

Barton St David Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: Caron Potts
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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 22nd June 2024

Present: Cllrs S Jackson (Chair), D Rowley, E Rice and A Hicks

In Attendance: C Potts (Clerk), Somerset Council Cllr Stephen Page. 1 members of the public

Public Question Time - none

Somerset Council Councillor report – It is hoped that the new Gravity battery plant will create lasting employment and improved transport links for the county.

AGENDA

Meeting commenced at 7.39pm

54.24 Apologies for Absence and to consider the reasons given – Cllr Kirkman

55.24 Declarations of Interest - none

56.24 Exclusion of the Press and Public - none

57.24 Minutes of previous Parish Council meetings

Confirmed and signed as a correct record, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 20th May and confirmed the draft AGM minutes to be signed at the next meeting.

58.24 Planning

Application - none

Decisions

24/00283/FUL Location: Witherleigh Farm Mill Road. Proposal: Erection of 11m extension to existing warehouse. Application Approved.

59.24 Resolutions

1. Workplan updates and actions

a. Communication

i. Social media – meeting between Cllrs Jackson, Rice & Kirkman still need to take place. **Action Cllr Jackson to arrange.**

ii. Broadband update

Cllr Jackson has written to Cllrs Matt Martin and Tim Kerley. He has also had a very positive, friendly and helpful telephone discussion with Gigaclear's Regional Delivery Director.

The issue is the withdrawal of the Voucher Scheme for our area. Without this it is not commercially viable for Gigaclear to provide the infrastructure to this outlying part of the village. Getting licenses for the alternative which is using poles owned by SSE is proving challenging. Therefore, this is not for Gigaclear to resolve.

The Regional Director then outlined options to resolve this:

1. Seek the re-introduction of the Voucher Scheme. I have now emailed the Somerset Council lead and our Local Community Network Chair, copied to our local Councillor, asking them to progress re-instating the Scheme – the best solution.
2. Consider part or shared funding of the project. This could be by Gigaclear, Somerset Council and Residents. The costs would be reduced if the infrastructure is dug in adjoining verges and/or fields, and not in roads.

RESOLVED continue exploring avenues to reinstate the voucher scheme. **Action Cllr Jackson** to progress and also once we have a new MP contact them asking them to raise it with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

iii. Priorities, presence and location at the Carnival

RESOLVED priorities – attract new cllrs, SID straw pole, suggestion box and neighbourhood plan survey. Table to be sited between bar and VH. **Action Clerk** to print survey flyers, create suggestion box, SID pole yes and no box and other information for the stall and give to Cllrs Rowley and Rice before 20th July.

b. Infrastructure

i. Drainage update

The Clerk stated that the drains will now be cleaned on 1st & 2nd July, a week later than originally planned.

ii. Footpaths and Styles

A couple of issues have been raised by. RESOLVED **Action Clerk** to speak the owners of the field across stile at the bottom of blind lane to cut a footpath, **Cllrs Jackson** follow up on the broken stile on the footpath which borders Sycamore Farm.

iii. Highways

Streetworks have confirmed to the Clerk that 2 areas for repairs have been identified following the O'Connell's roadworks. One on Jarmany Hill, the other on Park Lane.

c. Signs and SIDs

Cllr Jackson stated that Highways still can't put a timescale of installing the pedestrian signs in the village but did provide 5 sites for SIDs. RESOLVED Run a pole at the carnival to ask if residents were in favour or not of installing SIDs in the village. **Action Clerk**.

2. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Jackson said that there had been a very positive response to the questionnaire with 89 responses to date. A further push will take place at the carnival. The next meeting will be held next week to progress. RESOLVED – progress.

3. Roles and responsibilities

Cllr Jackson presented the idea to councillors of each having areas of responsibility. Cllrs were generally in favour and some roles were filled. RESOLVED Adopt the concept. **Action Cllr Jackson** to discuss with Cllr Kirkman.

3. Bank account update

The Clerk confirmed that the move from TSB to Unity Trust Bank was now complete and had gone very smoothly.

4. Slinky bus service

Cllr Rice outlined this pilot service being provided to residents which is an app based on demand service picking up hourly from Somerton and the surrounding villages and going to Somerton and Langport. They will have a presence at the carnival. RESOLVED Assist communication where possible.

5. Newsletter printing invoice approval

The Clerk has received an invoice for the last newsletter, these will be received every 2 months. Approval was requested to add these to the payments list when received. RESOLVED approved, and review supplier before the new financial year. **Action Clerk**.

6. Any updates requiring Resolutions

Cllr Rowley appraised the PC of the newsletter item raised at the last VH&PFT meeting. RESOLVED newsletter to be issued bimonthly. **Action Cllr Rowley** to circulate copy dates for the rest of the year to contributors. **Clerk** to notify the VH secretary that Cllr Rowley cannot attend the next meeting.

60.24 Actions from minutes not already covered / carried forward - none

FINANCE

61.24 Accounts for payment

Reviewed and approved items of expenditure.

1. Clerk's salary for June including 5 days holidays - £424.25
2. Internal Audit fee £110 for Sara Saunders
3. Newsletter printing invoice Jump £155

62.24 Bank reconciliation and cashflow

Agreed and verified the bank reconciliation figures on 17th June 2024 against the bank statements and cashflow.

Current Account £2312.28, Saving (instant access) Account - £38000 = TOTAL £40312.28

63.24 Items for next meeting

Next meeting – Monday 22nd July (not last Monday of the month)

Meeting closed 9.34pm

Signed by Chair

Date

Actions

Clerk

1. Report planning enforcement issues
2. Contact VH sec
3. Footpath cutting in field crossing to Coombe Hill
4. Generate information for carnival

Cllr Jackson

1. Arrange SM meeting with Cllr Rice and Kirkman
2. Write broadband letter to MP post-election
3. Contact Cllr Kirkman regarding roles and responsibilities
4. Follow up on broken stile on the footpath which borders Sycamore Farm.

Cllr Kerley cfwd

1. Approach Wessex Internet
2. Follow up on land asset

Cllrs Rowley & Rice – man carnival stall

Cllr Rowley – issue newsletter copy dates