

Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting of Rodney Stoke Parish Council held in the Draycott Memorial Hall, Latches Lane, Draycott on Thursday 20th July 2023 at 7pm

Present: Cllr Sealey (Chairman) and Cllrs Bullen, Dearden, Dollins, Dudden, Gladman and Ward. Also present were Somerset Cllr Shearer and the Parish Clerk. No members of the public were present.

The Chairman paid tribute to Councillor Ken James and former Councillor Sophie Courtiour who sadly died.

258.1 Apologies for absence: Cllr Haskins, family commitment; Cllr McGovarin, Leave; Cllr Daynes, ill health.

Resolution: The apologies were unanimously approved.

Mr S Young and Somerset Cllr Wyke also gave apologies.

258.2 Declarations of Interest: None

258.3 Public Participation: None

258.4 Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 18th May 2023, having been previously circulated, were taken as read.

Resolution: Cllr Bullen proposed approving the Minutes. Cllr Ward seconded. Agreed.

258.5 Matters arising from the Minutes: Missed Waste Collections on the Street. Somerset Waste Services propose implementing a smaller van to address problems accessing the road, which will mean changing the collection day. It was noted that the **proposed industrial action by waste collection services** has been called off.

258.6 Roads Report: Guidance on Community Funded 20mph Speed Limits was noted, particularly the cost to the Parish at £15,000; **Temporary Road Closures:** New Road, Draycott and Lynch Lane Westbury; **Overgrown verges on the Multiuser path** between Draycott and Rodney Stoke: the area may not have been cut yet as part of the C & D schedules but will be investigated. The Clerk is to report that areas have been missed on the scheduled cuts again, and the chevrons on the A371 near Mill Lane have been knocked down.

258.7 The **Planning Report** was updated to show that application **17/22/00065** had been granted permission. The **Licencing application** for Bucklegrove Camp Site was reviewed including that it had been approved with amended conditions at the subcommittee attended by the Chair; The **appeal** associated with application 2021/2500 has been dismissed.

Application 2023/1186

Resolution: To respond stating that the works have begun prior to the expiry of the 3-year commencement period, as the new access is visible from the A371 Wells Road.

258.8 Somerset Council Report: Cllr Shearer introduced herself noting that she had been lead member for adult social care and is now lead member for children's social care; chairs the police and crime panel and substitutes on the planning committee; has experience as a Parish and District Councillor and was lead member for community health services; the structure of Somerset Council was reviewed including that roles are not fully defined at all levels; finance and achieving the budget and LCNs (Local Community Networks) were discussed.

258.9 The Rev Cobley Playing Fields Report. The (Multiuser Games Area) MUGA project: Cllr Daynes has drafted a survey and advert to collect data and has met with the health and wellbeing officer from the Somerset Association of Local Councils, who have two funds available, and attended training on how to apply for funding. The Chair is to meet with the Playing Field Committee to agree a position for the MUGA which would work with the new 5 a side pitch. **Memorial benches** further to the discussion at the previous meeting it was agreed to propose a bench to commemorate 300 years of the Card Charity and the Coronation. Cllr Gladman is to discuss the proposal with the Charity. **The annual inspection report: Youth Shelter:** a protruding bolt was removed, the missing top element was not considered to compromise the structure of the shelter, Cllr Gladman will take the shelter

down to have the wings resprayed to remove graffiti; **Gate near wall:** the issues have been resolved by recent repairs; **Rocker springer elephant** a cap will be sourced to replace the temporary repair on the protruding bolt. If the **Broken Plaque** can't be repaired it should be replaced with a metal plaque. The budget was reviewed.

Resolution: A budget of £250 was agreed for the replacement plaque which can be coloured or anodised.

Action: Cllrs Daynes, Sealey and Gladman

258.10 New Memorial Hall Report Cllr Dollins' report had been circulated. A copy is available in the Minute book. It was noted that members were pleased to see the Judo club were a new user with activity for younger members of the community.

258.11 Burial Ground Report: There has been 1 interment this period. **Extension to the Burial Ground:** the new diocesan surveyor has asked for a new formal request for land from the Glebe field, which the Parish Council has submitted, including that the Parish Council has benefitted from a right of way over the field. The Council now awaits the decision of the Diocese who hopes to find a solution to the issue of access over the land whatever the outcome of the use of the field.

258.12 Somerset Association Local Councils The new biodiversity regulations.

Resolution: Immediate action: Following the recent creation of the wildflower garden in the Pound, to add wildflowers to the wildlife zone in the Rev Cobley Playing Field and to seek sponsorship to maintain the area as a wildflower zone. It was noted that the Council supports the new Butterfly Garden to be created in the Parish.

It was noted as very positive that Cllr Dearden is in touch with the health and well being representatives from both Cheddar and Westbury and it was suggested that Priddy also be contacted in the future.

258.13 Environmental Issues: Cllr Dollins' report had been circulated; a copy is available in the Minute Book. Cllr Bullen is to book onto the AONB training.

Action: Cllr Bullen

258.14 Neighbourhood Watch Cllr Dollins' report had been circulated; a copy is available in the Minute Book. Cllr Shearer invited the Council to let her know any concerns regarding the police service to feed back to the panel.

258.15 Footpath Walkers Report: The **broken signpost at the Honeyhurst Lane junction.**

Resolution: To seek a quote to replace the finger, for consideration at the next meeting.

The bridge over Dolemead Rhyne has been reported for repair; The Chair is to investigate a report about litter on the **foot path between Swans lane Draycott and Hill lane Rodney Stoke;** Cllr Ward is to investigate the **footpath between The Street and Wet Lane** which is reported as blocked.

Action: Cllrs Sealey and Ward

258.16 Emergency Planning Cllr Dollins is to bring a draft plan to the next meeting.

Action: Cllr Dollins

258.17 Community Matters: Wildflower garden in The Pound: Cllr Dearden proposed purchasing steppingstones to improve access and suppress weeds. It was discussed that the path should be non-slip and should be installed by a competent person to mitigate for the risk of trips and slips.

Resolution: To approve £50 to purchase the stepping stones. To add the path to the risk assessment. Unanimously agreed.

Action: Cllr Dearden

258.28 Correspondence: All correspondence was brought to the attention of the Council. The Wedmore Farm application to SALC for a grant was discussed. Cllr Dearden is to investigate whether the grant is first come first served; whether applications need neighbouring parishes support.

Action: Cllr Dearden

258.22 Newsletter: the following items were agreed for inclusion: local burglaries; how attractive The Pound is; sponsorship of wildflowers in the wildlife zone; the vacancy on the Parish Council.

258.23 Statement of Accounts: The statement for July had been previously circulated. The bank reconciliations for May and June had been previously verified.

Resolution: To approve the statement. Unanimously agreed.

258.24 Financial Report: i. The **payments schedule** was updated.

Resolution: Cllr Ward proposed approving the schedule. Cllr Gladman seconded. Unanimously agreed.

Arthur J Gallagher Insurance Brokers	I64	Insurance Premium	£1180.57
CPRE	I65	Affiliation Fees	£36.00
Draycott Jubilee Committee	I66	Grant Coronation Celebrations	£100.00
H Marshall	I67	Salary & Expenses	£1060.95
St Andrews Press of Wells Ltd	I68	Newsletter Printing	£60.00
Probusiness	I69	Annual AGAR Review	£234.00
GWB Services Ltd	I70	Grass Cutting	£247.80
Premier Fabrication Limited	I71	Gate Repairs	£886.20
HMRC	I72	PAYE	£43.54
H Marshall	I73	Salary & Expenses	£982.41
G B Sport and Leisure UK Limited	I74	Aerial Runway Maintenance	£654.00
H Marshall	I75	Salary & Expenses	£213.84
GWB Services Ltd	I76	Grass Cutting	£247.80
Probusiness	I77	Payroll Charges	£93.00
H Marshall	I78	Salary & Expenses	£982.89
HMRC	I79	PAYE	£57.94
A Chick	I80	Street Cleaning	£354.28
NEST	DD	Pension	£00.02
NEST	DD	Pension	£35.28
NEST	DD	Pension	£35.31
NEST	DD	Pension	£35.66

ii Outstanding unrepresented cheques.

Having contacted the payee regarding cheques numbered 1748, 1778 and 1791 totalling £100, outstanding since 2021, no further request for payment had been received; it was noted that the status of the company had changed with the accounts being settled.

Resolution: Cllr Dollins proposed cancelling the outstanding cheques from the accounts. Cllr Gladman seconded. Unanimously agreed Payment will be considered favourably if the invoices are represented in the future.

258.25 Dates of future meetings: **2023** Sept 21st, Nov 16th

2024 January 18th; March 21st; May 16th; July 18th; September 19th; November 21st

Time of closing meeting: 9pm