

WEST QUANTOXHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 3rd November 2021 at 7.30 pm in West Quantoxhead Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors P Mote (Chairman), R Hughes, S Sherry, A Cottrell and M Philipson

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

21/46 Apologies for Absence
Cllr P Gibbons. SWT Cllr Morgan

21/47 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations
There were none

21/48 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st September 2021
It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes.

21/49 Matters from the Minutes – for the purpose of report only - None

21/50 REPORTS
21/50.1 Police Report:
A newsletter had been received and forwarded.

21/50.2 Somerset County Council:
Recent press releases had been forwarded, which included:

- Making our streets safer for women and girls. Funding to help tackle violence against women and girls had been awarded to North Somerset Council and Somerset County council. The neighbouring councils had made a successful joint bid to the Home Office Safer Streets fund for £324.449. The plan sets out a two- tiered approach involving:
PREVENT- to change behaviour and stop incidents occurring such as VAWG education and awareness in schools, communications campaigns, research and engagement within communities.
PROTECT to strengthen the response where these incidents are prevalent, such as a safe haven scheme and enhancing the CCTV camera network and street lighting.
- Multi-million-pound transport schemes in Somerset net Government funding. Major improvements to the A38 northern corridor into Bridgwater are a step closer today after Government approved a £10 million funding bid. Money from the Treasury's Levelling Up fund will help pay for more than £3.4 million worth of cycling and walking infrastructure along the entire corridor as well as a remodelled Dunball junction and significant improvements to the Cannon/Cross Rifles junction. Also, in the same announcement £5 million was approved from a separate fund to open a train station in Wellington.
- Green light for green initiatives to slash County Council's carbon footprint. SCC successfully bid £4.1m from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme. The fund will enable decarbonisation projects across a number of Council owned buildings, including Taunton, Yeovil, Frome Libraries and Glastonbury Hub, Milford Infants, Chilthorne Domer Schools and County Hall in Taunton.
- New Traffic Signals installed in Taunton, Rowbarton area, covering Greenway Road, Kingston Road, and St Anews Road an 40 years update.
- Government advisers learn of significant developments in Children's Services (SEND) Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Services.
- The road works on A39 Carhampton had reopened ahead of schedule.
- Awaiting update later this week (Friday 5th November) on news of our Local Government Reorganisation.

21/50.3 **Somerset West and Taunton Council**

The following report had been received:

- Discussions are to take place early next year regarding the decommissioning of Hinkley "B" station. (All AGR's will be included). This will be the first time that an AGR will have been de-commissioned so whole new strategies will have to be looked at. As far as is known at this stage is that EDF will take responsibility for de-fuelling, this should take between 3.5 to 5 years. The station will then be handed over to Magnox who will complete the work.
- Recycle More.
This initiative is based upon the fact that people are recycling more of their rubbish. Because of this, Taunton, Wellington and Wiveliscombe were chosen as areas where a three weekly collection of "rubbish" could be trialled. Recyclables would still be collected weekly. The starting date for this project was Monday 1st November. Residents were told that there would be an extra collection of rubbish on the Saturday before, this would mean that everyone would start with a clean slate. Unfortunately 4thousand residents were missed and will now have to wait a month before their next refuse collection.

21/51 **Correspondence Log:** (full list pre-circulated)

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

- 21/51.1 Parish Conference – New Unitary Council - the Clerk gave a verbal report regarding attendance at a recent conference. No decisions to note.
- 21/51.2 Future Parish Elections – response from SALC survey – the preference to hold elections in 2022 had been the majority vote from Town and Parish Councils in Somerset.
- 21/51.3 Report of weed problems in Bracken Edge – Clerk would advise Highways. The suggestions of a WhatsApp group was considered, but due to increase of work, would not be adopted. Notices would remain on the noticeboard and the website. Consideration would be given for a new noticeboard.
- 21/51.4 SWT advised they were re-instigating a standalone Standards Committee
- 21/51.5 SWT council were offering free trees – this was considered and due to lack of planting positions Members decided the offer would not be taken up.
- 21/51.6 Parish Precept forms had been received

21/52 **Finances**

21/52.1 Financial Statement:

The Clerk advised the bank balance as at 3rd November 2021 was £3,917.77.

21/52.2 The meeting authorised the issuing of the following cheques:

Chq. Nos 000170	A M Godfrey	£30.00
Chq. Nos 000171	Clerks salary	£367.50
Chq. Nos 000172	HM Revenue and Customs	£91.80

21/53 **Planning**

- 21/53.1 There were no applications for consideration

21/53.2 **Decisions: To note the following decisions of Somerset West and Taunton Council**

Application No	Location	SWT Decision
3/38/21/006	Westgate, West Quantoxhead	Granted
3/38/21/007	Leighway, Weacombe Road, West Quantoxhead	Granted

21/54 **Highway Matters**

- 21/54.1 A replacement of Weacombe Road sign had been installed at the junction of the A358 another was on order for the Luckes Lane junction. It was resolved to remove this item from the agenda and for the Clerk to update when an update had been received from Highways
- 21/54.2 Village Entry Sign – Highways would be chased again.
- 21/54.3 Damage to Staple Lane road sign – the damage had not yet been rectified, Highways would be chased again.

- 21/55** **Grit Bins**
 21/55.1 Cllr Philipson volunteered to clear overgrowth from the bin on Weacombe Road. The bin was expected in due course for Hill Lane.
- 21/56** **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee**
 21/56.1 Cllr Cottrell gave a verbal update on the recent meeting. Planning was for the beacon to be lit on the Thursday, permission was awaited, with a lunch on Sunday afternoon. The next meeting was being held on Wednesday 8th December 2021.
 21/56.2 Confirmation had been received that the Parish Council insurance would cover the Lighting of the Beacon, if a risk assessment was completed. A template had been received from the insurers.
 21/56.3 It was resolved the Parish Council would run the financing of Jubilee celebrations, to enable VAT aspect to be reclaimed, if applicable.
- 21/57** **Future Meetings** – to be held in the Village Hall, at 7.30pm
 It was resolved to move the date of the January meeting to Wednesday 12th.
 12th January 2022, 2nd March 2022

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

Signed:Cllr P Mote (Chairman)

Date: 12th January 2022