



West Monkton Parish Council

ADOPTED

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 28th March 2023 at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs Besley, Cavill, Ellis, Gage, Hall, Haskins and Hope.

In attendance: Mrs A Shepherd, Clerk and Mrs K Welsh Assistant Clerk Community and three member of the public

411/22 To receive any apologies (with reasons), introductions with responsibilities

Apologies were received from Cllrs Elliston, Cavill and Tully.

412/22 To note

- a) Declarations of Interest: No change.
- b) Dispensation Requests: None
- c) Amendments to the Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest: None had been notified to the Clerk.

413/22 To adopt the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 14th March 2023

The minutes from the Meeting of the Parish Council on 14th March 2023, having been previously circulated, were taken as read. It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 14th March, proposed by Cllr Hall, seconded by Cllr Hope and agreed by show of hands.

414/22 Chairman's Parish Asset Report

Cllr Haskins reported on the following:

- Flooding in Greenway, outside Bewley, Goosenford where the stream has washed away the side of the road and in Dyers Lane – full report / map with all the places where there are severe flooding problems in the Parish to be developed
- Aginhills bird mouth fencing is damaged. Clerk to report.

Cllr Besley reported that on Monkton Heathfield Road opposite the Garden Centre there is mud on road from hedging; road sweepers needed. Clerk to report.

Public Question Time

Two members of the public from the Pavilion Gardens estate reported that a Zoom call had taken place today with the Management Agents – Blenheim's to discuss the increase in management charges which are now in excess of £400 per year. The members of the public expressed frustration about the hold up with the POS being completed and adopted and handed over to the Parish Council. It was noted that once this happens, due to economy of scale the cost per annum for homes in Pavilion Gardens may reduce. The situation and current state of play in relation to negotiations was outlined. The members of the public requested further, detailed information about the negotiations.

Clerk to share further information about the negotiations which isn't confidential / commercially sensitive. Clerk to obtain a copy of the Maintenance Schedule for the Pavilion Gardens POS and share.

Clerk to continue to chase progress with solicitor and to escalate if responses aren't received by the end of the week.

Cllr Gage reported the condition of the footpath between Farriers Green and School Road. Footpath floods in four key places. Part owned by SCC and SWT.

Clerk to report issue to Somerset Council.

415/22 Planning

a) To consider any planning applications (listed on SW+T Council website)

48/23/0011 Erection of a single storey extension to the rear of 34 Mead Way, Monkton Heathfield
The Parish Council supports the granting of permission.

48/21/0008 Erection of 1 No. detached dwelling with detached garage and associated works at the walled gardens at Nigella, Church Hill, West Monkton – Amendment to application to include the installation of solar panels on South Elevation.
The Parish Council continues to object to the granting of permission. The solar panels do not alter the comments that the Parish Council previously submitted in respect of the application in March 2021 and November 2021.

b) To note that Planning decisions made are available on SW+T Council website filed under the application number

Noted

48/21/0073 Application for outline planning with all matters reserved, except for access, for the demolition of employment buildings and erection of 28 No. dwellings with associated parking, cycle storage, refuse storage and private/communal amenity space at AMP Access, 156 Bridgwater Road, Monkton Heathfield (resubmission of 48/21/0033) – Withdrawn

48/22/0023 Demolition of stable building and erection of 1 No. dwelling with associated works and change of use of land from agricultural to domestic at Sidbrook Coach House, Sidbrook, West Monkton - Withdrawn

416/22 MH Developments

a) MH2 Update;

Clerk confirmed that the next MH2 Teams meeting is scheduled to take place on Friday 14th April at 9am

Clerk confirmed that she is continuing to chase a copy of the slides showing the amended proposed masterplan for MH2.

Noted that the SWT Planning Committee are considering application again on 30th March. The Planning Officer is recommending a further deferment for 6 months.

b) MH1 Update; POS / Sports Pitch transfer, Attenuation Ponds

Clerk confirmed that the Attenuation Ponds meeting with Wessex Water is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 29th March at 2pm.

Clerk confirmed that the PCs solicitor is still awaiting a response from Persimmon / Redrow which is expected this week. Clerk to chase progress on Monday and escalate if the PCs solicitors have not received a response from Persimmon / Redrow.

c) Hartnells Farm Development Update

Nothing to report. It was noted that the play areas haven't been installed on the development. Clerk to chase.

417/22 Highways Update

a) Update

Clerk confirmed that a meeting is scheduled to take place with Andy Coupe from SCC on Wednesday 29th March at 4pm. Clerk outlined that items to be discussed including the Yallands Hill Crossing, MH2 proposals and bus gate. Clerk to add the footpath between the Canal and the New Mill and whether a fence needs to be added.

b) Village Sign Review

Clerk suggested that a review of the signage in the Parish is undertaken. This follows a request received from a member of the public and also follows the Community Governance Review to form Taunton Town Council which has now concluded and has resulted in a couple of the parish boundaries changing.

Clerk to develop a proposal, incorporating the views of the member of the public.

418/22 Country Park Update

Cllr Hall outlined a quote received from West Country Fencing for fencing at the Country Park. It was proposed by Cllr Gage, seconded by Cllr Ellis and agreed with all in favour to accept the quotation. Cheddon Fitzpaine PC have agreed to cover half the cost of the fencing.

Cllr Besley confirmed that a working party would be established to install the fencing. Some concrete, crushed stone and machinery may also be required to install the fencing.

Cllr Hall reported that the new mower works well.

Cllr Hall also reported that the proposed dry stone walling for the top of the pond has been looked at in more detail and it looks as though it isn't going to be the right solution for the site and stone gabions would be more appropriate. Cllr Hall liaising with Quantock Hills AONB to see if funding can still be received as a dry stone wall will not be built now. Cllr Hall also confirmed that the parking area is being redesigned to make it bigger.

419/22 Monkton Inn Play Equipment; update and to accept quote

Clerk shared a plan and pictures of the proposed play equipment at Monkton Inn following the discussion of the quotations at the last meeting.

Subject to permission from the landowner being obtained, the quote was accepted. Proposed by Cllr Besley, seconded by Cllr Hall and agreed with all in favour.

420/22 Spital Boundary Update

Clerk reported that the Spital Trust have indicated their agreement to a bench and hedging being placed at the location of the old bus shelter on Monkton Heathfield Road.

Clerk shared a plan / proposal for a commemorative coronation bench and hedging with red, white and blue blossom. Councillors were supportive of the proposal and also agreed to continue to pay the Spital Trust £10.00 per year rent for the area.

Clerk to send the proposal to the Spital Trust for approval with a view to getting costings for approval at the next PC meeting.

421/22 Community

a) Update;

Assistant Clerk Community reported on the following community initiatives:

- The Community Fridge is ticking along nicely, some volunteers have indicated that they are not able to volunteer during the summer months. Cover arrangements are being explored.
- Community Café – ITV came along on 15th March, the broadcast was really good and showcased the work of the Parish Council and volunteers well.
- Annual Parish Meeting took place on 21st March, it was a really successful meeting attended by more than 60 people.

b) Litter Picking; new equipment

Assistant Clerk Community reported that a lot of people are coming forward offering to be volunteer litter pickers and that more equipment was needed. It was agreed to purchase 32 more pickers. (4 packs of 8 priced at £20.99 each) from Amazon.

A volunteer litter picker was present at the meeting and outlined a proposal to put some signs up around the Parish to discourage dog mess and litter being left. Assistant Clerk Community to develop some sign designs for approval by the PC at the next meeting.

It was agreed that a big village clean up event would be planned for the weekend of 29th and 30th April – the weekend before the Coronation. Assistant Clerk Community to liaise with Bethan Turner about publicity for the event.

c) Community Events update

Cllr Haskins outlined a quote for two generators received from Western Bolt who have confirmed that they will supply the generators at cost price. It was proposed by Cllr Hall, seconded by Cllr Gage and agreed with all in favour to accept the quote and place the order.

Assistant Clerk Community reported that the Parish Council was unsuccessful in its application for Lottery Funding for the Coronation. Alternative grants are being considered and applied for. The costings for the event were looked at. It was agreed to use social media and banners for advertising the Party in the Park which will reduce costs.

Item to be included on all PC meeting agendas until the Coronation to provide regular updates.

d) Coronation commemoration project ideas

Covered in item 420/22 Spital Boundary update above.

e) Community Garden update

Assistant Clerk Community reported that there has been an increase in the number of people volunteering for the Community Garden, the volunteers include people who would like an allotment.

Cllr Gage reported that the carpet in the entrance lobby of the BACH is getting a bit dirty.

f) Community Transport update; results of Transport Survey

Assistant Clerk Community shared slides summarising the results of the recent Transport Survey

422/22 Other matters for report only – items for discussion - no decision

a) Items for next meeting agenda - by Friday 31st March or Monday 17th April 2023

Noted

Cllr Hall outlined the costings and layouts that have been development for the Sports Pitches. The layout has been approved by all relevant bodies in advance of any planning application.

The total indicative costs for delivery of the sports pitches is £1,014,145.18 including contingencies.

The funding from the S106 agreement will cover approximately 50% of the costs, funding needs to be found for the rest of the costs.

Cllr Ellis asked if the BACH could be used by the Guides one afternoon / evening to see if local people can be encouraged to become leaders. This was agreed. Cllr Ellis to make contact with Maggie about the availability of the BACH.

Cllr Hall reported that as Dillington House is closing, he has been liaising with Hestercombe and the Heritage Craft Association. As a result seven crafts will move from Dillington to Hestercombe.

Cllr Hope reported that the Cherry Trees on Platinum Walk are starting to blossom.

423/22 Dates of forthcoming meetings:

Parish Council:

Second Tuesday in the month (Business focused meeting)

2023: 11th Apr, 9th May, 13th Jun, 11th Jul, 8th Aug, 12th Sep, 10th Oct, 14th Nov, 12th Dec

Fourth Tuesday in the month (Community / project focused meeting)

2023: 25th Apr, 23rd May, 27th Jun, 25th Jul, 26th Sep, 24th Oct, 28th Nov.

Audit Working Party: 21st April 2023 at 9.30am

Annual Parish Meeting: TBC March 2024 at 7pm

BACH committee 25th May 2023 2023 at 7pm

Budget and Precept TBC November 2023

Meeting finished at 9.20pm



Signed Chairman:

Date: 11th April 2023