is adopted.

### **273/21 Somerset County Council and Somerset West and Taunton Council matters**

Cllr Rigby reported on the following:

Hedge at Greenway has been replanted. Fencing will be installed around it to prevent strimming.

Covid-19 - still an issue with high numbers locally, especially in school settings.

Energy Grant – anyone in Council Tax bands A to D who pays their Council Tax by Direct Debit will automatically receive a £150 rebate into their bank accounts. The advice is to get anyone who doesn't pay their Council Tax by Direct Debit to set one up as soon as possible. Those who don't pay by Direct Debit will have to make a claim for their energy grant instead.

Sandhill Park – the information that was expected by 24th February has been received and is being considered by the SWT Heritage at Risk Officer.

Roundabout – it's been nearly 5 years since construction and snagging works are still needed. The list of snagging works is not small. Cllr Rigby continues to press for this work to be completed.

SCC Local Lead Flood Authority (LLFA) – the LLFA at SCC, which is a statutory consultee on planning applications is extremely short staffed. It would appear there are 8 posts and 8 vacancies in the team.

Cycle Path – two project officers are now working on the cycle path at SWT. The ambition is to progress the project as much as possible before the Unitary Council starts so that there is an obligation to see it through.

Post Office – Landmark Estates are still very keen to deliver a new Co-Op at Taunton Road but are struggling with DWH who are indicating that there is a restrictive covenant in force. Co-Op are keen to

go move to Taunton Road and the Post Office is also keen to go into the Co-Op store. Post office will not open a new post office in Bishops Lydeard

Delta Rise Wall – SWT accepted ownership of the wall some time ago and have been trying to move forward with the required works. Plan of having a reinforced wall has now been replaced by an alternative solution and a new bidding process is needed - vegetation been removed to enable this. Specification for the required works to include fencing on top of the wall. Cllr Rigby to circulate an email with the details of what is happening.

Cllr Armstrong confirmed that there has been lots of activity at Sandhill Park including the erection of scaffolding. Cllr Rigby confirmed that it is for the emergency works to be carried out to the Mansion House. Cllr Armstrong also reported that the land upon which the camping pods were previously proposed has been sold.

Cllr Pattemore confirmed that she would put Cllr Rigby in touch with Mike King about the covenant on the DWH land.

Cllr Allen asked if there had been any advancements with the phosphate issues. Cllr Rigby confirmed that there is a possible solution being discussed with the SWT Legal Team. Temporary solution has been identified which will help with approximately 1000 homes to get planning permission but approximately 3500 are awaiting permission. Wessex Water need to upgrade the treatment plants urgently.

## 274/21 Finance

### To note income received

Interest	£0.19
Library income	£77.20
	£75.80
SCC (Library contribution)	£500.00

### 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)	£76.66

#### Payments to be made by BACS:

Jack Council (Parish Lengthsman Work – February)	£386.15
Clerk's expenses (Travel, training materials, office 365, key cutting for new cleaning company)	£224.95
Intelligent Workplace Solutions (Cleaning Toilets and Library)	£445.66
Viking (Paper for library)	£37.73
A.J. Raucki and Sons Limited (Water heater – Library)	£320.40
Water 2 Business (Public toilets – water)	£312.38
Bishops Lydeard Village Hall (Lease for MUGA and Car Park)	£175.00
SCC (library staffing Q2 and 3)	£5335.87

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

## 275/21 To note planning permissions granted

06/21/0036 Replacement of scooter storage building at Dunkirk Memorial House, Minehead Road, Bishops Lydeard - Decision of Conditional Approval was made on 28/01/2022.

**276/21 To note planning applications refused/withdrawn**

No planning applications were refused / withdrawn

**277/21 Any Other Business - for report only**

Cllr Pattermore asked that the Clerk make a further request for a visit from the parking enforcement officer.

**278/21 Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022, 7pm at Bishops Lydeard Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Signed

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

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022