

# WEST QUANTOXHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting  
held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.30 pm in West Quantoxhead Village Hall

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## Attendees:

<b>WQPC Councillors:</b>	P Mote (Chairman), A Cottrell, P Gibbons, M Philipson, W Robinson and S Sherry
<b>Somerset Council:</b>	None
<b>Avon and Somerset Constabulary:</b>	None
<b>Clerk:</b>	Mrs Michelle Francis
<b>Public:</b>	Two members

## Apologies:

**Councillors:**  
**Somerset Councillors: Davies and Woods**  
**Other:**

- 23/59 Apologies for absence as noted above and reason for absence approved**
- 23/60 Declarations of Interest**  
Item 23/69 Cllr Philipson, personal, informed meeting
- 23/61 Co-option of Councillor**  
There had been no applications
- 23/62 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023**  
It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting  
Proposed Cllr Sherry, seconded Cllr Philipson
- 23/63 Approval of the Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023**  
It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting  
Proposed Cllr Sherry, seconded Cllr Philipson
- 23/64 Matters from the Minutes** – for the purpose of report only – None reported
- 23/65 Reports**
- 23/65.1 Avon and Somerset Constabulary  
It was **resolved** to note the newsletter that had been forwarded
- 23/65.2 Somerset Council – Written reports had been received from Cllrs Davies and Woods and forwarded to members.  
It was noted that household items could be taken to the recycling centres, free of charge, however, some were under threat of closure. Positive Aims could be supported through the lottery tickets.
- 23/65.3 Local Community Network meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
Concern was raised again about the purpose of the meetings and members felt they could not see a future for them and a discussion should be held to abandon them, due to their cost. It was resolved to write a letter explaining members feelings and copy to all Parish and Town Councils, requesting support from Cllrs Davies and Woods. If they continue, there is a requirement for purpose and structure; each Parish and Town Council should be asked for three points for the agenda, 2 weeks prior to each meeting.

**23/66 Correspondence**

23/66.1 It was resolved to note the contents of the correspondence log.

23/66.2 Grit Bins – It was reported that Somerset Highways had informed the Parish Council of the wrong grit bin; the amended request was to remove the old bin from Hill Lane and replace the bin at Weacombe Road, which had a damaged lid. The cost of a replacement was advised, however, Cllrs Mote and Robinson offered to repair the existing bin and would remove the old one on Hill Lane.

**23/67 Finances****23/67.1 Financial Statement**

The Clerk advised the bank balance as of 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 was £4,059.89

23/67.2 Bank Reconciliation – the Chairman signed the reconciliation

23/67.3 Budget Considerations 2024/2025. Due to updated SCP, the final budget was set at £4,212.20. It was noted the tax base had reduced from 168.81 to 168.46. Members were presented with varying options to include a provision for election costs. After a discussion, it was resolved to request a precept of £4,375.00 which equated to a 40% increase, meaning the cost for a band D property rising from £18.51 to £25.97. Proposed by Cllr Sherry, seconded by Cllr Robinson and unanimously resolved.

Cllr Gibbons volunteered to write a report for the Staple Diet, explaining the increase, confirming Councillors do not receive anything financially for being a Parish Councillor.

23/67.4 Authorisation of expenditure: It was resolved to pay the Clerks wages and HMRC

**23/68 Planning**

23/68.1 The following application was considered:

<b>Application No</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Comments</b>
3/39/24/001	Wibble Farm Nurseries, Williton, Taunton, TA4 4DD	Development of existing light industrial buildings and structures to facilitate the needs of Styles ice cream business activities including: processing; storage; renewable energy generation, offices and display / presentation space	No objection

23/68.2 Decisions: The following decisions of Somerset Council were noted

<b>Application No</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>SWT Decision</b>
3/38/23/002	8 Staple Close, West Quantoxhead,	Granted
3/38/23/003	Landshire Farm, Track to St Audries Bay Holiday Camp, West Quantoxhead	Awaiting decision

**23/67 Highway Matters**

- 23/67.1 Trees along the main A39 road – a reply was still awaited from Somerset Highways after their inspection, reference 616185. It was resolved to write to St Audries House stating the concerns raised and to request their assistance, as land owners.
- 23/67.2 Corner of Luckes Lane – Cllr Philipson had reported another accident on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2023, which had been forwarded to Somerset Highways requesting the white lines were repainted as a matter of urgency. No reply received to date.

**23/68 Village Defibrillator**

Staple Farm had kindly agreed to have the defibrillator installed on the wall at the farm, which would provide easy, central access for the village. It was noted it would require regular checking and reporting. It was agreed a locked cabinet would be preferred.

**23/69 Removal of the Post Box on The Avenue and possible re-location**

It was reported the post box had been removed on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023 without notification and a petition was currently being gathered by parishioners. Members agreed this was a great loss as it was very well used. It was agreed to write to request it was re-instated as soon as possible in a central location on a pole within the previous vicinity or possibly at Bracken Edge.

**23/70 Parish Assembly**

It was resolved to set the date for the Parish Assembly for 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024. Atwest would be invited to give a presentation

**23/71 FUTURE MEETINGS 2024 -**

6<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024, 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024, 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Item for next meeting: Bus Shelter

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Signed ..... Cllr P Mote .....

Dated ..... 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024 .....