

BICKNOLLER PARISH COUNCIL – 20 SEPTEMBER 2017

A meeting of the Council was held in the Village Hall Committee Room at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors C Warren (Chairman), M Andersen, J Grellier, R Murphy, M Rawle and Mrs C Skinner.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs C Richards (Clerk), Somerset County Councillor Mrs C Lawrence and District Councillor S Dowding.

PARISH FORUM: None.

REPORTS FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS: Somerset County Councillor Mrs C Lawrence and District Councillor S Dowding reported on current matters of interest.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

An apology for absence was received from Councillor A Harrison.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None.

3. MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 10 MAY 2017 & MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2017 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

None.

5. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

5.1. Environment – Councillor Mrs Skinner reported there had been no reports of fly tipping. The litter bin at the top of Halsway Hill has been replaced. There had been complaints about nettles up Hill Lane. The Village Hall would like a new litter bin by the shop and she asked Councillor Dowding to enquire whether West Somerset Council had any surplus bins which could be used. The Village Hall would also like a dog litter bin by the shop. Woolston Moor: John Payton is going to cut the Alder and weedkill the strawberry patches.

5.2. Police Liaison & Neighbourhood Watch – Councillor Harrison's report had been pre-circulated. He reported that 54 households have now signed up and on our secure database. It has already been used several times to spread the word on suspicious activities seen around the village and to circulate an alert on rogue traders. Feedback received so far has all been positive. We do have to be careful however not to deluge members with excessive amounts of information or to alarm them unnecessarily. We have always relayed reports on suspicious activities to PCSO Bolton but he has now told us that our first line of contact should be direct to 101 or via an on line form, although he would still like to be kept informed personally. It seems that such reports now need to be evaluated by headquarters before the local squad becomes officially involved. I believe that this more centralised approach combined with a significant reduction in full-time police numbers across Avon and Somerset (reported to be from 3,085 in 2010-2011 to 2,483 in 2016 - a loss of 602) makes it more important than ever for the community to

- help manage its own security. I think that Avon and Somerset police are recognising the increasing role residents have to play in this by the formation of the Avon and Somerset Neighbourhood Watch Association, its inaugural meeting and open forum being held on October 7th in Portishead.
- 5.3. Rights of Way – Councillor Murphy reported that a swing would be put in the middle gates at Lady's Edge and most of the work there had been completed. The stile by the railway line is the responsibility of the railway and he did not know if they have undertaken the work. The path between Church Lane and the A358 is still leaning in but it is much easier to get through but this will be rectified in the future. Councillor Andersen reported that at the bottom of Paradise Combe there was a broken latch on the gate. There were also the remains of a fallen tree on the greenway where it meets the bottom of Paradise Combe and this was the responsibility of the new owner of Paradise Farm. It was agreed to inspect the area in a couple of months' time.
- 5.4. Roads – Councillor Andersen reported the finger post is now back on the A358. A finger had snapped off the post at the top of Halsway Hill. A resident of Quantock Moor was concerned about the road leading up to his private lane and this had now been inspected by the Highways Inspector.
- 5.5. Community Resilience & Bicknoller Volunteer Group – Councillor Grellier had undertaken work to the Emergency Plan, which was now out to consultation until 6 October 2017. The Volunteer Group have been busy clearing drains and still had some more to do. The Group were hoping to map all the drains in the Parish. The Parish Council thanked the Volunteer Group for all their hard work. Councillor Grellier further reported that drains in Honeyrow Lane were blocked with concrete, especially outside Oakfield House. Councillor Andersen agreed to discuss this with SCC Highways. The bus shelter on the A358 Williton side had been damaged but repairs were in hand. It was agreed to pay the invoice from CRS Building Supplies Limited for the purchase of materials in the sum of £8.54 and cheque no. 156 was issued. Following a question about applying another coat of preservative to the bus shelters, it was agreed to leave it for another year. The defibrillator had been installed in the telephone box opposite the Bicknoller Inn. The Clerk was asked to notify BT. Finally, in the Parish Council's application to the Community Resilience in Somerset Partnership (CRISP) it had asked for £200 to fit two defibrillators; this work had been undertaken at no cost and therefore it was agreed that the Parish Council offer to refund CRISP the £200.
- 5.6. Quantock Hills & Farming – Councillor Rawle reported he had received no response from West Somerset Council regarding the quotation for fencing the quarry.

6. PLANNING

- 6.1. Applications:
- 3/01/17/007 – 17 Church Lane, Bicknoller, TA4 4EL: Erection of first floor extension to the rear and loft conversion (No objections).
- 3/01/17/008 – Treetops, Newton Lane, Bicknoller, TA4 4ET: Demolition of bungalow with erection of 1 No. replacement dwelling, detached garage with store and changes to field access (No objections).
- 3/01/17/012 – Oakfields, 3 Honey Row Lane, Bicknoller, TA4 4EE: Erection of single storey extension at first floor level on the north elevation with extension of the existing balcony along the east elevation and loss of balcony on the north elevation, new double door on the ground floor of the east elevation, stainless steel flue on the west elevation and replacement rooflights on the east and west elevations (No objections).

- 6.3. Decisions:
None.

7. FINANCE

7.1. The Budget & Cashflow 2017-2018 was noted.

7.2. Authorisation of expenditure –

The meeting authorised the issuing of the following cheques:

Chq. No. 152, CRS Building Supplies Limited (Invoice No. M55220)	£16.91
Chq. No. 153, Mr K J Grellier, reimbursement of expenses incurred	£26.11
Chq. Nos. 154 & 155, Clerk's Salary & Tax (July-September 2017)	£423.97

8. AUDIT

8.1. The External Auditor's report for the audit for year ending 31 March 2017 had been received and was noted.

8.2. The Clerk advised the Internal Auditor had now left the parish. It was resolved to advertise in Pathways and on noticeboards to see if another parishioner would be interested in undertaking this work in the future.

9. S106 FUNDING

It was noted that monies were available from planning application 3/01/15/009, Rosebourne Developments Ltd towards the provision of and/or enhancement of community recreational provision within the Parish of Bicknoller. The Parish Council requested that the Clerk ask West Somerset Council if the money could be spent on another one of their top 5 priorities as the development of the play area had already been completed.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

A group of parishioners were interested in a Neighbourhood Plan for Bicknoller. After a lengthy debate, it was agreed to hold an open meeting in the future and invite Ann Rhodes, Policy Officer (Planning and Environment), Taunton Deane Borough Council and West Somerset Council, to explain the processes involved and all the various scenarios.

11. ITEMS OF REPORT AND MATTERS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

None.

12. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

8 November 2017 7.00 pm Full Council

The meeting closed at 7.56 pm.

Signed:
Chairman

Date: