

MINUTES

ORDINARY MEETING OF THE
PARISH COUNCIL at the MEMORIAL
HALL on 8th August 2022 - 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllrs. B. Nelson (Chairman), Mrs E. Bradshaw (Deputy), N. Howgill, A. Powell, C Ledward and Ms S-A. Bird

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J. Henderson (Clerk), and 3 members of the public.

AGENDA

1. **Apologies accepted by the Council** - Cllrs R Dunford-Brown, V. Game and Mrs J Rock
2. **Co-option of new councillor -**
Resolved: The Chair proposed the co-option of new councillor Ms S-A Bird.
Seconded Cllr C. Ledward and all in favour.
The Chair welcomed Cllr Sara-Anne Bird to the parish council and the declaration of acceptance of office of councillor was duly signed by both parties.
3. **Declaration of interests -**
Resolved: None declared.
4. **To receive and sign the minutes of the last meeting held on 24.05.2022**
Resolved: that they were a true record of the meeting's decisions.
Proposed Cllr Nelson, Seconded Cllr Bradshaw, all agreed.
5. **Matters arising from previous meeting:**
 - i) **Recycle Bins -**
Resolved: The owner of the recycle bin will be seeking to sell on the facility, as it had not been as well used as was hoped for. Cllr Nelson suggested the Council pays for the concrete base, as this would be useful at a later date (ie. bicycle shed/pump). A figure of £100 for the base was considered and agreed with the owner.
Proposed Cllr Nelson, Seconded Cllr Bradshaw, all agreed.
The owner left the meeting (7.40pm) **ACTION: Clerk to arrange payment**
6. **Public discussion, Reports, DCC, EDDC, Police**
DCC report from Cllr I Chubb, previously circulated. No other reports available.
7. **Correspondence received; not already circulated to members, if any**
 - i) **Grass triangle at Luton**
The Chair had received an email of complaint regarding cutting of the grass triangle at Luton. The whole area had been cut down (including wild orchids, sedge grass, previously left untouched) and the work had also been undertaken at a very early time of the morning (5.45am). The Chair had written to Highways and received a response relating to road safety, so he'd written again and was awaiting response.

8. Financial report:

i) to approve the bank reconciliation ii) to approve retrospective payments

Resolved: i) Proposed Cllr Ledward, Seconded Cllr Bradshaw

ii) Proposed Cllr Bradshaw, Seconded Cllr Ledward all agreed.

9. To approve the revised budget

Resolved: The Chair discussed the revised budget with councillors, explaining how it provided more detail for the allocation of funds. The Chair suggested match funding for projects, was the best way to maximise our current finances. Ideas on how to spend any available funds came from Cllr Powell, who expressed a preference for making grants available to the parish for Green energy saving projects, such as insulating houses. Cllr Bradshaw pointed out that these types of grants already existed. The Chair advised this would require more work in developing a policy, consultations, determining criteria and avoiding duplication of existing funding opportunities. Cllr Howgill suggested instead, a lower precept for next year. Ideas to be developed further. The revised Budget for approval was Proposed Cllr Nelson, Seconded Cllr Bradshaw, all agreed.

10. TRIP Grant request - to consider.

Resolved: Cllr Bradshaw felt this was a very useful community bus service and suggested a grant of £100. Councillors agreed this was a suitable amount.

Proposed Cllr Bradshaw, Seconded Cllr Powell, all agreed.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange payment

11. Planning Sub-Committee report

Cllr Bradshaw gave a verbal report covering the following planning applications:

22/1278/FUL - Golden Cleave, Sheldon - change of use of land from agriculture to secure dog walking and exercise area - SUPPORT

22/1344/FUL - Maglea Barn, Kerswell - change of use of land from agriculture to residential curtilage and other associated minor works - SUPPORT subject to hard standing conforming to EDDC planning requirements re permeable materials owing to problems re excess run-off of water during heavy rainfalls

22/1435/AGR - Land opp Broadhembury Memorial Hall - installation of corn barn - NO OBJECTION

22/1228/FUL - Lane End Farm, Broadhembury - roofing over open livestock loading and handling yards - SUPPORT

22/1210/FUL - West View, Payhembury - proposed new access of highway to paddock and erection of 3x stables - Provided highways support the new access onto the road the Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to the application.

22/1030/FUL - Land and Buildings at Luton Lane Farm, Luton - SUPPORT, recommended that boundary walls (proposed brick) be re-considered in favour of materials which would blend into the rural setting. etc. similar to nearby property

The Chair thanked Cllr Bradshaw and others for their work and attending the Planning meetings.

12. **Repair Cafe report**

Cllr Powell informed the Council that due to weddings and holidays, both July and August Repair Café's were cancelled, but they would be continuing from the 1st Saturday of every month. The events had been moderately successful and there were plans to look into a bike collection service, and create a regular newsletter, along with the need to recruit a sewing/textile repairer. Cllr Powell had also completed a bike repair course in Exeter.

13. **Broadhembury Sewage Pumping Station**

i) Access ii) Discharge

The Chair had been in correspondence with South West Water, who to date, have still done nothing about the access to the Pumping Station. Access is SWW's responsibility and it was felt the lorry's that require access/service to the pumping station, are in danger of falling into the river, such is the state of the road now the bank has gone. The Chair believed that the collapsed bank had contributed to flooding in the village.

The Chair made a request for information in relation to the number of times SWW have discharged raw sewage into the River Tale and the length of time this went on for. The data received for the last two years, made for 'pretty grim' reading. The volume of sewage is not accounted, but for the period March 2020 - May 2022, a recorded 602 occasions where South West Water pumped untreated sewage into the River Tale. The Chair will maintain pressure on SWW and has meetings with MPs through the AONB, such as Rebecca Pow - Minister for Environment DEFRA and MP for Taunton Deane. The Chair encouraged the PC to keep pressure on SWW.

A member of the public was permitted to speak and added that there was no way the pumping station could cope with anymore houses being built in the village, as it was at capacity now.

Furthermore the 2020 Septic Tank Regulations require septic tanks to be decommissioned and converted to mains drainage on change of ownership and this makes issues worse.

14. **Play Area reports:**

i) Kerswell ii) Broadhembury

As Cllr Dunford-Brown was away, there was no report for Kerswell.

Cllr Powell had nothing to report in relation to Broadhembury, but informed the Council of a play area he visited at Sampford Peverell. It had cost £92k to equip the half acre site and he was very impressed with the facility and urged others to see for themselves what was possible and would also circulate some pictures he took.

15. **Biodiversity Project update**

Cllr Powell reported issues with finalising the display board and he was hoping to get a quote from a firm in Torquay to help with the remaining work involved. This would be paid with the remaining £750 in the Biodiversity budget. There had also been 'glitches' with filming, but Cllr Ledward was helping to remedy this.

Reminding everyone of a very important event being held at the Memorial Hall, Cllr Powell encouraged all to attend 'Making Rivers Better', run by the Blackdown Hills AONB on 8th September, starting at 11am with two river walks (see posters on PC website and notice boards).

16. Flood water run-off and road repair project - update

The Chair was pleased to report the road had finally been repaired and all credit was due to Cllr Game and his work with Highways.

17. Dulford Speedwatch report

Cllr Bird reported the speedwatch program had slowed for the holidays, so she had been on her own. Speeding traffic seemed to occur first thing in the morning (commuters/school drop off) and the night before the Jubilee was particularly busy. There had been very little abuse, other than passing motorists gesticulating.

The Chair suggested Cllr Bird follow up a meeting from four years ago (a Speedwatch public meeting in Dulford) with the Police & Crime Commissioner, Alison Hernandez, informing of how they had progressed with Speedwatch and ask what the P&CC could now do for Dulford. **ACTION: Cllr Bird to write to Alison Hernandez**

18. War Memorial update

Cllr Howgill reported that following recent discussions with Wolfenden, work would hope to start in the next few weeks.

19. AONB report

The Chair gave a verbal report that the first meeting (face to face) of the AONB in three years, was held in the Memorial Hall. Rivers were top of the agenda, with discussions including nitrates in rivers, run off from farms, sewage discharge etc. The AONB had been looking at how to make rivers more sustainable and the water cleaner, having funded much of the work themselves. The temporary ban on housing development due to high pollution levels in the River Yarty and Axe, will mean EDDC begin to seek other outlets for their housing targets. There are also plans for the Government to give AONB's more power over National Parks.

20. Flower Show for Broadhembury - to consider

There is a flower show in Payhembury and many years ago The Grange used to hold a show. Cllr Bradshaw recalled the WI may have the cups. The Garden Club run a closed competition each year, but you need to be a member. The Chair said he would speak to Cllr Game who used to be the Chairman of the Garden Club, for his thoughts.

21. Podpoint update regarding renewal of maintenance agreement

RESOLVED: As no alternative arrangements were possible in maintaining the EDV charge points, the Chair asked the Council to approve the renewal of the maintenance agreement with Podpoint - £500 for 2 yrs.

Proposed Cllr Nelson, Seconded Cllr Howgill, all agreed.

The Chair requested that the Hall Trustee's consider whether we can connect to their three phase power source in order to increase the speed of the charger.

22. Community Cycle Repair Point - to consider phased purchase

RESOLVED: The Chair explained the idea behind this phased project,
1st build the concrete base (possibly use the one where the recycle bin is sited,
2nd install the equipment/rack,
3rd put on the roof.

DCC Cllr I Chubb had promised £500 in principle toward the project.

Proposed Cllr Nelson, Seconded Cllr Powell all agreed. The Chair also had approval from the Village Hall Trustee's (Sara Clarke was present).

- 23. IOC (Information Commissioner's Office - Data Protection fee) Membership approval**
RESOLVED. Council agreed for the Clerk to go ahead and set up a direct debit to pay for IOC membership. (£35 per year). Proposed Cllr Nelson, Seconded Cllr Ledward.
ACTION: Clerk to set up payment on D/D

The Chair requested two items of AOB (any other business).
Firstly to record our thanks to Bill Sievwright, who is retiring from the Parochial Church Council and as Church Warden, for all the work he has done for the community. Secondly, we had written to our new MP (Richard Foord), to invite him to our meeting, but he will also be attending the meetings with AONB.

There were no other AOB items.

- 24. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 20th September 2022 at 7.30pm**

Everyone was thanked for attending.

The meeting was closed at 8.53pm