

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7pm.

Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Badgworth Parish, held at Badgworth Schoolrooms, Badgworth.

**Present**

Parish Councillors: Body (Chairman), Beynon, Hipwell, Shaw, Vining and White.  
County Cllr Filmer, Village Agent Kim Wilcox and Mrs H Marshall (Clerk to the Parish Council) were also in attendance. 21 members of the public were present.

Chairman of the Parish Council, Fred Body, welcomed everybody to the meeting.

**1/23 Apologies** PCSO's Lauren Bonell and Steve Hemmett; Cllr Bowley; County Councillor T Grimes; District Cllr G Godwin Pearson; a resident had sent apologies.

**2/23 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022** were circulated and published prior to the meeting. The Minutes were unanimously confirmed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council.

**3/23 Report by Village Agent, Kim Wilcox** The Village Agent introduced herself and reviewed the role of the village agent including the following matters: visiting people in the community; funding by the NHS, and adult social care; 71 agents; referrals from GPs and adult social care; village, community, high intensity and refugee agents; micro providers and maximising benefits; talking cafes in Axbridge, Burnham and Highbridge; the dementia wellbeing roadshow. Questions were asked and answered on doctors and the Winscombe Village Agent.

**4/23 Vote: Should the Parish Council pursue a 30mph speed limit in Badgworth** Those assembled were invited to ask any questions, no matters were raised. The vote was taken by a show of hands. The result was 10 votes against 11 votes for. It was noted that correspondence had been received to record 3 further votes in favour of pursuing a speed limit.

The Chairman outlined the reason for the vote, including the previous scheme when residents had voted overwhelmingly for the signage to be removed after it was installed; the recent village survey; that the vote had been to provide a steer for the Parish Council. A sometimes heated discussion on the vote ensued including the following matters: walking in the village and the speed of traffic; road and motorway closures creating a rat run; perception of speeds; need for information on speeds; enforcement; speed indicator devices; the process for a traffic order, including the need to understand why a scheme had been requested; impending schemes in Chapel Allerton, Stoke Allerton and Weare; a local scheme that was not universally popular; smaller less intrusive signage; larger signs at entry points. The Chairman of the Parish Council thanked residents for attending.

**5/23 Report by County Councillor Bob Filmer** Matters discussed included The Local Government Reorganisation, bringing the 5 Councils together to form the Unitary Somerset Council; predicted savings of £18m; increase in Council Tax; increase in social costs; planning to be kept based on Sedgemoor area; an initial change that when the Parish Council disagrees with the planning case officer the decision will no longer automatically go to Committee; that this is very much a transitional period. Questions were invited. County Cllr Filmer was complimented for his conduct.

**6/23 Report by District Councillor Graham Godwin Pearson** No report was received.

**7/23 Report from Badgworth Schoolroom Management Committee** Tina Salvidge gave the report and discussed the following matters: The role of the committee in the day to day management and upkeep of the hall and play area and including safety checks on the Jubilee Field on behalf of the Parish Council; income lost during Covid and a number of support grants received; loss of some hirers, and new bookings attracted; a free book club session for the

community; that with the help of the Parish Council a number of grants have been successfully applied for, including new noticeboards for the Parish Council, solar panels and a battery, new matting for the swings and new infra-red heaters; desire to create a community hub; a summer barbecue; carols round the tree; invitation for new members. There were no questions.

**8/23 Report by PCSO Lauren Bonell.** There were no matters to report for the Parish.

**9/23 Report by Chairman of the Parish Council** The Chairman's report is held in the Minute Book. The following topics were also discussed: the recent public meeting on the speeds on the A38 and the request for crossings and pavements; the Chairman announced that next month he will have served 50 years on the Parish Council; the financial statements and the annual accounts are available on the Councils website, copies were available at the meeting.

**10/23 Footpaths Report by Cllr Harvey Bowley:** No report was received.

**11/23 Open Forum for Parishioners** A resident requested that the Falcon bus consider adding a stop at the Badgworth Layby. The Clerk will contact the company with the request.

The meeting closed at 8pm

Signed:

Chairman of the Parish Council