

WEST QUANTOXHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th January 2020 at 7.00 pm at West Quantoxhead Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors G Tizzard (Chairman), R Hughes, P Mote, M Philipson, J Roberts, S Sherry and P Tolley

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs M Francis (Clerk), SCC Davies
1 Parishioner

APOLOGIES: None

19/80 Apologies for Absence

Noted as above.

19/81 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations

Dispensation was granted to all Councillors in respect of setting the precept for 2020/21

19/82 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th November 2019

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes

19/83 Matters from the Minutes – for the purpose of report only

There were none

19/84 REPORTS

19/84.1

Police Report:

- No report had been received.
- The Clerk would request and update regarding mobile speed cameras and ask for a report for the next meeting.

19/84.2

Somerset County Council:

- Climate Energy – Have you Say - leaflet was distributed
- School Improvements were being made at Bridgwater College at a cost of £8m and at Bishops Foxes in Taunton at a cost of £7m.
- Road Closures : 22/1/2020 South Road, Watchet for 1 day between 8.30am and 3.30pm; Taunton Road, Bridgwater 8/1/2020 – 15/1/2020 between 6.30pm and 11.30pm; Castle Street, Taunton – 20/1/202 – 27/1/2020 – no access from Wellington Road, access via Tangiers. A one way system would be in place.
- £200k allocated to support Dementia
- A verbal report was given regarding the recent closure at Cleeve Hill. Cllr Davies would request a weight limit was installed. EDF had confirmed an alternative route suggested by Cllr Davies would be acceptable and used in necessary.

19/84.3

Somerset West and Taunton Council

- No report or apologies had been received from Cllr Morgan
- At the July 2019 and all meetings since, Cllr Hughes asked for an update regarding the recycling centres closing during the days they should be open – it was resolved the Clerk would contact Cllr Morgan again to request an update. It was resolved to copy in the Leader of the Council.
- Cllr Davies advised PALS and Atwest had been successful in their recent grant applications and would each receive £500.00
- The request for a unitary council in Somerset had been reborn – an email had been received earlier in the day.

19/85 Correspondence Log: (full list pre-circulated)

It was **resolved** to note the correspondence log.

Leaflets that had been received were left in the Village Hall for information to visitors.

19/86 Finances

19/86.1 Financial Statement: The Clerk confirmed the bank balance as at £3,556.56.

19/86.2 The Chairman signed the Bank Reconciliation.

19/86.3 The meeting authorised the issuing of the following cheques:

Chq. Nos 000135 Freewheelers – replacement chq for 124 (returned)	£50.00
Chq. Nos 000136 A M Godfrey – Grass Cutting, Invoice 64	£300.00
Chq. Nos 000137 & 000138 Clerks wages & NI contributions	£459.30
Chq. Nos 000139 PCC for Avon and Somerset (Speedwatch signs)	£17.40

19/86.4 Village Hall Precept – It had not yet been confirmed what the new hire charges would be. After a proposal from Cllr Roberts, seconded by Cllr Mote it was unanimously **resolved** to allocate £250.00 in the budget. Cllr Sherry as the Village Hall representative took part in the discussion and voted. Cllrs Hughes and Phillipson, who were on the village hall committee, did not take part and did not vote.

19/86.5 Budget 2020-2021 – a brief discussion took place regarding the budget for the next financial year. An allocation of £200.00 for Councillor training was included, together with an allocation of £100.00 to cover alternations to the website to ensure it was compliant with the Accessibility Regulations.

This gave a total budget of £4,045.00.

The Clerk confirmed the Tax Base Rate was 165.60. After a proposal from Cllr Sherry, seconded by Cllr Roberts, it was unanimously **resolved** to request a precept of £2,700.00 which was the same as the previous year.

19/87 Grass Verge Cutting

It was resolved to include an extra area to be known as 5, being the grass verge opposite the garage along the fence line. The verge next to the footpath was already included. Cuts would remain at once per month. It was resolved to request regular invoices, rather than one invoice at the end of the season. The Clerk would obtain quotations for consideration at the next meeting.

19/88 Planning

19/88.1 Applications for consideration

Application No	Location	Details	Comments
3/38/19/007	Withenfield, Staple Lane, West Quantoxhead, TA4 4DE	Erection of garden cabin	No Objection

19/88.2 Decisions: To note the following decisions.

There were none

19/89 Highway Matters

19/89.1 Replacement of Weacombe Road sign –.

19/89.2 Request for Staple Close and Staple Lane signs to be re-cemented in the ground – The Staple Lane sign had been completed. The Staple Close sign was outstanding – plastic legs had been ordered by District Council and were awaited. It was resolved the Clerk would request an update.

The bins at Staple Cross and by the Bus Stop (Village Hall side) were not fixed and kept blowing away. It was resolved to report this to the District Council.

Salt bags – the Clerk would request they were moved to outside the Village Hall.

19/90

Footpaths

The following problems were reported:

- Permissive Path sign on the Avenue was leaning precariously
- Tree down on the bridle path leading on the hill by Pitt Cottage
- Loose capping stones on the walls along the A39

19/91

Light Pollution

Cllr Philipson advised he had not received a reply from Hinkley Point and that he believed the lights did belong to either Kingspan, the Recycling Centre or the West Somerset Railway depot. Kingspan had already been contacted regarding the lights and had advised they were necessary for the safety of their workforce.

19/92

VE Day 75 – 8th May 2020

It was resolved to remove this item from the agenda

19/93

Future Meetings – to be held at 7pm.

4th March 2020

6th May 2020

1st July 2020

2nd September 2020

4th November 2020

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

Signed:Cllr Tizzard
Chairman

Date: 4th March 2020