

WEST QUANTOXHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th January 2021 at 7.00 pm.

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

PRESENT: Councillors R Hughes (Vice-Chairman) A Cottrell, P Gibbons, P Mote, M Philipson, S Sherry and G Tizzard (joined at 7.45pm due to technical difficulties)

IN ATTENDANCE: Somerset County Council Cllr H Davies;
Somerset West and Taunton District Council Cllr Morgan;
Mrs M Francis (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Cllr Tizzard for being unable to log into the zoom meeting
PCSO Marks

20/60 Apologies for Absence
Noted as above.

20/61 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations
The following declarations were made; all members remained and took part:
Item 20/67.4 and 20/68 - Cllr Sherry – Personal – stands on village hall committee
Item 20/67.4 and 20/68 - Cllr Cottrell – Personal – stands on village hall committee
Item 20/67.4 and 20/68 - Cllr Philipson – Personal – stands on village hall committee
Item 20/69.1 - Cllr Hughes – Personal - treasurer to the Parochial Church

20/62 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th November 2020
It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes, which would be signed by the Chairman.

20/63 Co-option of Councillor
An application had been received from Mrs Penny Gibbons. After a proposal from Cllr Sherry, seconded by Cllr Philipson, it was unanimously **resolved** to accept Mrs Gibbons application. It was **resolved** the Declaration of Office would be signed before the next meeting. As Cllr Gibbons was present, she was able to take part in the remainder of the meeting.

20/64 Matters from the Minutes – for the purpose of report only
Temporary road closure, St Audries to Doniford – change of date to 9th February 2021.
It was noted the Church had declined the offer of a tree, due to lack of space.

20/65 REPORTS

20/65.1 Police Report:
It was resolved to note the report that had been forwarded from PCSO Marks.

20/65.2 Somerset County Council:
Cllr Davies covered the press releases that had been forwarded:
Vital work against erosion on A358 near Combe Florey, repair the verges near “Yard Farm” in January 2021. Temporary lights were in place.
Councillor champions “Dry January” Cllr Paul, SCC Cabinet Member with responsibility for Health & Wellbeing will be doing her best to abstain from alcohol in January – and sharing her experiences on social media.
No further update on the Unitary two business cases, but a letter was sent the Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government thanking all who work in local government. A copy had been forwarded.
Access to information and advice - public survey had been launched, running from 10th December 2020 until February 2021.
Delay in decision of Emergency Community Funding re Press Release.
HPC Community Bus – Service suspended due to lockdown #3 until further notice.

20/65.3

Somerset West and Taunton Council

Cllr Morgan asked Cllr Davies if the Slinky Bus was still operating, Cllr Davies would investigate and confirm.

Cllr Morgan reported it had been quiet. SWT Council were in the process of changing the computer services to Microsoft 365, so please be aware that problems may occur when trying to correspond with officers and members.

20/66

Correspondence Log: (full list pre-circulated)

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

20/66.1

Somerset Action in Village for the Environment and Climate (SAVE) – no comment

20/66.2

Concern had been raised by a parishioner regarding the recent power cuts in the village. Cllr Mote advised this had been due to a crack underground, that had since been found and repaired. Cllr Hughes asked for confirmation that the infrastructure would be able to manage if and when all cars were electric. The Clerk would ask for confirmation.

20/67

Finances

20/67.1

Financial Statement: Current Account balance would be reported to members.

20/67.2

The Chairman would sign the Bank Reconciliation.

20/67.3

The meeting authorised the issuing of the following cheques:

Chq. Nos 000155 A M Godfrey – Grass cutting – Inv. 3 and 42	£60.00
Chq. Nos 000156 SALC Councillor Training – Inv. 20481	£150.00
Chq. Nos 000157 Clerk Salary	£367.50
Chq. Nos 000158 HMRC	£91.80

20/67.4

Village Hall Precept – Members of the village hall committee who were present confirmed the precept would not be required in the current financial climate due to grants that had been received.

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. Cllr Tizzard joined the meeting, Cllr Hughes continued to chair the meeting.

20/68

Budget & Precept 2021-2022

After a discussion, it was resolved to remove the Village Hall grant, election costs and neighbourhood watch, from the 2021-2022 budget, therefore reducing the budget by £450.00. It was noted the tax base had reduced to 161.85. After a proposal from Cllr Philipson, seconded by Cllr Sherry, it was unanimously **resolved** to request a precept of £2,600.00, meaning an increase of 6.75% equating to £16.06 per property.

20/69

Planning

20/69.1

Applications for consideration

Application No	Location	Details	Comments
3/38/20/012	St Etheldredas Church, West Quantoxhead	Change of use of field to graveyard	No objection
Proposed Cllr Sherry, seconded Cllr Philipson			
3/38/20/013	St Audries Bay Holiday Club, West Quantoxhead	Change of use of managers dwelling to private residence	No objection but request clarification regarding the Planning, Design and Access Statement, which states under item 3.2: "This planning application has been submitted in conjunction with another application. The Parish Council have not been informed of another application and this is what they request clarification upon.

20/69.2 **Decisions:** To note the following decisions of Somerset West and Taunton Council.

Application No	Location	SWT Decision
3/38/20/010	Staple Farm, Weacombe Road, TA4 4EA	Grant
3/38/20/011	1 Stowey Lodge, Track to St Audries Bay Holiday Camp, TA4 4	Grant

20/70 Highway Matters

- 20/70.1 Replacement of Weacombe Road sign – Cllr Mote had taken photographs which had been sent to Highways. It was resolved to forward copies to Cllr Davies who would also contact Highways for an update.
- 20/70.2 Painting of Finger Posts – Cllr Mote reported the posts at Luckes Lane and Weacombe had some flaking paint, but overall were acceptable; however, ivy would need to be removed from the Weacombe sign. The posts at the Avenue and Staple Cross would be reported at the next meeting.
- 20/70.3 No further response had been received regarding the breakdown of costs that had been requested for a 20mph limit to be installed on Staple Lane, The Avenue and Weacombe Road. The clerk would ask Highways again for an update.
- 20/70.4 A request had been received from several residents for a 30mph speed limit along St Audries to Doniford Road due to poor visibility and unsafe conditions. It was noted this had been previously requested from the Parish Council and Highways had declined, however, it was resolved to write again asking for the speed limit to be installed.

20/71 Grit Bins

- 20/71.1 The Avenue – despite the request, the grit bin had not yet been filled, the Clerk would chase again.
- 20/71.2 Hill Lane – It was unanimously resolved to purchase a 100-litre grit bin with no hasp Cllr Philipson agreed to meet the delivery on site – the Clerk would arrange and liaise when this would take place.
It was noted there was a grit bin at Staple Cross, this was reported as being in good condition.

20/72 Footpaths

It was reported the footpath along the A39 from the Windmill to the old Rectory was blocked and flooded. Cllr Hughes advised this was part of the coast path. The Clerk would report to SCC and request that it was cleared.

20/73 Grass Verge Cutting

Members confirmed they were happy with the current areas being cut and the frequency. It was noted that the verge by Bracken Edge was not Parish Council land, a discussion took place regarding its ownership, but ownership was not confirmed. It was agreed to continue cutting this area. The Clerk would obtain quotations for the grass cutting, based on last year's schedule.

20/74 Dog Fouling

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

20/75 Future Meetings – to be held at 7pm via zoom until further notice.

3rd March 2021, 5th May 2021, 7th July 2021, 1st September 2021, 3rd November 2021

The meeting closed at 8.14 pm.

Signed: Cllr Tizzard (Chairman) Date: 3rd March 2021