

Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting of Rodney Stoke Parish Council held in the Draycott Memorial Hall, Latches Lane, Draycott on Thursday 19th January 2023 at 7pm

Present: Cllr Sealey (Chairman) and Cllrs Daynes, Dearden, Dudden, Gladman, James, McGovarin and Ward. Also present were District and County Cllr Wyke and the Parish Clerk. 4 members of the public were present.

255.1 Apologies for absence: Cllr Dollins, ill health; Cllr Bullen, ill health. The apologies were accepted. Cllr Haskins also sent apologies prior to the meeting but they were not received until after the meeting. County Cllr Shearer also sent apologies.

255.2 Declarations of Interest: None

255.3 Public Participation: Representatives from the Draycott Butterfly Garden updated members on the group's status including: the committee, bank account, insurance, local support and funding.

The transfer of grant funding to the group was bought forward from item 255.23

Resolution: Cllr Ward proposed releasing the £400 grant to the group. Cllr Gladman seconded. Unanimously agreed.

255.4 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th November 2022, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and unanimously approved.

255.5 Matters arising from the Minutes: Insurance Schedule: The goal posts and memorial railings have been added, the Football Club confirmed that the pavilion complies with the insurance policy; **Priddy Parish Council** has no objection to an 'unsuitable for caravans' sign being installed on New Road; It was noted that the PCC do not want to change the designation of the land at St Peters Church in the **Green Space Audit**; Cllr Bullen has become a **tree warden trainee** for Mendip District Council.

255.6 Roads Report: County Cllr Wyke reviewed a **visit to the area** with the portfolio holder for roads which included issues with the width of parts of the A371. **Request to install protective measures at property on the Wells Road, Draycott** matters discussed included: buying properties to widen the road is not being discussed; traffic controls, the number of accesses and air pollution; structural measures, the impact on other properties, and narrowing the road; early warning signs and a hatched waiting area.

Resolution: To write to the Chief Executive requesting better signage showing that there is a single carriage way and oncoming traffic in the middle of the road warning people before the memorial and before the Bay Lane junction. To respond to the resident.

Temporary Road Closure Wells Road, Rodney Stoke, expected to commence on 13th February 2023.

Resolution: To request: a pre-commencement survey on Millway; signage both in Wells and Cheddar, saying Rodney Stoke closed, and at the entrances to Stoke Street and Millway, saying not suitable for larger vehicles.

Blocked drains at the pinch point in Draycott have been jetted although one remains blocked; The **damaged sign opposite Latches Lane** has now been reinstated; the highway at the bottom of **Milking Lane** has been repaired.

255.7 The Planning Report was reviewed and 2 new applications were noted: 2023/0036 Removal of condition 3 (Draycott Stone) on consent 2022/0595/HSE (Parking area to land of property). - Hill Farm Wells Road Rodney Stoke Cheddar Somerset BS27 3UX; 2022/2221 Agricultural barn and a garage Honey mead Cottage Honeyhurst Lane Rodney Stoke Cheddar Somerset. It was noted that the planning board considering application 2020/2493 was deferred for a week. **Enforcement** matters were updated. County Cllr Wyke reviewed the **Draft Members' Briefing Note Local Plan Part II (LPP2) Statutory Review**.

255.8 County Cllr Wyke gave a **report** including the following matters: bus funding and the levelling up bid rejection; planning decisions on applications affected by phosphates have commenced; vesting day, logo rollout; asset transfers; insurance policies combined; new children's homes in Somerset and demand on childrens services; demands on social

care; flooding; education and increase in academies, poor academic results and an emphasis on supporting schools.

255.9 The District Council Report was combined with the County Council report.

255.10 Local Government Reform: The logo is rolling out; Local Community Networks (LCNs) have been adapted to respond to the consultation and Councils can respond if they wish to be realigned. Questions were asked and answered including that the new organisation will be responsive at the commencement.

255.11 The Rev Cobley Playing Fields Report

Resolution: To order the tree guard for the memorial oak subject to a maximum cost of £250. To obtain quotes for a plaque.

It was raised that the **hedge by the A371 is overgrown**. The Clerk is to confirm when it will be cut. It was raised that **dog owners** have been using the field with dogs. An item will be added to the newsletter and signage will be reviewed for the next meeting.

255.12 New Memorial Hall Report No matters were raised.

255.13 Burial Ground Report: The **new bench** has been installed; Notices had been placed on **two unfixed memorials**, but no response had been received. The headstone of a relative for one of the plots had previously been repaired by the Council.

Resolution: Cllr Sealey proposed that ground anchors be attached to both memorials. Unanimously agreed.

The hedges have been cut right back which has created space for a further row. The **alignment of headstones** on the latest row was discussed. The Chair and Vice Chair will investigate the issue.

255.14 Somerset Association Local Councils Cllr Dearden reviewed **The health and wellbeing survey** response noting the support that groups in the Parish provide and the differing needs of Rodney Stoke and Draycott residents. The survey will be a useful resource.

255.15 Environmental Issues The report had been circulated; a copy is available in the Minute Book.

255.16 Neighbourhood Watch The report had been circulated; a copy is available in the Minute Book. PCSO Chinnock noted low attendance at the Beat Surgeries and asked for suggestions for alternative locations. Members suggested Sealey Close and The Rodney Stoke Inn, noting that the offer of bike marking at the Strawberry Fayre would not be possible as it will not be held this year.

255.17 Footpath Walkers Report: The **fingerpost at bottom of Bay Lane** was noted as an ongoing project. The Clerk is to investigate the progress of the movement of the barriers between Cross Farm Road and Baggs Lane and the repairs to the interconnecting path surfaces.

255.18 Emergency Planning County Cllr Wyke offered to provide a copy of the Westbury plan. A meeting of the committee is to be arranged to update the plan.

255.19 Community Matters The **Plaque for the memorial railings** will be considered at the next meeting with the plaque for the tree guard. **Sand bags:** In the event of flooding up to 4 gel bags per household can be collected from Mendip District Council. Flood guidance on the website has been updated.

255.20 Correspondence: All correspondence was brought to the attention of the Council, including the following recent items: A **Data Subject Access Request** was noted; **Gallagher Cyber Assist** guidance, Cllrs James and Ward will review the video; Various sales correspondence has been received for the **Coronation**, the Clerk is to contact the Jubilee Committee and school to see if they are planning activities; **Litterlotto**, Cllr Gladman is to investigate the app.

255.21 Newsletter, the following items were agreed for inclusion: Sandbags/flood advice; dog poo bags and use of field; grant to butterfly garden.

255.22 Statement of Accounts: The statement for January had been previously circulated. The bank reconciliations for December and January had been previously verified.

Resolution: To approve the statement. Unanimously agreed.

255.23 Financial Report: It was noted that the **precept request** has been submitted.

i. The updated **payments schedule** had been circulated to members. **Resolution:** Cllr Ward proposed approving the schedule. Cllr Dudden seconded. Unanimously agreed.

St Andrews Press of Wells Ltd	I29	Newsletter Printing	£60.00
Somerset Playing Fields Association	I30	Inspection report	£15.00
St Andrews Press of Wells Ltd	I31	Newsletter Printing	£39.00
GWB Services Ltd	I32	Grass Cutting	£112.56
Premier Fabrication Limited	I33	Railings	£1819.76
HMRC	I34	PAYE	£373.92
H Marshall	I35	Clerks Salary & Mileage	£1277.32
GWB Services Ltd	I36	Tree/hedge maintenance	£1006.56
Probusiness Ltd	I37	Payroll Charges	£46.50
A Chick	I38	Street Cleaning	£323.00
HMRC	I39	PAYE	£114.48
H Marshall	I40	Clerks Salary & Mileage	£901.96
H Marshall	I41	Clerks Expenses	53.98
NEST	DD	Pension	£74.22
NEST	DD	Pension	£33.74

ii Appointment of the Internal Auditors: Alternative providers and the fees for the current providers were discussed.

Resolution: To continue to use Probusiness.

iii To consider upgrading the website: The Clerk is to clarify that the website will be secure and supported. The item will be added to the March agenda.

iv Request for financial support from the Playing Field Management Committee;

Resolution: Cllr Sealey proposed granting £1000 as budgeted. Cllr Daynes seconded. Unanimously agreed.

v Request for a grant from St Leonards PCC. Cllr James abstained from the discussion and vote. The Clerk raised guidance from the Somerset Association of Local Councils.

Resolution: Cllr Sealey proposed granting £500 as budgeted. Cllr Dudden seconded. Agreed

255.24 Dates of future meetings: **2023** March 16th, May 18th, July 20th, Sept 21st, Nov 16th

Time of closing meeting: 9.25pm