

WEDMORE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of WEDMORE PARISH COUNCIL held at The Council Rooms, Grants Lane, Wedmore on Wednesday 21ST November 2018 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors:, Mr N Ellis (Chairman), Mr N Avery, Mr M Bethell, Mrs J Candy, Mrs P Costello, Mrs G Cousins, Mr S George, Mr R Isgar, Mrs S Metters, Mrs L Sampson, Mr P Tinney, Mrs S Worrall

In Attendance: Mr R Pring (Clerk), Cllr D Huxtable (SCC), Mrs Jean Winter, Mrs Cathy Butterworth

18.11.1. **TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Apologies from Cllrs Badman, Healey and Seymour.

18.11.2. **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS** - Cllr Huxtable reported that the Government had allocated £10m to Somerset for road improvements which was well received. He announced that the County would not be charging parishes for salt/grit again this year. Cllr. Costello reported that she had attended a Grants Committee meeting which had made grants of £46k from RLT 3 funds and a further £10k in small grants. She had met with Chris East, County Footpaths Officer for SCC and showed him several stiles etc and other issues within the parish that required attention. It was noted that he only had a budget of £17k to cover 59 parishes in the County. She had been consulted on several planning issues and had received an enquiry from a trader wishing to set up a Fish & Chip van in the village on a regular basis. She had also carried out a site visit to Hinkley C to see progress.

18.11.3. **TO RECORD ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Nil

18.11.4. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH OCTOBER 2018.** –

18.11.5. **RESOLVED:that the Chairman be authorised to sign the minutes as a correct record of the previous meeting and the minutes of the September meeting which were unavailable but peviously agreed.** The Clerk added that due to his absence last month an item was missing from the agenda concerning the usual supply of Christmas trees to local traders and churches. He hoped Members would agree that the purchase takes place as usual.

18.11.6. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Mrs Jean Winter, a member of “Green Wedmore” had previously circulated a paper concerning climate change and low carbon issues. She addressed the members on these matters and asked that all future developments within the parish should be scrutinised to see that houses were being made “eco- friendly” and energy efficient. The Chairman thanked Mrs Winter and advised her to make contact with the Planning Department at Sedgemoor to share her views.

18.11.7. **MATTERS ARISING** – a. Disabled Access to Council Rooms - The Chairman read out an e-mail from B & B Architects with preliminary costings for the work which would be discussed further at the Finance meeting next month..

b. Village signs. - The Clerk read a report from Cllr. Seymour. The matter was ongoing and a meeting with a consultant was due to take place. Members agreed to get the village name-plates re-painted and posts stained as soon as possible.

c Vandalism of car park lights – The Clerk reported that an electrician had checked the lights which were still working and suggested concreting them into the ground to prevent further vandalism.

18.11.8. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

a) **Audit of accounts 28th September 2018 – 28th October 2018** - Cllr Metters and Cllr Sampson reported that all was in order.

b) **Accounts for Payment** – as per the following list :-

<u>Method</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
BACS	M Isgar	Repairs to bench outside of church	£32.00
BACS	Graphis Pezaz	Printing for NP Committee	£40.00
BACS	EDF Energy	Electricity at Car Park	£80.04
BACS	EDF Energy	Electricity at toilets	£9.72
DD	Mainstream	Phone calls September	£1.52
BACS	Clarity Copiers	Photocopy charges	£10.04
BACS	Sedgemoor DC	Empty bins at play areas and car park	£390.00
BACS	Sedgemoor DC	Empty bin The Borough	£195.32
BACS	Soc. Council Clerks	Annual subscription	£165.00
002656	RBL Poppy appeal	Donation towards wreath	£50.00`
BACS	Local Reach	Printing for NP Committee	£240.00
BACS	Myrebyrd	Preparation of documents for NP Committee	£110.00
BACS	Somerset Play Fields	Annual subscription	£15.00
BACS	Somerset Forge	Refurbish fingerpost	£2544.00
BACS	David Parkin	Print banners for NP Committee	£50.00
BACS	W Jackson	Grass cutting, hedging etc	£1002.00
BACS	D Summers-Cooke	Clean & lock toilets and consumables	£253,60
BACS	BWW print	Printing for N Plan committee	£245.70
BACS	R Pring	Clerk's expenses	£22.50
BACS	Mrs R Stevens	Clean Council Rooms	£20.00

18.11.9 **TO CONSIDER PURCHASING A SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE** – Cllr George had spoken to Ashcott and Wembdon PC's concerning training and sourcing equipment. The matter was ongoing and would be discussed at the Finance meeting.

18.11.10 **TO CONSIDER MAKING A FURTHER DONATION TO THE FINGERPOST APPEAL TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT** - The Clerk reported that there were three posts left to refurbish before the project was completed and Mr Ewens was seeking additional funding for which he was prepared to make a contribution. It was expected to be about £1500 in total. Proposed by Cllr Ellis and seconded by Cllr George that the Council would support the project to see it finalised with grateful thanks to David Ewens for all his efforts. This was agreed by the Members.

18.11.11. **TO CONSIDER MAKING A GRANT TO "WEDMORE BY LAMPLIGHT"** - Cllr Metters asked that the Council once again make a grant to "Wedmore by Lamplighgt" for street entertainment. The cost would be about £375. Proposed by Cllr George and seconded by Cllr Bethell that a grant be made and the invoice presented to the Clerk in due course, This was agreed by the Members.

18.11.12 **TO CONSIDER MAKING THE USUAL GRANTS TO LOCAL CHURCHES** - The Clerk asked that the usual £100 burial grants be made to the Methodist Church, Wedmore, Blackford and Theale churches. Proposed by Cllr Bethell and seconded by Cllr Isgar and agreed by Members.

18.11.13. **TO TO CONSIDER RESPONSIBILITY FOR MANAGING THE PUBLIC OPEN SPACE AT CROSS FARM AND TO RECEIVE A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS** – Cllr Costello reported that Acorn had purchased a piece of land at Cross Farm for a Public Open Space and play area (POS). She felt the Council should take over the management of this POS once it was established. She had met with developers who wanted to instal the minimum facilities. There were RLT funds available and she was meeting with Sedgemoor officials and the developer in the near future to consider a way forward. Proposed by Cllr Avery and seconded by Cllr Isgar that the Parish Council should assume responsibility for the POS in due course. This was agreed by the Members. Cllr Candy expressed concens that the

planning proposal for change of use had not been properly considered. This was being considered at next week's planning meeting.

18.11.14 **GRIT BINS** –Cllr Worrall had obtained costings for grit bins in the village to replace the “dumpy bags” currently supplied by the County Highways staff. There followed a lengthy discussion concerning the suitability, location and logistics of filling the bins and Cllr Worrall agreed to make further enquiries with Highways before taking the suggestion further.

18.11.15 **TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HEDGE AND TREE CUTTING AT THE CAR PARK** - Cllr Bethell had obtained a quote of £900 for two men working two days at the car park to cut trees and hedges affecting neighbouring properties and to free up parking spaces. Another contractor had failed to respond. Proposed by Cllr Isgar and seconded by Cllr Worrall that the tender be accepted. Members agreed and work would commence in the New Year.

18.11.16 **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMMITTEE AND CONSIDER ANY PROPOSALS TO INCLUDE A SHORT PRESENTATION FROM CATHY BUTTERWORTH** - Mrs Butterworth had recently submitted a paper on behalf of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee. She said that feedback from the public consultation shows that health related matters were considered a serious issue. In Wedmore 86% of 18 to 65 year olds felt services were “Good to Very Good” but there were higher rates of diabetes and obesity than many parts of the County. She asked that members support a plan to produce a directory of local clubs and organisations that could assist individuals to improve their wellbeing and to help fund a “Wellbeing Day” next year. The Health Centre was fully supportive and it was anticipated the costs to be in the region of £2k. Proposed by Cllr George and seconded by Cllr Worrall that the idea be supported and Members agreed that this idea was worthy of support and thanked Mrs Butterworth for her input.

18.11.17 **ISSUES AND QUESTIONS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS** – Cllr Candy reported an incident of fly tipping in Combe Lane which had been dealt with by Sedgemoor. Members agreed to post a sign warning would-be fly tippers of the consequences. Cllr Tinney reported a telecommunications box in a precarious position at Crickham. Cllr Isgar reported a damaged bench at Latcham. Cllr Avery reported a full litter bin at Theale that needed emptying. Cllr Ellis commented on the frustration of numerous road closures in the area caused by cable supply companies. He also suggested that it may be worth considering merging all the Play Area committees in the New Year.

18.11.18 CORRESPONDENCE

Item	From Whom	Subject
a	Somerset Waste	November briefing sheet
b	SCC	Temp. road closure Perry Road 17 December 6 days
c	Avon & Som Police	Monthly crime report
d	SALC	AGM at Somerton 18 th December
e	SCC	County wide parking review
f	Green Wedmore	Climate change petition

18.11.19 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Cemetery – Nil.
- Facilities Allotments & Footpaths – Allotment hedge being cut back
- Finance & General Purposes – Meeting 5 December
- Housing – To be arranged
- Highways, Car Park & Brook – Cllr Ellis compiling report on state of The Brook
- Planning – Meeting Wednesday 28 November

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES

- IOW News – Meeting held. The Committee had decided not to distribute flyers with the magazine which was contrary to its constitution.
- Play Areas – Nil.
- SALC – Nil
- Wedmore Playing Fields Management – Nil.
- Village Halls – Solar panels working well at Wedmore

18.11.20 **MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING –**

- (a). Chairman – Nil
- (b) Clerk – Nil
- (c) Members – Cross Farm update by Cllr Costello.

There being no further business, the Meeting was declared closed at 8.58 pm