



BINEGAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 3 September 2019 in the Memorial Hall at 7:30 pm

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

In attendance: Diane Abbott (Clerk), Cllr Josh Burr, PC Ellis, Bryan Rich, Paul Sharp, Geri and David Wilson

Public Forum

Bryan Rich addressed the Council concerned about horse carriage driving along village roads. Philip agreed to speak to the carriage group.

PC Ellis answered questions about a recent accident at Burnt Wood crossroads and burglaries at the caravan store on Marchant's Hill. Phill requested that the mobile speed camera be deployed again on the A37.

1	Apologies for absence There were no apologies for absence.	
2	Chairs announcements The Chair informed the meeting that a crevice in a cemetery pier cap had not, as promised, been repaired and that he had reminded Wells Cathedral Stonemasons of the matter. The Chair reported a generous offer from the BAGS group to help improve the villages with daffodils and footpath clearance. The Chair stated that the Mendip Parish Forum would take place on Thursday 12 September. Cath agreed to attend and report back.	CL
3	Declarations of interest There were no declarations of interest.	
4	Minutes It was RESOLVED to sign the Minutes of the 2 July 2019 meeting as a correct record.	
5	Matters arising from the Minutes 1. 2018/2376 – Old Down Caravan site – Application for continuous occupation The meeting noted that the application had been approved. 2. Appeal 3216182/3 – The Portway, BA3 4UA– Appeal against enforcement The meeting noted the appeal had been upheld. 3. 2019/0035 – The Portway, BA3 4UA – Erection of house The meeting noted that the application had been approved. 4. 2019/1488/HSE – Tralee, Binegar Lane BA3 4TR - Rear extension The meeting noted the application awaited decision. 5. Annual roadside weed control Philip reported that a planned second spraying had been denied by the weather. 6. Dog waste bin at Tellis Lane/Station Road junction The meeting noted the bin was in place and thanked the Clerk for arranging this. 7. Clearance of excess road gravel on Binegar Lane and Station Road David informed the meeting that the roads had been swept but that loose gravel remained. As a further sweep was required, David undertook to contact highways.	DS



6	Local government reports The meeting received a written report from Councillors Josh Burr and Sam Phripp. Josh gave an update from a recent meeting of Mendip's <i>Cabinet</i> on licence arrangements for Shepton Mallet market, consultation on changes to car parking, appointment of a <i>Sustainability and Resilience</i> officer to prepare for climate change, proposed outreach work from Shepton Mallet Library and the position of <i>Connecting Devon and Somerset's</i> broadband.	
7	Planning applications 2019/1888/PAA – Barn Lawful Development Certificate application – Highcroft Lane, BA3 4TP The meeting noted that an LDC applications did not a response and no comments were made.	
8	Parish Council election The meeting considered an invoice for election services. After discussion, as there were further questions about the bill, it was agreed to withhold payment pending answers and a response to a <i>Freedom of Information</i> request to Somerset County Council.	RH
9	Financial matters 1. To receive and note a statement of the financial position to date The meeting noted the financial position to-date. 2. To note receipts since last the report The meeting noted there were no receipts. 3. To note standing order payments since the last report £xxx.xx – Parish Clerk – July salary payment £714.86 – Primrose Garden Maintenance - Grass cutting (payment 6/7) 4. To approve cheque payments £350.00 – Ashwick with Oakhill & Binegar news magazine sponsorship £58.80 – AED Locator (E.U.) Ltd – Monitoring service £162.00 – ICCM – Management course training – J Scadding £49.19 – Expenses J Abbott – Playground repairs / mileage chairs awards £972.00 – Somerset Forge – Finger post refurbishment	
10	Annual Governance and Accountability Statement 2018-19 The Clerk reported that she had not received the report of the external auditor but the following notice of a comment had been sent: "The figure in Section 2, Box 9 of the prior year comparative column does not agree to the prior year final signed AGAR. The figure in Box 9 should read £378,235 in both columns on the 18/19 AGAR." The Clerk stated that figure was the value of assets and that there was a transcription error. The meeting noted that the Clerk had published the correct figure in the Council's asset register and that the comment did not affect the validity of the 2018-19 statement of accounts.	
11	Playground The meeting received and considered the monthly report previously circulated. Jon reported recent vandalism to the red train that he had repaired. John spoke of replacing the goal posts with the metal ones. The Clerk undertook to check with RoSPA if metal posts were acceptable.	DA
12	Air quality in Tape Lane Phill informed the meeting that he had received none of the requested evidence from residents. In light of that, the Council agreed there was no action that it could take and closed the matter.	



13	<p>Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service</p> <p>Philip reported on his review of <i>Safer Together</i>, the Rescue Service's strategic plan. He stated that, on the basis of evidence in the plan, the proposed change to day-time fire appliances in Wells appeared acceptable. He did not consider there was cause for concern for parishioners.</p> <p>Josh reported that fire officers from Wells and Frome had attended Mendip's consultation and questioned the plan, raising concerns about the proposals for Wells and Frome.</p> <p>In light of this, the Chair asked that Josh report the consultation response from the District Council so that any safety concerns could be understood[RH1].</p>	JB
14	<p>Binegar Cemetery</p> <p>The meeting received the annual safety report and noted that two memorials required urgent attention. The Clerk undertook to arrange remedial work on grave 93. David stated that he had reported works required on grave 75 to the family.</p> <p>The meeting noted that five memorials needed annual safety monitoring until the next five-year audit.</p>	DA
15	<p>Village autumn clean up</p> <p>Phill confirmed that arrangements for 19 October 2019 were in hand.</p>	PR DA
16	<p>Bristol Airport Ltd</p> <p>The Chair informed the meeting he was to attend a workshop on 6 September regarding proposal to change air-space use.</p>	RH
17	<p>Macmillan Cancer Support</p> <p>The meeting considered and agreed to be a part of <i>The World's Biggest Coffee Morning</i> and host an event on Friday 27 September. Cath requested support on the morning and with baking cakes and biscuits.</p>	You
18	<p>Burnt Wood / Whitnell Corner crossroads</p> <p>The meeting noted that Philip was progressing this item about the safety of the crossroads and the frequency of road traffic incidents.</p>	PB
19	<p>Projects Parishioners' proposals</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Footpaths and walking route maps - Pilgrim routes to include on footpath maps David stated there was no progress to report. 2. Brewery railway footpath to Binegar Bottom David reported contact with the family which had undertaken to get back in touch after returning from holiday. The meeting noted the generous offer from BAGS to help clear the path. 3. Climate and Ecological Emergency pledge Cath reported on meetings with a local interested person and circulated a proposal on how the Parish Council might act if signing up to the <i>Climate and Ecological Emergency</i>. Cath undertook to circulate County and District proposals for a discussion in October. <p>Other works</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A37 and village lanes safety The Chair reported a negative response to the case for safety improvements the parish had submitted to Somerset Highways. Since Highways' officers were constrained by County Council policy, the Chair undertook to take the matter to the portfolio holder. Meanwhile, the meeting agreed to look at installing and maintaining a vehicle activated sign to manage speed. 	DS DS CL RH RH



	<p>2. Binegar Bottom conservation John provided an update on future conservation work and thanked Paul Sharp for his continued support and dedication to the ongoing work.</p> <p>Paul raised concern about the amount of dog waste encountered. After discussion, the meeting RESOLVED to purchase of an additional bin and the clerk undertook to purchase.</p> <p>3. Fingerpost direction sign restoration The meeting noted the restoration of the Whitnell Lane/B3139 sign had been completed.</p> <p>4. Further potential projects Cemetery gate to churchyard lantern The meeting considered and approved in principle a proposal to reinstate a lantern over the gate between Binegar Cemetery and the Churchyard. The Chair undertook to consult the Parochial Parish Council and progress the idea.</p> <p>Flood lighting Holy Trinity church John reported that, having investigated the idea, it was not possible to flood light the church using solar energy. John undertook to look at other options.</p> <p>Playground apparatus The Clerk circulated ideas for new playground apparatus. The meeting agreed that the apparatus should be aimed at older children. It was noted that work to extend the adjacent Hall car park was planned and that further consideration to the playground should be deferred until the work had been completed.</p> <p>5. Daffodils The meeting noted the kind offer from BAGS to purchase bulbs. Philip undertook to procure 500 bulbs.</p> <p>The meeting considered joint purchase of a strimmer to assist a volunteer with verge maintenance. The Clerk undertook to check whether the Council's insurance covered this.</p>	<p>DA</p> <p>RH</p> <p>JS</p> <p>DA</p> <p>PB</p> <p>DA</p>
14	<p>Events attended There were no events attended.</p>	
15	<p>Highways and rights of way The meeting noted the following issues had been reported: Tellis Lane and Binegar Bottom – road surface and potholes, Marchant's Hill – blocked gullies (two reports), Roemead Lane and Station Road– road name signs broken, Marchant's Hill – vegetation obscuring 30mph sign.</p> <p>It was agreed to report the following: Fallen utility marker stone on Neville's Batch Dirty chevrons on A37</p>	<p>PB</p> <p>DA</p>
16	<p>Dates for the next and 2019 meetings To note the next meetings were 1 October, 5 November, and 3 December.</p>	

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.00pm