**Minutes**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held at 7pm on Monday 18th November 2019 in the Badgworth and Biddisham Parish Hall, Biddisham.

**Present**

Cllrs Vining, Shaw, Winsor and White. Also in attendance District Cllr Godwin Pearson and Mrs H Marshall (clerk). There were 3 members of the public present.

In the absence on Chairman Body, Vice Chairman Vining chaired the meeting.

**178/19 Apologies:** Cllr Body: prior commitment.Cllr Hipwell: personal commitment. Cllr Wilkie; ill health. County Cllr Filmer also gave apologies. The Council accepted the apologies.

**179/19 Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Vining declared a personal, prejudicial and Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in National Grid.

**180/19 Dispensations:** Cllr Vining was issued a dispensation regarding National Grid and the Hinkley Connection Project, valid for a period of 4 years until July 2022.

**181/19 Minutes** for the Parish Council Meeting 21st October 2019:Copies having been circulated; the Minutes were then taken as read and approved as a true record.

**182/19 District Cllr Report:** The report included the following matters: planned data gathering on roads adjacent to the Parish; discussions regarding ‘caution horses’ signs in neighbouring Parish; climate change plan for the district council.

**183/19 Emergency Plan:** Cllr Winsor is to investigate advice from Somerset Prepared. The Council will then consider producing an emergency plan at the next meeting.

**184/19 Route 60+ scheme**: The Parish Council is to advertise the scheme asking for interest to be registered. When 20+ people have registered an interest we will arrange an event. Cllr Shaw is to place an entry in Contact magazine. Copies are to be placed in noticeboards and on facebook.

**185/19 Contact** Following a discussion about donations to Contact, Cllr Shaw had investigated the printing costs. The Council were satisfied that the magazine’s costs represented good value but will request a copy of the accounts in the event that the magazine asks for a donation.

**186/19** **Hinkley Connnection Project** (HCP) It was discussed that the HCP will be commencing with further works in the Parish next year and would like to hold a drop in session for residents followed by a presentation for the members of the Parish Council. Dates were discussed and it was proposed that they be invited to give a presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting on the 16th March.

**187/19** **Highways: request to increase the extent of the speed limit along the A38** A response has been received from National Grid stating that they could not change arrangements on the highways without an instruction from the highways authority.

**Resolution:** Further to previous requests submitted to traffic management and National Grid and supported by County Cllr Filmer, the Council will write to the Highways Authority again requesting that the extent be increased for the duration of the works in the Parish.

**Biddisham Lane Small Improvement Scheme, improved signage proposal:** The Council discussed the proposal for improved signage and the possibility of a vehicle activated sign (VAS). It was noted that traffic calming would not be considered and a protected right turn lane is unfeasible.

**Resolution:** The Parish Council confirmed unanimous support for the improvements but would prefer a VAS as part of the scheme.

**Overgrown Hedges:** Hedges noted as overgrown at the last meeting have been inspected and the landowners have been asked to cut them back.

**188/19 Field Reports – Jubilee Field:** The landowner adjacent to the damaged tree which is hanging in the field, has offered to remove the tree branches. The brambles will then be cut back when the ground is firm enough. **Memorial Field:** The inspection report was received. It was noted that the hedge needs cutting back. Cllr Vining will contact the contractor to discuss the scheduled cut.

**189/19** **Crime statistics** in the parish were reviewed and the monthly police report was noted. The new PCSO’s representing the Parish were noted as PCSO Sarah Dobbs and PCSO Kim Wrixon.

**Resolution:** Invite the new PCSOs to the Annual Parish Meeting.

**190/19 Cluster meetings**: Cllr Vining or Winsor will attend the meeting on the 20th November.

**191/19** **Planning:** There was no update.

**192/19 Correspondence** was bought to the attention of the Council including the notice of election and an email regarding a request to hear a motion. The Clerk is to investigate and the Council will consider the request at the next meeting.

**193/19 Finance:**

1. The **Financial statement**, having been previously circulated was approved as a true record.
2. The budget was confirmed and the Precept for 2020/2021 was confirmed as £8,800.
3. The **Payments schedule** was approved:

Chq 801 Clerks Expenses £19.80

**194/19 Member’s Points of Information:** Potholes in Badgworth opposite The Grange and along Badgworth Lane, and a hole on the verge along Badgworth Lane were noted for investigation. It was also reported that a lorry had been stuck at the end of Biddisham Lane for about 24 hours as it could not turn around. It was decided to add a request for additional signage to prevent this, to the next agenda.

**195/19 Items for the Parish Magazine/Social Media:** Register interest for 60+ event.

Meeting closed at 8.47pm

Signed Cllr Body (Chairman) Date 20th January 2020