

## WEST QUANTOXHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 6 September 2017

**PRESENT:** Councillors G Tizzard (Chairman), R Hughes, N Purcell-Herbert, Mrs S Sherry and Mrs P Tolley.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs C Richards (Clerk), PCSO Peter Bolton, County Councillor H Davies District Councillor S Dowding and Michelle Francis.

#### 1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T Dunn and J Roberts.

#### 2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

None.

#### 3. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 JULY 2017 & MATTERS ARISING:**

Subject to amending the figure 13 to 1 in the first line of paragraph 4.4., the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 July 2017 were approved and signed.

#### 4. **REPORTS**

##### 4.1. **Police Report:**

- There had been 89 crimes in the Williton & Watchet Area as at June 2017. Seven of these had been in West Quantoxhead – 1 in Staple Lane, 1 in Staple Close, 1 in Bracken Edge and 4 on/near the Petrol Station.
- Discussion took place regarding the request from a resident for help and support from the Parish Council for a restraining order on a local offender. The Parish Council were aware there had been numerous incidents where the person the subject of the application has been dealt with for various infringements in the area. However, the Parish Council do not have all the facts. After a lengthy debate and having consulted with the Police who have advised that this would require a written/formal application for disclosure re: any information requested by a member of the public. This cannot be done locally. There is a process for doing this on the Avon and Somerset Constabulary public website and lots of other useful information.
- Parish Councillors drew attention to the large tractors/trailers using Weacombe Lane and PCSO Bolton advised them to keep a record of the date, time and registration number of the vehicles.

##### 4.2. **Somerset County Council:**

The Park & Ride at Taunton would be closing on Saturdays as from the Autumn, although it would reopen for major events. The Hinkley Point Park & Ride at Smithyard Terminal had been delayed until 2018. Roadworks 18th to 20th September at Sampford Brett from 6 pm to 7.30 am. Still nothing happening in Somerset regarding fracking. Williton Library is now going to stay where it is and not move into the Council Offices. The Library would close for a week 16<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> October for the installation of kiosks for self-service. Sir Gilbert Scott Court, Williton, discussions ongoing regarding parking outside. Monkton Heathfield scheme is finished and there is now a bus gate and a £60 fine if you go through it. New Northern Distribution Road is now in operation. SCC are seeking Governors for Schools.

#### 4.3. **West Somerset Council**

Hinkley recruitment event on 25 September 2017 at the Beach Hotel, Minehead. The Somerset West Lottery is going well with £42,000 brought in so far, no large prizes being won at the moment. There had been a saving of £107,000 with the non-opening of toilets. The question was asked as to why there is still a sign in Fore Street, Williton, directing the public to the toilets and whose sign was it, WSC or SCC and Councillor Dowding agreed to follow this up. Planning enforcement: only 1.5 Planning Officers between TDBC/WSC – any planning concerns should be brought to their attention. Neighbourhood Plans: strongly urge Parishes to have one, although not obliged to. They are important in planning terms. NHS Surgeries are now open in the evening if you make an appointment during the day. WSC have exceeded targets relating to the number of low cost houses in West Somerset. West Somerset is an Opportunity Area in educational terms and the Council would get some money to support initiatives to recognise the problems in West Somerset in order to make changes in the educational system to achieve better outcomes and sustainable development.

Councillor G Tizzard highlighted problems at Lloyds Chemist in Williton and, in reply, County Councillor Davies advised the problem was due to be discussed at the Scrutiny Committee at WSC.

Councillor R Hughes asked when recycling for mixed plastics would start and Councillor Dowding advised he would find out and reply.

#### 5. **APPOINTMENT OF NEW CLERK**

Michelle Francis was confirmed as the new Clerk with effect from 1 October 2017. Her contract of employment was signed and she was welcomed to the Parish Council.

#### 6. **CORRESPONDENCE LOG:** (full list pre-circulated)

The correspondence log was noted.

#### 7. **FINANCES**

7.1. The External Auditor's report for the audit for year ending 31 March 2017 was noted.

##### 7.2. Financial Statement:

The Clerk advised the bank balance as at 6/9/17 was £3,814.95 (confirmed by online banking).

##### 7.3. The meeting authorised the issuing of the following cheques:

Chq. No. 000088, West Quantoxhead Village Hall bookings	£24.00
Chq. No. 000089, Clerk's Salary (July-September 2017)	£349.01
Chq. No. 000090, Clerk's Expenses (May-September 2017)	£31.75

#### 8. **PLANNING**

8.1. Applications: None.

8.2. Decisions: None.

#### 9. **HIGHWAY MATTERS**

The Clerk was requested to write to SCC Highways to ask when they were going to undertake work to the bank in The Avenue.

**10. BUS SHELTER A39 (WILLITON SIDE)**

The work to create a path to/from the bus shelter had now been completed by C J Lynch & Sons (Minehead) and it was resolved to issue Chq. No. 000091 in payment. The Clerk advised she had applied for funding from "A" Station Hinkley (Magnarox) for this project.

**11. GRASS CUTTING – BUS STOP DOWN TOWARDS THE GARAGE**

It was resolved to ask Andrew Godfrey to undertake another cut of the area on the right leading from the bus stop down towards the garage.

**12. FOOTPATHS**

Nothing to report.

**13. FUTURE MEETINGS**

1 November 2017.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Signed: .....  
Chairman

Date: .....