

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2024 AT BROADWAY HILL  
METHODIST CHURCH, HORTON.

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**PUBLIC FORUM** No members of the public were in attendance at the meeting. Cllr Sue Osborne was in attendance at the meeting.

**4259 ATTENDANCE** Councillors Barry Mosley – Vice-Chair, Ann Winter, Mike Schmidt, Julie Layzell, Peter Babbington, Andy Johnson, Jack Martin and Robert Hutchinson

**4260 APPROVAL OF APOLOGIES** None.

**4261 DECLARATION OF INTEREST** None.

**4262 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (OCTOBER)** The minutes of the meeting held in October having previously been circulated, were approved, seconded, and unanimously agreed upon.

**4263 PLANNING APPLICATION(S)/APPEAL(S) UPDATE**

6.1 Ref. APP/E3335/W/23/3324775 (20/03277/FUL) Land north of Broadway Hill, Horton – Appeal Decision – Appeal Allowed

The Council noted the recent appeal decision.

Action: Cllr Robert Hutchinson to look into how to complain to the Ombudsman with the concerns previously sent to Somerset Council. Clerk to email Alison Blom-Cooper at Somerset Council for a copy of the parish council complaint response previously sent to Cllr Ray Buckler.

**4264 HIGHWAYS**

7.1 A303 Upgrading - Adam Dance MP is pushing for the A303 to be upgraded. Public consultation is anticipated to happen in 2030 and for works to be completed in 2040.

7.2 A358 – Freedom of Information Request – Pre-construction and consultation costs. Submitting a FOI was discussed however it was decided against doing so. No further action.

7.3 Village Gateway Sign – Update – The clerk submitted a request to Somerset Council, and a response was received stating that a sign could be sited at the cost to the parish council however, Somerset Council need to approve the contractor to carry out the work. The sign would cost approximately £350 + VAT. Clerk to enquire with Somerset Council for an approved contractor list.

7.4 Road Closures:

7.4.1 Temporary Road Closure: ttr0712453S - Station Road Roundabout and Station Road, Ilminster - 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024 and last for 5 days (18:30 - 23:30) to enable Heidelberg to carry out prep works and resurfacing on behalf of Somerset Highways – Noted.

7.4.2 Temporary Road Closure: ttr0535586S - Stibbear Lane, Donyatt - 5th December 2024 and last for 2 days (09:30-15:30) to enable National Grid to change a pole - – Noted.

Cllr Mike Schmidt reported no issues on any of the public rights of ways. New guidance recently issued states landowners will be responsible for fixing any issues alongside footpaths. Cllr Schmidt to contact the owner of Bullen Court and request the fence be fixed.

**4265 SSE ENERGY SOLUTIONS CONTRACT – UPDATE** No meaningful response to date from SSE Energy. It was proposed and seconded that no bills are to be paid until SSE Energy has satisfactorily responded to the Council's emails. Current bills approx. £65 per month.

Action: Clerk to chase SSE Energy for a response.

**4266 PLAYING FIELD UPDATE**

14.1 Audit Report – Findings/Actions Required – Cllr Andy Johnson to fully review the findings in the report and report back to the Council in January.

Other matters: The bin located in the playing field is currently overflowing. Somerset Council have previously emptied the bin on a 3-weekly basis when household waste is collected however, collections are missed occasionally.

*Action: Clerk to contact Somerset Council to enquire about having a standard household wheelie bin and confirm collection arrangements.*

**4267 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE – UPDATE** Clerk to issue payment to Mills Engineering Services to confirm order of pole, Cllr Andy Johnson will arrange delivery. Elan City has provided instructions on how to download the data from the SIDs, details to be forwarded to Cllrs Barry Mosley and Jack Martin. It will be discussed in January who will take ownership of downloading the data regularly and reporting back to the Council.

**4268 DEFIBRILLATOR**

- **Shelter** - CCTV and light fitting have been installed. Cllr Barry Mosley carried out a monthly check.
- **Village Hall** – Monthly cleaning and checks are undertaken.

**4269 MAINTENANCE AROUND THE VILLAGE – UPDATE** GD Spiller to carry out one final cut for the year. The parish council will also carry out a few ‘tidying up’ sessions shortly and it has been agreed that any waste can be disposed of at the village hall. Cllrs Ann Winter and Robert Hutchinson, along with Stuart Davey, cleared away debris following hedge cutting along Broadway Hill Road.

**4270 IDEAS FOR POTENTIAL HORTON PROJECTS 2024/25**

13.1 Bus Shelter – Cllr Peter Babbington has obtained a second quote from Woodram Construction to carry out necessary repairs on the shelter (£2862), and Cllr Barry Mosley to obtain a 3<sup>rd</sup> quote. In the meantime, the Council will ask local builders to carry out temporary remedial works to make it safe whilst appointing a contractor to carry out full works. Cllr Julie Layzell to carry out Land Registry search to establish ownership of the shelter

*Action: Clerk to check standing orders to see if there is a price limit before it is required to get a number of quotes*

13.2 Grant Funding Request – Broadway and Horton Cricket Club – A one-off payment was unanimously agreed. Clerk to obtain confirmation of outstanding funding required and copy of construction contract for due diligence purposes.

13.3 Additional project idea – Elderly Generation Support and bench in the playing field. To be discussed further in the new year.

**4271 FINANCE**

14.1 Proposal – To approve the following:

14.1.1 2024/25 financial statement - Unanimously Approved.

14.1.2 Budget Update - Unanimously Approved.

14.1.3 Bank Signatories – The Clerk requested consideration and approval to remove the previous clerk's name (A Goody) from all Natwest bank accounts along with updating the clerks (Charlotte Duff) new home address: 212 Park View, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 8JL. This request was unanimously agreed. Clerk to write to Natwest requesting amendment is made. Furthermore, the Clerk sought approval to remove all current signatories (apart from herself (Charlotte Duff) given all other signatories are no longer part of the Council and to add new signatories (Cllrs Barry Mosley, Ann Winter, Jack Martin, Julie Layzell, Andrew Johnson) this request was unanimously approved.

14.1.4 Postal redirection - Unanimously Approved due to Clerk moving house.

14.2 Proposal – To approve the following cheques:

14.2.1 Mills Engineering Services Limited – SID Pole - £280.00 - Unanimously Approved – Cheque No. 00918.

14.2.2 C Duff – Wages and expenses - £ £756.42 – Unanimously Approved – Cheque No. 00916.

14.2.3 D Newman – Playing Field Maintenance - £400.00– Unanimously Approved – Cheque No. 00917.

14.2.3 GD Spiller – Village Maintenance - £140 – Approved. Payment to be issued upon receipt of invoice (expected December 2024).

14.2.4 SSE – Electricity – Not approved. See minute ref. 4265.

14.3 Income – Payments received

14.3.1 Somerset Council – CIL Payment – Noted.

**4272 CLERK’S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

15.1 Somerset Local Plan - The deadline has been extended until the end of the month (November). Questions within the consultation were discussed and answered during the meeting. Cllr Jack Martin to submit a response.

15.2 Local Government Boundary Commission - Review in January 2025.

15.3 Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue - Precept consultation – Noted.

15.4 Operation Tribute-Poppy Of Honour – Noted.

**4273 ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

- The resubmission of Paulls Lane, Broadway planning application has been submitted and is now pending consideration by Somerset Council. Horton Parish Council have not been formally consulted by Somerset Council.
- Resurfacing works update (see October 2024 minutes) – Cllrs Robert Hutchinson and Julie Layzell to liaise and provide the information required by Somerset Council.

**4274 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:** Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025 commencing at 6.30pm.