



Minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2023 in the Memorial Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Jon Abbott (Chair), John Bridges, Cath Law, Phill Roberts, John Scadding, David Stone and David Wilson.

In attendance: Diane Abbott (Clerk), and two members of the public.

Public Forum

Concerns were raised regarding notification of a rise in the cost of hiring the Hall by the local scouting group.

1	Apologies for absence There were no apologies for absence.	
2	Chair's Announcements There were no Chair's announcements.	
3	Declarations of interest There were no declarations of interest.	
4	Minutes It was RESOLVED to sign the Minutes of the 4 July 2023 meeting as a correct record.	
5	Local Government Reports The meeting noted that the Clerk had circulated the August report from Somerset Council.	
6	Planning applications There were no planning applications for consideration.	
7	Financial matters 1. Financial Position The meeting noted the financial position to date. 2. Receipts noted since the last report: £16.50 – C & G Collections – Textile Bank £230.00 – Cemetery E Thorner – Family Evans £50.00 – Cemetery – Tucker – Family Rich £120.00 – Cemetery - Wrintmore – Wareham £27.50 – C & G Collections – Textile Bank £417.87 – HMRC – VAT return 3. Standing order payments noted since the last report: £xxx.xx – Parish Clerk – July & August salary 4. Online banking payments noted since the last report: £140.50 – Village Hall – Textile Bank £38.29 – BHIB – Insurance increase £72.00 – D Abbott Back pay from internal audit £2470.00 – Coombe Garden Maintenance – Grass cutting £161.40 - Play Safety – Annual RoSPA Playground Inspection 5. Insurance Policy To note the Clerk has advised the insurance company on new Parish Council assets; speed indicator devices and play equipment and to note the additional premium of £38.29.	



8	<p>Playground</p> <p>The meeting received a report from David Wilson. It was agreed that topsoil would be spread and seeded in areas where appropriate. David Wilson will be organising an audit of wooden structures with a view to creating a maintenance / replacement programme.</p> <p>The meeting noted receipt of the RoSPA report with no major concerns highlighted or high risk areas.</p> <p>It was agreed that the playground has sufficient play equipment and that any future funding should go towards refurbishment or replacement of existing items.</p>	
9	<p>Projects</p> <p>1. Interpretation Boards The Clerk informed the meeting that work had progressed, with photos, wording and themes identified and that she would work on a mock up for the next meeting.</p> <p>2. Commemoration No further update. The Clerk undertook to contact the stonemason.</p> <p>3. A37 Road Safety The meeting noted that we were still awaiting the installation of poles by highways. Chapter 8 training will be taking place on Wednesday 13 September.</p>	
10	<p>Binegar Bottom</p> <p>It was noted that hedges needed to be trimmed. The Chair undertook to approach a local farmer to ask if he could trim back where needed.</p> <p>After discussion it was agreed that a management plan was required for the short- and long-term maintenance of Binegar Bottom. John Scadding undertook to arrange a date for an initial walk through the area.</p> <p>It was noted that an offer of assistance had been received from a parishioner.</p>	
11	<p>Local Community Networks (LCN)</p> <p>The meeting noted that the Chair and Clerk had met with Cllr Tony Hathway, Vice Chair of the parish's LCN and that they would be attended the September meeting.</p> <p>The agenda would be circulated for comment on receipt.</p>	JA DA
12	<p>Adapting for Climate Change on the Somerset Levels</p> <p>John Scadding gave an overview of the Climate Adaption Toolkit. The Clerk undertook to include a link in the Parish News for residents to view the toolkit and planning resources directly.</p>	DA
13	<p>Village Communications</p> <p>The meeting discussed options for communication with parishioners/villagers and a request received for funding from The Phoenix.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Jockey Journal had been well received within the villages and provided the best forum for communication. The Parish Clerk would provide copy for inclusion.</p> <p>The meeting agreed to a donation of £100 to support The Phoenix to be reviewed pending increased relevance to Binegar and Gurney Slade. The Clerk undertook to forward Parish News for the next edition.</p>	
14	<p>Churchyard Maintenance</p> <p>The meeting noted the areas that required work and John Scadding agreed to take the matter forward.</p>	



15	Highcroft Quarry The meeting noted concerns raised regarding gravel being washed from Highcroft Quarry and the general poor condition of road surfaces at the lower end of Binegar Bottom. The Clerk undertook to report the concerns to Somerset Highways.	
16	Dog Waste Bin Request The meeting noted a request for a Dog Waste bin to be installed adjacent to the post office. It was noted this fell into Ashwick Parish Council. The Clerk undertook to ask the Ashwick Parish Clerk to add the request to the Ashwick agenda.	DA
17	Children's Christmas Party The meeting noted a request from the Village Hall Committee to support the annual Children's Christmas Party. It was agreed to make a donation of £185.00 to fund the Children's Entertainer.	DA
18	D Day 80th Anniversary Celebrations 2024 The meeting noted Somerset's intention to join the National 80 th Anniversary Celebrations of D Day by the lighting of beacons. John Scadding agreed to approach the landowner of Maesbury Hill to discuss agreement in principal for the lighting of a Beacon. The Chair agreed to discuss other potential village celebrations with BAG's and the Village Hall Committee.	JS
19	Macmillan Coffee Morning Cath updated the meeting on the annual Macmillan Coffee Morning and it was agreed to hold the event on Saturday 30 September in the Memorial Hall. Cath and the Clerk undertook to make appropriate arrangements.	CL DA
20	Correspondence The meeting received an update from Cath on the launch of Mendip Health Connections 'Talking Cafe' at Oakhill Village Hall on Wednesday 13 September at 10.30am. Cath undertook to circulate information to Members.	CL
21	Events Attended The Chair and the Clerk had met with Cllr Tony Hathway, Vice Chair of the Wells and Rural LCN, on 14 August.	
22	Highways and rights of way The following issues were raised: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Undergrowth along the path at Hillside Terrace. Shrubs overhanging from The George.• Pothole at the Junction of Station Road and the A37.	DA
23	Dates of future meetings 2023: 3 October, 7 November, 5 December.	

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.25pm