



Minutes

Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 20th April 2020 at 7pm.

Present

Cllrs Body (Chairman), Hipwell, Shaw, White, Winsor, Wilkie and Vining. Also in attendance were District Cllr Godwin Pearson, County Cllr Filmer and the Parish Clerk, Mrs H Marshall. There were no members of the public present.

46/20 Apologies: None

47/20 Declarations of Interest Cllr Body declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item 56/20 Planning.

48/20 Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 23rd March 2020: Copies having been circulated; the Minutes were then taken as read and approved as a true record.

Cllr White left the meeting.

49/20 County Councillor's report: The report included the following matters: No meetings are being held at present but the Council are working towards holding virtual meetings; the County and District Councils are cooperating to support the community; business such as roadworks are now taking place within social distancing guidelines and issues such as pot holes should continue to be reported.

50/20 District Councillor's report: The report included the following matters: Meetings have all stopped although the Cllr is in communication with the Deputy leader; clarity on the use of sky lanterns in the district has been sought and they are not permitted on district Council land; one number is available for coronavirus support and services across the District and County **0300 790 6275**; concerns over how to reach residents who may need extra support.

51/20 Coronavirus update: The Council is in contact with **the local support groups**. There is now a group in each village. **New police guidance** regarding reasons to go out was discussed, including residents contacting the Council to report breaches.

Resolution: As the Council do not have any enforcement powers we should recommend that residents report matters to the web page www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/report/breach-of-covid-19-restrictions, set up for this purpose unless it would be appropriate to dial 999.

52/20 Complaints Policy: The current working practice and proposed changes were discussed including requiring all complaints to be made in writing.

Cllr Vining left the meeting due to technical difficulties but re-joined shortly after.

Resolution: The Clerk is to investigate policies used at other Councils and draft a proposal for consideration.

53/20 **Highways:** current **road closures** were noted as being part of essential work for the provision of Broadband; it was discussed that the work to the **new National Grid access in Tarnock** is progressing; the **small improvement scheme proposal** was discussed. Subject to support from the Council, the proposal will be published for consideration by the statutory consultees.

Resolution: The Council unanimously supported the proposal. The Clerk is to confirm this to Transport Development at Somerset County Council.

54/20 Jubilee Field and Memorial Field Both fields have had areas sealed off in accordance with government instruction. No further matters were raised.

55/20 Crime report and policing update: No matters were reported. Crime figures are to be updated at the next meeting.

56/20 Planning: The Report was updated to note that application 03/20/00004 has been granted permission. No further matters were discussed.

57/20 Correspondence: All correspondence was brought to the attention of the Council. It was noted that a letter of thanks has been received from Mendip Community Transport for the grant towards running costs.

County Cllr Filmer left the meeting.

58/20 Finance

- i. 2019/2020 end of year accounts and financial statement.

Resolution: Approved.

- ii. Receipt of the first precept payment was noted.

- iii. Authorisation of Payments Schedule:

Direct debit Axe Brue Internal Drainage Board £4.13

Chq 811 Sedgemoor District Council £25

- iv. **Resolution:** To continue payments for room hire during the coronavirus crisis to support the village halls. The Clerk is to contact the halls to confirm this decision.

- v. The Clerk is to investigate setting up **online payments** with 2 Councillor approval.

- vi. The Clerk is to investigate **Microsoft 365** for Councillors to facilitate producing the Parish Plan.

59/20 Member's Points of Information: Councillors Hipwell, Shaw, Wilkie and Winsor requested that **agendas should continue to be emailed** to them to reduce the use of paper. Other members will receive hard copies of meeting documents.

60/20 Items for the Parish Magazine/Social Media Due to the large amounts of guidance and information circulating at the present time, it was decided not to include any items.

61/20 Date of next Meeting: 11th May 2020 but to be confirmed subject to restrictions due to the coronavirus.

Meeting Closed 8.10pm

Signed F Body (Chairman)

Date Monday 1st June 2020