

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 13th JUNE 2024 COMMENCING IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT BROADWAY HILL METHODIST CHURCH, HORTON.

Page 1341

PUBLIC FORUM No members of the public were in attendance at the meeting. Cllr Sue Osbourne (Councillor – Somerset Council) was in attendance.

4208 ATTENDANCE Councillors Ray Buckler – Chair, Barry Mosley – Vice-Chair, Ann Winter, Mike Schmidt, Rob Hutchinson and Peter Babbington.

4208 APPROVAL OF APOLOGIES Cllr Andy Johnson.

4209 CO-OPTION – PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY One application was received from a local resident, Jack Martin. It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Jack Martin to the Council.

Action: Clerk to send forms to Cllr Jack Martin for completion.

4210 DECLARATION OF INTEREST None.

4211 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (JUNE) The minutes of the meeting held in May having previously been circulated, were approved, seconded, and unanimously agreed upon.

4212 PLANNING APPLICATION(S)/APPEAL(S) UPDATE

23/01649/FUL - Land North Of Broadway Hill Broadway Hill Horton - Construction of 49 dwellings and formation of vehicular access.

- FOI Request
- Complaint to Somerset Council
- Next steps

Somerset Council have provided four batches of emails in response to the FOI request submitted. The content of the information released under the FOI hasn't been fully assessed however there are some concerns around the content of some of the emails between the planning agent and planning officer. A more in-depth look at the emails will be carried out before the next parish council meeting.

Somerset Council responded to the complaint submitted by Horton Parish Council. The response was discussed and it was unanimously agreed that the response does not address the reasons for the complaint. It was agreed that the next stage is for Horton Parish Council to write to the Ombudsman.

FOI information received 4 batches of emails. Discussion was had around the content of some of the emails between the developer and case officer concerning the subject of applying for costs and considering the revised application more favourably. Review further content, may need to engage a solicitor. RB and RH to contact solicitor – Tim Taylor/Fletcher Robinson (CPRE) and request a fee quote to look into whether there is a case to review.

4213 PLAYING FIELD UPDATE Cllr **Andy Johnson** visited the play park at the of May to check all equipment, nothing to report. Cllr Ray Buckler is to attend the next monthly check to highlight a couple of inconsequential items.

Cllr Julie Layzell reported that Horton & Broadway Eco Community Group wish to carry out planting etc at the Playing Field. Cllr Jack Martin is part of the group so will feedback to the group that the parish council would like them to be involved and put together a plan of action.

Cllr Ray Buckler to draft a costings plan for a hardstanding in front of the wall and also for the provision of a footpath.

- 4214 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE – UPDATE** No issues with either SID, both are in good working order. The purchase of a third device was discussed and it was unanimously supported.

Action: Cllr Barry Mosley to obtain a quote for the additional device.

4215 DEFIBRILLATOR

- Bus Shelter – At the last parish council meeting, it was raised that the light bulb within the defibrillator unit had been removed. Upon investigation the whole light fitting is missing which means the electricians have been tampered with, this is to be reported to the Police as criminal damage. A replacement light fitting and bulb is required and upon installation, a note is to be displayed stating that if there are any issues with the light, they should call the Clerk to discuss.

Action: Clerk to obtain quote for replacement light fitting. Cllr Peter Babbington to contact the Police.

- 4216 MAINTENANCE AROUND THE VILLAGE – UPDATE** Local contractor, GD Spiller, continues to carry out the necessary maintenance. Cllr Robert Hutchinson is to speak with other local contractors to see if they can offer additional services required for the maintenance of verges/footpaths. The safety of pedestrians walking along the footpath between the village and the village hall has been identified as being dangerous due to the overgrown hedgerow. The hedgerow from the village to the VH is dangerous and protrudes over the footpath. Additionally, the verge outside of the Old School has become overgrown and it is not known who is responsible for this, Cllr Hutchinson will look into landownership of the verge.

Action: Cllr Robert Hutchinson to speak with maintenance contractors and establish land ownership over the verge.

- 4217 LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORK – UPDATE** No update. The next meeting is on the 30th June 2024. Cllr Ray Buckler will attend the meeting.

4218 IDEAS FOR POTENTIAL HORTON PROJECTS 2024/25

- Bus shelter – Currently needs some maintenance work such as replacement roof slates, replacement guttering, cleaning, decorating etc.

Action: Cllrs Barry Mosely and Jack Martin to speak with Grinters to request a schedule of works/quote to carry out works.

- 4219 NEW STREET NAME CONSULTATION** Notification from Somerset Council notifying the parish council that an application had been received for a new road name following the recent development of land off Shave Lane. The Councillors object to the proposed name. Formal comments to be sent to Somerset Council are as follows:

“The Council discussed the proposed development at their last meeting on the 13th of June 2024. The Council unanimously voted to object to the proposed name of Old Pottery Close as it was considered that the new addresses for the houses would be confused with the existing road within the village called Pottery Road. The Council proposed a new name of Whitney Close for the development as the development has a view of Whitney Bottom, which is south of the site.”

Action: Clerk to provide the above comments to Somerset Council.

4220 FINANCE

Proposal – To approve the following:

14.1 2024/25 financial statement – Unanimously Approved.

Proposal – To approve the following Financial Audit 2024/25 documents

14.2 Section 1 (Annual Governance Statement 2022/23) of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2022/23 Form 3 - Unanimously Approved.

14.3 Section 2 (Accounting Statements 2022/23) of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2022/23 Form 3 - Unanimously Approved.

14.4 Internal Audit Report 2022/23 Form 3 - Unanimously Approved.

14.5 Summary of Receipts and Payments Statement for 2022/23 - Unanimously Approved.

14.6 Cashbook and Bank Reconciliation as of 31st March 2022/23 - Unanimously Approved.

14.7 Supporting Notes Attached to the Receipts and Payments Statement 2022/23 - Unanimously Approved.

Proposal – To approve the following cheques:

14.8 SSE Energy Solutions – Electricity - £14.84 - Unanimously Approved - Cheque No. 000900.

14.9 M Salaman – Ground maintenance - £2.60 - Unanimously Approved – Cheque No. 00901.

14.10 R Hutchinson – Expenses - £4.85 - Unanimously Approved – Cheque No. 00902.

4221 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE None.

4222 ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN None.

4223 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday 11th July 2024 commencing at 6.30pm.

Meeting Closed: 19:53