

BINEGAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2015 in the Memorial Hall at 7:30 pm

Present: Jon Abbott, Philip Blatchford (7.35pm), Richard Higgins (Chair), Cath Law, Phil Roberts, John Scadding and David Stone.

In attendance: Diane Abbott (Clerk), Val Blatchford, John Carter, Rachel Carter, Tony Griffin, Ann Morgan, Michael Morgan and Harvey Siggs.

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| 1 | <p>Apologies for absence There were no apologies for absence.</p> | |
| 2 | <p>Chair's announcements The Chair welcomed visitors and announced that the meeting would take Item 8 first.</p> | |
| 3 | <p>Declarations of interest Philip declared an interest in Item 8.</p> | |
| 4 | <p>Minutes It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the 6 October 2015 be signed as a correct record.</p> | |
| 5 | <p>Matters arising from the Minutes</p> <p>5.1 Binegar Cemetery - Proposal to build a lych gate Jon reported that he had submitted Form FR1 to Mendip District Council. The Chair circulated a possible design and asked members to give it consideration.</p> <p>5.2 Finger sign-posts The Clerk informed the meeting that she had received a second quotation. Following discussion, the meeting RESOLVED to place an order for refurbishment with the lower tenderer. The meeting asked the Clerk to obtain costs to replace the missing finger arms.</p> <p>5.3 Highways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kings Lane: cleaning of surface water drains [May 15] The Clerk stated that Highways had informed her that the drains had been cleared but that a further inspection would take place (ref 291046) • Binegar Lane /A37 junction: sight line obstruction fence at [Sep 15] The Clerk reported that there was no further up-date. • Tape Lane: quarry dust deposits on roadsides [Oct 15] The meeting agreed there had been improvement but with room for more. • Tape Lane: broken footpath sign (below the old chapel) The Clerk stated she had reported this to the Rights of Way Officer. In addition, she had reported the broken sign on Turners Court Lane. • Turners Court Lane: pot hole by finger post near old railway bridge The Clerk reported an inspection had been arranged (ref 291047) • A37: blocked gully on viaduct south of Old Down Philip told the meeting that the blocked gully had been cleared but was again blocked. The Clerk undertook to report this. • Station Road: land owners' overgrowing hedges The Clerk reported great improvement with this area and the Council thanked those who had been involved in making such a difference. • A37: land owners' overgrowing hedges (south of Clarke's Pool) The Clerk informed the meeting that there was no progress to report. | <p>All</p> <p>DA DA</p> <p>DA</p> <p>DA</p> |

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| <p>5.4 Planning applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2014/0045/FUL – Turner’s Court traveller’s site – reported breach of conditions The Chair reported no further progress. Cllr’s Carter undertook to pursue progress with the planning enforcement officers. • 2015/1830/OTS – Proposed house – 5 Dalleston, Turners Court Lane, Binegar The meeting noted this application was pending decision. | |
| <p>5.5 Pedestrian controlled crossing A37 [Jun 13] Following disappointing reports from the Chair and Phil, Cllr Siggs undertook to pursue progress with the County Council.</p> | RH |
| <p>5.6 Refurbishment of large multiplay [Aug 14] Philip informed the meeting that work would continue on 6 November (weather permitting). He stated that work completion would be delayed without a new slide. For this, the meeting asked Philip to supply a written quotation to the Clerk. The meeting also asked Philip to discover what certificate of compliance or similar assurance would be issued on completion of the project.</p> | PB |
| <p>5.7 ‘Get up to Speed’ internet and computer skills programme [Jul 15] The Clerk informed the meeting that there had been high demand to run courses and with this in mind would be looking to arrange courses in January. The Clerk had spoken to Graham Fuzzey in the George Inn who had Wi-Fi and could accommodate the course.</p> | DA |
| <p>5.8 Flood prevention Jon informed the meeting he had spoken to Somerset County Council about drainage of Binegar Bottom and had received a works reference number (378278). After discussion, Cllr Siggs requested a brief on issues and concerns. He undertook to assess how it might be possible to address the issues raised.</p> | RH |
| <p>5.9 Health and Well Being Fund: walking/jogging track at Binegar Quarry [Oct 15] Jon informed the meeting that there was no further progress.</p> | |
| <p>5.10 Playground Safety Issues [Oct 15] Jon informed the meeting that he and Richard had taken down the swing bench. After discussion, the meeting agreed that the bench be offered to Bigwood for a possible donation.</p> <p>The Clerk stated that she had advice from a third party as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The safety surface of the swing bench should be renewed rather than patch repaired. • The small multiplay had not reached a condition where it required replacement. The council should, though, continue to monitor its condition. • To make good the planks on the Climber - A frame – shelter, to shorten four poles on the multiplay to manage the timber decay and fix the bolts below the bridge, the Clerk reported a quotation of £80. <p>Philip informed the meeting that he had not received a quote for comparison.</p> <p>Richard asked for suggestions to replace the swing bench. A swing basket was suggested but no decision taken.</p> <p>There was further discussion on plans for playground apparatus. At the conclusion of this, Philip, as Chair of the Binegar Playing Fields Group, started to read a statement protesting about the treatment of the Group by the Council and certain councillors. Part way through, some members raised objections to the tone and content of the statement and Philip was not allowed to continue. He concluded by resigning as Chair of the Committee and reported that three other</p> | PB |

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| | members had also resigned. It was noted that David remained the only member of the Committee. | |
| 6 | Local government reports District and County councillors gave reports covered in other agenda items. | |
| 7 | Police reports The Chair read out a report from PCSO Nicola Housley for October: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highcroft Quarry noise and smoke reported on four occasions. • Lynch Hill – sheep on road. <p>He advised the meeting that a Beat Surgery would take place on Thursday 5 November between 10.00 and 11.00am in the Memorial Hall car park.</p> | |
| 8 | Planning Planning application 2015/2204/FUL – Bennetts Lane – proposed barn Philip retired from the room. The meeting heard presentations from Mrs Val Blatchford in support and from Mr Michael Morgan opposing the planning application. There was discussion on material planning considerations. After this, the meeting RESOLVED that the Parish Council would support the planning officer's decision but would comment on the three points of material consideration. Philip re-joined the meeting. | |
| 9 | Dementia aware and dementia friendly community Cath updated the meeting on progress of the awareness sessions taking place on Thursday 26 November. Cath informed the meeting that she would circulate a "To Do" list and minutes from the meeting held between Diane and Cath. Cath encouraged members to support the event. | CL |
| 10 | Financial Matters 10.1 Financial Control The meeting noted a summary of budget spending and variances (previously circulated) for the Council's accounts. 10.2 Agricultural land rent review of one tenancy The Clerk stated that a rent review was due in March 2016 for one of the Council's tenants. She gave an update on the current agricultural rent situation and the meeting RESOLVED that the rent should remain unchanged. 10.3 Budget for 2016-17 The meeting considered a budget for 2016-17 (previously circulated). Jon questioned the amount allocated for the lych gate stating that he did not believe the amount would cover the cost of the project. The Clerk agreed to ascertain a more accurate cost. Jon asked if £500 for playground maintenance was adequate; the meeting asked the Clerk to review the figure. 10.4 Receipts since last report: The meeting noted receipts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Long (Mr A Rydon) - £30.00 • Connock's Dignity Funerals (Mr R Hill) - £275.00 • Cash – Quiz night (Playground) - £150.70 • Mr A Selway – land rent - £1,000.00 10.5 Standing order payments since last report The meeting noted standing order payments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primrose Garden Maintenance – October payment - £633.60 • Mrs D Abbott – October salary – confidential | DA |

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| | <p>10.6 Cheque payments</p> <p>The meeting approved the following cheque payments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr B Rich – fuel for Clarke’s Pool clearance - £80.00 • HMRC Income tax – Salary – confidential • Southern Counties Fencing - £1,950.00 • D Abbott – Safety sign for Clarke’s Pool - £11.76 | |
| 11 | <p>Mendip District Council – Consultation on Local Plan, part II, sites and policies</p> <p>The Clerk informed the meeting that 2 sessions had been arranged to take place on Thursday 3 December at 3.00pm and 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall.</p> | |
| 12 | <p>Beautifying our villages</p> <p>In view of the length of discussion on playground issues, the meeting agreed to defer this item.</p> | |
| 13 | <p>Binegar Playing Fields Group</p> <p>There was no report since this item had been covered in item 5.10.</p> | |
| 14 | <p>Events attended</p> <p>The Chair informed the meeting that he had attended the community awards presentation with Mrs Molly and Mr Grenville Reakes and that they had been overwhelmed and delighted to have received the award.</p> | |
| 15 | <p>Highways and rights of way</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodside Terrace: street light out adjacent to no 15 • Binegar Lane/A37 junction: street sign missing and needs replacing • A37 south of Old Down: blocked gully on viaduct | DA DA DA |
| 16 | <p>Correspondence received</p> <p>There was no correspondence.</p> | |
| 17 | <p>Items for the next or a future agenda</p> <p>Planning applications outside the parish boundary.</p> | PB |
| 18 | <p>Next meeting and future dates</p> <p>It was noted the next meeting was on 1 December 2015 at 7 30 pm in the Memorial Hall.</p> <p>2016: 2 February, 1 March, 5 April, 3 May, 7 June, 5 July, 6 September, 4 October, 1 November, 6 December</p> | |

The Chair closed the meeting at 9 31pm.