ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on Monday 18th March 2019 at 7pm.

Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Badgworth Parish, held in Badgworth and Biddisham Parish Hall.

**Present**

Parish Councillors: Body (Chairman), Hipwell and Shaw; County Councillor B Filmer, PCSO J Dade 7599, Village Agent K Wilcox, National Grid Connection Project team – James Parke Paul Cumpstone and Matt Wooldridge, Mrs H Marshall (Clerk to the Parish Council) and 15 members of the public were present.

Chairman Body welcomed everybody to the meeting.

1/19 **Apologies**

District Councillor J Denbee; Cllrs Coombe, Stiddard and White.

2/19 **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 19th March 2018** were circulated prior to, and were available at, the meeting. Minutes are also available on the Parish Council website. The Minutes were proposed, seconded and confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council.

3/19 **Report by County Councillor Bob Filmer** Topics discussed included: Finance, social care, waste and recycling, debt and financing, changes in funding, business rates, overspend and turnaround, the library service review, businesses, Somerset Rivers Authority, green issues, extending the temporary speed limit along the A38 through the Parish and also the Small Improvement Scheme. Questions were asked and answered on the following topics: The Biddisham Lane junction; When more plastics will be recycled, The new scheme is to be rolled out from 2020; a resident wished to thank the recycling centre at Highbridge for the excellent service, many members of the audience agreed. Cllr Filmer will pass the thanks along. Chairman Body thank Cllr Filmer and then explained that Cllr Denbee could not give a report due to the constraints of ‘Purdah’. County Cllr Filmer then left the meeting to attend a further meeting.

4/19 **Report from Badgworth Schoolroom Foundation, Mr D Parker** The report is held in the Minute Book. The following topics were discussed: the programme of church improvements; funding applications; the apm; key improvements and maintenance for the Schoolrooms; flooring; grants applications. A question regarding the funding support from the foundation was raised, and it was discussed that grants of £350 per student will still be available for next year. Notices will be displayed in the Parish. Mr Parker then left the meeting.

5/19 **Report by PCSO Jake Dade 7599** Topics reviewed included: speeding along the A38. It was discussed that data boxes installed along the A38 had shown that the average speed was 46.2mph. The maximum speed recorded was 95mph. A speed enforcement unit will not be placed in the Parish as a result of this data; new way of working; better access to more resources; monthly beat surgeries (data on twitter and beat page); presence in schools; regular drive throughs of the Parish. Questions were asked and answered on the following topics: Are highways aware of the number of vehicles using the A38 (81,721 in a week, it was noted that highways gather their own data but the Parish Council will pass this information along to them; it was discussed that if necessary the data gathering can be carried out again when the temporary 40mph is active. Chairman Body thanked PCSO Dade

6/19 **Report by Village Agent Kim Wilcox.** Topics reviewed included: the expansion in agents and coverage in Somerset; teams working in localities; funding; work in the Parish and GP and self referrals; loneliness; support groups; chronic diseases; talking cafes e.g. in Cheddar and Burnham, which are attended by CAB the food bank PCSO’s and village agents. Chairman Body thanked the village agent.

7/19 **Report by Chairman of the Parish Council** The Chairman’s report is held in the Minute Book. The following topics were discussed: Purdah, reviewing the Parish Plan – a report was available ; Axbridge Post Office; the local plan and planning; the Jubilee Field and Memorial Field; the Hinkley Connection Project; the defibrillators; drainage in the Parish; broad band; the Parish facebook group; the Biddisham Lane Small Improvement Scheme; the annual Litter Pick; thanks to fellow Councillors.

8/19 **Financial Statement, Mrs H Marshall** The report is held in the Minute Book. The following topics were discussed: the availability of the draft financial statement to the end of February; the precept and Council Tax Support Grant for 2019/2020 for £8,300; grants to Contact Magazine, Mendip Community Transport and the churchyard in Biddisham; availability of the annual return and accounts on the website; thanks were given to the Parish County and District Councillors for their support this year.

9/19 **Report on Parish Rights of Way:** The report is held in the Minute Book. The following topics were discussed: Having carried out a full survey, there were no major issues to report; Cllr Stiddard asked that any problems be reported to him in the first instance.

10/19 **Presentation by the Hinkley Connection Project team:** The following topics were discussed: National Grid and it’s background; the electricity transmission network; electricity demand; generation capacity; an over view of the Connection Project; most construction traffic will be off local roads; all information is available on their website. Questions were asked and answered on the following topics: traffic lights on the A38, these will be taken down over the easter period, and will be manned to minimise disruption – Balfour Beatty are working to increase the speed of the works and will be on site 7am to 7pm; will old pylons be removed – yes they are redundant; there is a danger people will speed up after the holdup - Balfour Beatty will have traffic management on site for early days to monitor the flow; will quarry lorries still be using the road – yes; why didn’t the route go undersea – purely cost; did the cost include the inconvenience to residents – cost is a major factor, the consultation looked at all options; offshore windfarms need undersea cabling – this is a different technology with DC current, the NG network is AC, it was looked at and continues to be looked in to. Councillor Body noted that the Council and Parish tried their hardest to drive that option through; how will the construction of pylons affect our roads – haul roads will keep construction traffic on site except where they need to cross the roads; what is the timetable for T pylons – this will be shared when it is available; do you have many calls – mostly about activity and what is happening; is there protection for wildlife – through environmental guidelines; will the project overspill on to other land – there are strict demarcation points and they can’t stray; what controls are in place to protect wildlife – very heavily controlled, many surveys and coppicing etc before nesting season; Is the pylon program finalised- yes (area map on pge 14 was shown) red dots show where the pylons go; Is the onus on the public to check on progress – booklets are available and you can register for email updates. The team promised to come back next year to give an update.

11/18 **Open Forum for Parishioners** No further questions were raised.

Chairman Body thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8.59pm