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Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday **September 26th 2022** at 7pm at Badgworth and Biddisham Parish Hall, Biddisham.

Present

Cllrs Body (Chairman), Beynon, Bowley, Hipwell, Shaw, White and Vining. Also in attendance was the Parish Clerk. There were no members of the public present.

124/22 Apologies: None

125/22 Declarations of Interest None.

126/22 Dispensations None

127/22 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday **July 18th**, **2022**. Copies having been circulated, the Minutes were taken as read and unanimously approved as a true record.

128/22 County Councillor's report None was received.

129/22 District Councillor's report: None was received..

130/22 Local government reform: Local Community Network Consultation Councillors favoured smaller groups and options A and B were supported over option C, the Clerk is to submit the response; Consultation regarding proposals for a **single Council Tax Reduction scheme** has now closed; **Conference** 4th October the Clerk is to request a copy of the presentation; **Unitary Q&A Thursday 29**th **September**, Councillor Hipwell is to attend. **131/22 Green Matters** There were no updates.

132/22 Community matters: The Moment of Reflection ceremony was held by the Parish Council on the eve of the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II at the Schoolrooms on Sunday September the 18th at 8pm. The proclamation was also read by the Chairman. There were 7 members of the public, 4 Councillors and the Parish Clerk in attendance; The **bridge to Weare** has been replaced by the County footpaths officer; The **new defibrillator cabinet** was swiftly installed at no cost by a local electrician; the **grit bins** have been reported for refilling; **Somerset Day 2023**, Cllr Hipwell will be the contact for events; **complaint about a coach** speeding through Badgworth, members considered the response from the County Council and considered the matter closed; **126 bus service withdrawal**, the service providing links to the community including the elderly and students was discussed, including that future services will be affected by the lack of travel into the area for study at Weston Wells and Street, also the creation of more traffic.

Resolution: To write to the transport manager and Chair at Somerset County Council stating that the Council is against losing any service. Unanimously agreed.

133/22 Highways matters: The Council were saddened to learn of a further fatal incident in Tarnock in addition to a recent fatal incident in Biddisham on the A3;. No response had been received on the policy for school children crossing the A38; Tarnock and Biddisham Village 'gateway' signs, the funding application has been submitted, a decision should be received at the beginning of October; Speed limits no update has been received on a date for the meeting organised by District Cllr Godwin Pearson; the Council's response has been sent

regarding the Highways basis for the decision for the B8 use on Biddisham Lane. Request to correct **road names on mapping**, including Worth Lane and Church Lane in Badgworth Cllrs discussed that the one.network app allows you to comment about mistakes on the maps, members will submit comments. Members noted previous failed attempts to influence mapping software firms, the Clerk is to do her best to contact them.

134/22 Jubilee Field and Memorial Field Jubilee Field: A response is awaited from Sedgemoor District Council regarding funding to maintain the field; Cllr Hipwell is to raise the matter of funding with the Trustees; further funding sources should be investigated; the inspection report noted that the edges of the field need cutting back, Cllr Vining will ask the hedge cutter to **cut the growth back** as soon as possible; the **goal nets** have been reattached with clips.

135/22 Crime report and policing update: No matters were reported. Crime figures in the Parish were updated.

136/22 Planning: 03/22/00010 the amended application had been recently received and having been circulated, was discussed.

Resolution: To stand by the previous response in support of the application. Unanimously agreed.

Application 03/22/00007 will be considered at a planning committee meeting on the 27th September.

Enforcement: recent matters were reviewed, all matters raised with the Council had been reported to Sedgemoor District Council and Somerset County Council for investigation. **137/22** All **correspondence** was bought to the attention of the Council including the following updates: **Mark Housing Needs Consultation; Code of Conduct training; The proposed Combwich to Hinkley Point Shared Use Cycle Path; Short Term Holiday Lets** Consultation which has now closed.

138/22 Finance:

- i. The **financial statement** for September, having been circulated, was approved as a true record.
- ii. It was noted that the second half of the precept had been received.
- iii. The Council did not wish to opt out of the Central External Auditor Arrangements
- iv. Grant request from Somewhere House.

Resolution: Not to make a grant on this occasion. Unanimously agreed.

v. Online banking. The benefits particularly for resilience and costs savings were discussed. The Clerk discussed a successful recent move to online multi signatory banking at another Council. The increased pressure on regular cheque signing to meet HMRC requirements due to changes in the payroll provision was also considered.

Resolution: To subscribe to Bankline for Communities. To remove Cllr White as a signatory. To add Cllr Shaw as a signatory. Unanimously agreed.

- vi. To consider alternative payroll providers. The New Somerset Council do not wish to provide payroll services for groups smaller than 5 and the cost will be around £600. Alternative charges by two further payroll providers were considered. The Council supported using the service offered by charity PATA but further discussions will be had with the County Council before switching to a paperwork only provider.
- vii. To consider any items for the budget. The cost of the fence in the Jubilee Field was raised. A sapling and tree guard to honour Queen Elizabeth II was proposed.
- viii. The Payments Schedule was unanimously approved:

Chq 870 AA Deptford Defibrillator Cabinet £72.49

Clerks salary PAYE Mileage July £450.68

Information Commissioners Office Data Protection Fee £35.00

Clerks salary PAYE Mileage August £450.68

Chq 871 Rapide Systems Supplies Copier paper £25.50

Chq 872 Somerset Association Local Councils Ltd Membership £149.33

Chq 873 Clerks Expenses (SLCC membership, phone, stamps) £128.04

Chq 874 Clerks Expenses (Ink Cartridge, phone) £77.48

121/22 Member's Points of Information: The bin in the Badgworth layby is overflowing. The Clerk is to report this to clean surroundings.

122/22 Items for the Parish Magazine/social media None

123/22 Date of next Meeting: 17th October 2022.

Meeting Closed at 9.10pm

Signed F Body (Chairman)

Date 17.10.22