

WEST QUANTOXHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th November 2023 at 7.30 pm.
in West Quantoxhead Village Hall

Attendees:

Councillors	P Mote (Chairman), P Gibbons, M Phillipson and W Robinson
Somerset Council	None
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	None
Press	None
Clerk	Mrs Michelle Francis
Public	One
Other	None

Apologies:

Councillors	A Cottrell
Somerset Councillor	Davies and Woods
Other	None

It was noted the meeting due to be held on the 1st November 2023 did not take place, as inquorate.

Before the start of the meeting a minutes silence was held for recent passing of Mr Richard Hughes, who had served on the Parish Council since 9th January 2013, until his resignation in August 2023.

23/44 Apologies as noted above and reasons for absence approved

23/45 Declarations of Interest – Item 23/50.4 Cllr Gibbons, personal, informed meeting

23/46 Co-option of Councillor

There had been no applications. An advert would be submitted for the Staple Diet.

23/47 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th September 2023

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting.

23/48 Matters from the Minutes – for the purpose of report only – None reported

23/49 Reports:

23/49.1 Avon and Somerset Constabulary - It was resolved to note the newsletter that had been forwarded.

23/49.2 Somerset Council

Written reports had been received from Cllrs Davies and Woods and forwarded to members.

23/49.3 Local Community Network meeting held on 19th October 2023

Cllr Mote had attended the meeting and expressed disappointment of the meeting, in particular no powers and the limited budget. It was felt this was a re-run on the previous meeting, with no decisions or actions. The voting needed controlling, ensuring those entitled to vote were counted. The next meeting was being held on the 5th December at West Somerset House.

23/50 Correspondence

23/50.1 It was **resolved** to note the contents of the correspondence log

23/50.2 Winter 2023/2024 – an email had been received advising the grit bin, Staple Lane, required replacement due to poor state – resolved this would be checked by Cllr Mote. It was noted the bin at Rydon was damaged.

23/50.3 A request had been received from Williton Allotments for support to aid funding applications – as this covered surrounding areas and no request for financial support, it was **resolved** a letter of support would be sent.

23/50.4 Pre-planning application consultation regarding phone mast replacement at Rydon Farm, TA4 4DW. Members had no concern as this would improve signal and communication, which would benefit the community and it was out of sight.

23/50.5 Community letter regarding ongoing murder enquiry in Minehead
A letter had been received from the leader of Somerset Council regarding budget cuts. Concern was expressed regarding loss of services and the expectation of parishes to take on the financial burden, which it was felt, the Council could not.

23/51 Finances

23/51.1 Financial Statement:
The Clerk advised the bank balance was £4,143.89

23/51.4 Budget Considerations 2024/2025 – The draft budget was discussed, to be finalised at the January 2024 meeting, as still awaiting the Tax Base. Quotations for grass cutting would be sought, Watchet Town Council would be approached to enquire if they would be interested in tendering, using their in house grounds maintenance team.

23/51.3 The meeting authorised the issuing of the following cheques:
Proposed Cllr Gibbons, seconded Cllr Philipson

Date	Details	Chq Nos	Invoice Nos	Amount	VAT
15/11/23	Edward Martin Computer Services Domain Renewal	207	226477	18.00	3.00
15/11/23	SALC Annual Subscription	208	2543	97.62	0.00
15/11/23	Clerk Wages – October – December	209	Oct-Dec	367.50	0.00
15/11/23	HMRC Revenue & Customs Tax & NI	210	3	91.80	0.00
15/11/23	A M Godfrey Grass Cutting	211	14	33.00	0.00
15/11/23	A M Godfrey Grass Cutting	212	91	33.00	0.00

23/52 Planning

23/52.1 The following application was considered:

Application No	Location	Details	Comment
3/38/23/002	8 Staple Close, West Quantoxhead, Williton, Taunton, TA4 4DF	Demolition of single storey rear utility area and erection of larger, replacement single storey flat roof extension, first floor extension over garage and construction of an extended and upgraded rear terraced area	No Objection

23/52.2 Decisions: To note the following decisions of Somerset Council
There were no new decisions to note

23/53 Highway Matters

23/53.1 Village Entry Sign – It was reported the sign had been replaced, the day before this meeting.

23/53.2 Trees along main A39 – still awaiting an update from Highways after inspection – reference 616185

23/53.3 Corner of Luckes Lane – still awaiting an update regarding the request for white line re-painting

23/54 Village Defibrillator

A discussion took place on possible siting of a defibrillator. It was suggested either at the Windmill Inn, in the carpark, or Staple Farm or the Garage. Each location would be considered for further discussion at the January meeting.

23/55 FUTURE MEETINGS 2023/2024

10th January 2024, 6th March 2024 Meeting closed at 8.46 pm

Signed as a true and correct record Cllr Mote Date 10th January 2024 ...