

Rodney Stoke Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs H Marshall 3, Barrows Park, Cheddar BS27 3AZ Tel: 07423283940

Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting of Rodney Stoke Parish Council held in the Draycott Memorial Hall, Latches Lane, Draycott on Thursday 17th March 2022 at 8.06pm

Present: Cllr Sealey (Chairman) and Cllrs Bullen, Daynes, Dollins, Dudden, Gladman, James, McGovarin and Ward. Also present was District Cllr Wyke, County Cllr Noel and the Parish Clerk. No members of the public were present.

It was noted that Covid measures are no longer required in the hall but are encouraged.

250.1 Apologies for absence: Cllr Haskins, other commitment; The apology was accepted. PCSO Chinnock and Mr S Young also sent apologies.

250.2 Declarations of Interest None

250.3 Public Participation: None

250.4 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th January 2022, having been previously circulated, were taken as read.

Resolution: Cllr Dollins proposed approving the Minutes as a true record. Cllr McGovarin seconded. Unanimously agreed.

250.5 Matters arising from the Minutes: Somerset Bus Partnership it was noted that government funding has been extended to October 2022. **Cheddar Fire Service** District Cllr Wyke, County Cllr Noel and a member of the Parish had also raised their concerns about the change to the service to the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service. **Speed Limit extension Scheme in Rodney Stoke:** the Parish Council notified traffic management about the accident at Millway, however the road safety team will only record the incident after full investigation having received notification from the police. The **Old Railway Bridge**, Barrow Wood Lane, Rodney Stoke has been repaired. The **Belisha beacon** on the zebra crossing in Draycott has been repaired. **Insurance** this will be considered at the May meeting, so that the quotes are valid. The Hall Committee has registered the hall for the **free energy survey**. **Gov Email Addresses:** the domain name rodneystoke-pc.gov.uk has been registered. Email addresses will be available in due course.

Resolution: The **email policy**, having been previously circulated was adopted. Unanimous.

Beacons update: Priddy are lighting a beacon near deer leap, it was understood that Westbury and Wells may be joining them. **Mendip Citizens Advice** Further correspondence had been received requesting a grant. Work and advice during the pandemic were discussed. District Cllr Wyke discussed requests for help and the need for referrals for the food bank.

Resolution: Cllr Sealey proposed awarding a grant of £200. Cllr Gladman seconded. Agreed unanimously.

250.6 Co-option to fill the vacancy for a Parish Councillor: No applications had been received.

250.7 Roads Report: Temporary Closures New Road, Draycott from the junction with Plummers Lane, in a westerly direction for 1,720 meters from 14th March 2022 until 8th April 2022 **Back Lane Draycott and Station Road, Rodney Stoke on 13th April 2022;** A **Collapsing pavement** in Rodney Stoke opposite the bus shelter on the Wells Road has been reported. 2 **Fingerposts** in the Parish have been awaiting replacement for some time. Cllr Gladman offered to reinstate them.

Resolution: Cllr Sealey proposed purchasing 2 metposts up to the value of £100. Cllr Ward seconded. Agreed.

Action: Councillor Gladman, Clerk

250.8 Planning: The planning report was reviewed and updated to include: New application Number: 2022/0231, Installation of replacement double-glazed windows on part of south, north and west elevations. Barn Close Wet Lane Draycott Cheddar Somerset;

application **2021/2303** Demolish conservatory and replace with a single storey extension 2 Draycott Lodge Bay Lane Draycott Cheddar Somerset has been GRANTED PERMISSION. **Sedgemoor Planning Application 17/22/00003** Erection of 11no. lodges, relocation of the site warden's accommodation and re-use of the existing warden's lodge for holiday accommodation, with associated infrastructure and works had been brought to the Councils attention by the Hall Committee as it is proposed that the sewer main is installed across the driveway and playing field. The application was reviewed.

Resolution: To respond stating that the Parish Council does not support the mains sewer route proposed, which goes through the Parish Council's 'Fields in Trust' playing field and the driveway of the Memorial Hall. No prior consultation has taken place with the applicant regarding this route, and it is unlikely that an easement would be granted. Further, the Parish Council had always understood that the local sewage infrastructure was at capacity, and that land adjacent to the connection point is designated for development in the local plan adding further demand.

Enforcement update: Notification has been received of APPEAL_APP/Q3305/C/22/3292439 West Side Honeyhurst Lane Rodney Stoke no further information is available.

Training It was noted that Cllr Daynes had attended planning training at the beginning of March.

250.9 County Councillor's report: The March briefing had been received and a copy is available in the Minute book and the website. The County Cllr had given a report at the Annual Parish Meeting.

250.10 District Councillor's report: The District Cllr had given a report at the Annual Parish Meeting but added that a recent report on phosphates would be forwarded for circulation.

250.11 Local Government Reform: No updates had been received

250.12 The Rev Cobley Playing Fields Report: The report had been received at the Annual Parish Meeting.

250.13 New Memorial Hall Report: The report had been received at the Annual Parish Meeting.

250.14 Burial Ground Report: 1 plot has been reserved this period. Works to the trees on the boundary with the Old Vicarage will go ahead at the end of March, the Council will then review work to tidy the adjacent area in the Burial Ground. The Clerk is to chase the Diocese for a decision on the Garden of Remembrance land.

Action: Clerk

250.15 Somerset Association Local Councils: Training courses were noted.

250.16 Environmental Issues: The report had been received at the Annual Parish Meeting. Cllr Danes reviewed training on Carbon Literacy and noted the 4 main areas for the Council to consider as food, including reducing the amount of meat consumed; using local suppliers; energy in homes and green alternatives; travel; and consumption, including to buy local. Cllr Ward noted that the village shop has LED bulbs that people can access.

250.17 Neighbourhood Watch: The report had been received at the Annual Parish Meeting.

250.18 Footpath Walkers Report: Complaints about the interconnecting paths to The Street in Draycott were raised. The Clerk is to ask the County Rights of Way Officer to write to the landowners about overgrowth and regarding repairs to the surfaced path.

Action: The Clerk.

250.19 Emergency Planning Cllr Dollins reports that this is ongoing.

250.20 Community Matters: Contribution towards the replacement of the Card Memorial railings: This item was deferred to May; A **complaint about blasting** above Rodney Stoke has been received, the Clerk is investigating the possibility of receiving notice of blasts; The quotes for the **Rodney Stoke bus shelter lighting system** were discussed.

Resolution: Cllr Dollins proposed purchasing option no 2 which is similar to the existing kit. Cllr McGovarin seconded. Unanimously agreed. The Chairman is to speak to the local electrician who installed the previous system.

Safe Walking Route to School It was noted that following questions raised with the County Council about the safety of Top Road as a route, children from Draycott can now apply for the free bus. The Council thanked County Cllr Noel for his help with the matter.

Action: Clerk and Chairman.

250.21 Correspondence: All correspondence was brought to the attention of the Council. **Local heritage list:** This item is to be added to the next agenda. **Thanks** were received from the Parochial Church Council for grant towards churchyard upkeep. **The Mendips Classic Road Cyclo Sportive** is to take place on Saturday, 9th July 2022. Mendip District Council **Council Tax Support scheme** and Hardship Fund are available. The **Pensions regulator** notified that reenrollment is due in May 2022.

250.22 Newsletter: The following **items** are to be included: **Council Tax Support scheme** and Hardship Fund, elections, neighbourhood watch, pathways and vegetation.

250.23 Statement of Accounts: The statements for March, having been previously circulated, were approved as a true record. Cllr McGovarin had verified the bank reconciliations for February and March.

250.24 Financial Report

- i. The **payments schedule** was updated. Cllr Dollins proposed approving the schedule. Cllr Bullen seconded. Unanimously agreed.

St Leonards Church PCC	1786	Grant towards churchyard upkeep	£500.00
St Andrews Press	1787	Newsletter Printing	£56.00
GWB Services Ltd	1788	Tree and hedge maintenance	£215.00
HMRC	1789	Clerks PAYE February	£101.87
H Marshall	1790	Clerks Salary & Mileage February	£830.48
Somerset Assoc. Local Councils	1791	Training - Planning	£25.00
A Chick	1792	Street Cleaning	£271.76
H Marshall	1793	Clerks Expenses	£251.86

- ii. **National Pay Agreement 2021/22** A 1.75% increase has been agreed.
Resolution: Cllr Dollins proposed that the increase should be approved and backdated to 1st April 2021. Cllr Ward seconded. Agreed.
- iii. **Online banking and phone upgrade:** The Council debit card requires an online banking app to approve online purchases. Financial regulations allow for online banking.
Resolution: The Council should implement online banking. Cllr Ward is to work with the Clerk to set up online banking and propose appropriate controls; and to upgrade the phone at the next opportunity to support the online banking. Unanimous.
- iv. **Grant award:** The Reconnecting Communities Fund application for a first aid course for the community and towards upgrading camera equipment at the hall was successful. Cllr Ward reviewed the costs involved in the first aid course and the QA level 3 certification that will be received by attendees. The arrangements for the course will go ahead and local groups will be contacted.

250.25 Dates of future meetings subject to coronavirus restrictions.

19th May; 21st July; 15th September; 17th November **2022**

Time of closing meeting: 9.49pm