

WEST QUANTOXHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd March 2021 at 7.00 pm.

Due to Covid-19 and following government guidelines, the meeting was held via video conferencing

- PRESENT:** Councillors G Tizzard, (Chairman), A Cottrell, P Gibbons, R Hughes, P Mote and S Sherry
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Somerset County Council Cllr H Davies (arrived at 7.35pm after a previous meeting)
Mrs M Francis (Clerk)
1 Parishioner
- APOLOGIES:** Cllr Philipson
Somerset West and Taunton District Council Cllr Morgan;
- 20/76 Apologies for Absence**
Noted as above.
- 20/77 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**
There were none.
- 20/78 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th January 2021**
It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes, which would be signed by the Chairman.
- 20/79 Matters from the Minutes – for the purpose of report only**
There were none.
- 20/80 REPORTS**
- 20/80.1 **Police Report:**
It was noted the police had moved into West Somerset House. A newsletter would be produced bi-monthly and forwarded to members.
- 20/80.2 **Somerset County Council:**
Cllr Davies had given apologies that he would be late due to attending Sampford Brett Parish Council beforehand. It was resolved to return to this item when Cllr Davies was present.
- 20/80.3 **Somerset West and Taunton Council**
The report that had been forwarded by Cllr Morgan was noted, which included the following:
District Council budget 2021/2022 had been agreed.
Holford and Kilve Parish Councils were looking at the 'Quiet Lanes' project which could have an impact on vehicle movement – the Clerk had asked for further information.
Hinkley SSG. Investment was being considered in and around the Bristol area for setting up a centre of excellence in the South West to move this and similar projects forward.
- 20/81 Correspondence Log:** (full list pre-circulated)
- 20/81.1 It was **resolved** to note the correspondence log
- 20/81.2 A letter had been received from Stogursey Parish Council requesting support in bid to equal S106 and CIL payment criteria. It was agreed to send a letter of support.
- 20/82 Finances**
- 20/82.1 **Financial Statement:** Current Account balance as at 3rd March 2021 was £3,225.56.
- 20/82.2 The Chairman would sign the Bank Reconciliation.
- 20/82.3 **The meeting authorised the issuing of the following cheques:**
- | | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Chq. Nos 000159 Clerk Salary | £367.50 |
| Chq. Nos 000160 HMRC | £91.80 |

20/83 Planning

20/83.1 Applications for consideration

There were none.

20/83.2 Decisions: To note the following decisions of Somerset West and Taunton Council.

Application No	Location	SWT Decision
3/38/20/012	St Etheldredas Church, Church Road, West Quantoxhed, TA4 4DS	Awaiting Decision
3/38/20/013	St Audries Bay Holiday Club, West Quantoxhead, TA4 4DY	Awaiting Decision

20/84 Highway Matters

20/84.1 Replacement of Weacombe Road sign – Highways had confirmed the road sign had been replaced in February 2020, but had since been damaged and removed. Highways confirmed they would order a replacement. It was suggested that the sign is moved away from the corner to try and stop the problem of cars crashing into it; the clerk would forward this request.

20/84.2 Painting of Finger Posts – Cllr Mote reported the posts at The Avenue and Staple Cross were in a fair condition, however, the Staple Cross post would benefit from a wash due to stickers that had been placed on it. Cllr Philipson had agreed to remove the ivy from the Weacombe Sign.

20/84.3 Request to reduce the speed limit to 20mph on The Avenue, Weacombe Road and Staple Lane - A breakdown of costs had been received and forwarded to members. It was agreed to ask Highways why this cost would lie with the Parish Council when parishioners pay for council tax, it was felt this should be provided by SCC.

20/84.4 Parishioners request for a 30mph speed limit along St Audries to Doniford Road due to poor visibility and unsafe conditions. Despite chasing several times, no response had been received from Highways. The clerk would continue to request an update.

20/85 Grit Bins

20/85.1 The Avenue – Cllr Hughes advised rather than being filled, the salt had been broken up and was useable.

20/85.2 Hill Lane – The order for a 100 litre bin had been placed; however, the company would not deliver to site. The clerk would be taking delivery and Cllr Philipson would arrange for it to be placed in situ.

20/86 Footpaths

Confirmation had been received that the footpath along the A39 from the Windmill to the old Rectory had been cleared.

(Cllr Davies joined the meeting)

20/87 Grass Verge Cutting

It was resolved to accept the quotation from A Godfrey for the grass cutting for the coming season.

20/88 Dog Fouling

An article would be resubmitted to the Staple Diet as problems were still occurring.

20/89 Annual Parish Assembly

It was agreed to hold this on the 28th April 2021, at 7.30pm via zoom. Chief Inspector Lisa Simpson would be invited to attend and give a report on policing. This would be advertised in the Staple Diet.

20/90

Future Meetings – to be held at 7pm via zoom until further notice.

Annual Parish Assembly – 28th April 2021

5th May 2021

7th July 2021

1st September 2021

3rd November 2021

Due to time restraints on zoom, a new link was sent to all participants to start a new 40-minute free Zoom meeting for the remaining items on the agenda. All re-joined the meeting.

20/80.2

Somerset County Council:

Cllr Davies highlighted the press releases that had been forwarded, which had included:

- Somerset Domestic Homicide Review Publication of Case 022.
- “Wish Jars” SCC had put together an action-packed list of things to do with your children from home - the aim, to keep children occupied and having fun during the holidays.
- Fast – Track Programme offers rewarding careers in Child and Family Social Work for talented graduates.
- £400k boost for Citizen Advice service.
- Volunteer from home and help to shape services across Somerset.
- Now is the time for one Somerset - one big opportunity to improve public services for all; The government had began a public consultation into changing the way local councils work in Somerset. It gives everyone the chance to have their say on setting up a unitary council approach. Scrapping all five councils in the county and creating a new and better way of working. Due to the public consultation the Government has now postponed the elections on 6th May for SCC until next year. (this means you will have to put up with me for at least another Year!!)

There are two submission,

1; From the County Council, One Somerset to abolished all five councils and replace with a single unitary authority.

2; From the four district councils, ‘Stronger Somerset’. To replace all five and form two unitary authorities. Which would see Somerset West & Taunton join with Sedgemoor and South Somerset join with Mendip.

The consultation info is available

visit <https://consult.communities.gov.uk/governance-reform-and-democracy/somerset> or email your views to unitary consultation@communities.gov.uk by 19th April.

- Temporary Road Closure Minehead to Williton Road and Main Road. The order becomes effective on 26th March 2021 and will remain in force for 18 months. These phased works are expected to commence from 1st April 2021 to enable SCC Highways to carry out prep and resurfacing works.

The meeting closed at 8.14 pm.

Signed: Chairman

Date: