

BICKNOLLER PARISH COUNCIL – 11 MARCH 2020

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

PRESENT: Councillors C Warren, J Anderson, S Dowding, A Harrison, M Rawle and Mrs C Skinner.

IN ATTENDANCE: Somerset County Councillor Mrs C Lawrence and Mrs C Richards (Clerk),

PARISH FORUM: None.

REPORTS FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCILLOR: County Councillor Mrs C Lawrence reported on current matters of interest.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillor Kevin Ogilvie-White, District Councillors A Trollope-Bellew and Mike Rigby.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None.

3. MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 3 FEBRUARY 2020 & MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 3 February 2020 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman stated that he felt the lack of correspondence from Somerset West Council and SCC Highways was very poor; these sentiments were shared by other Parish Councillors.

5. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

- 5.1. Environment – Councillor Mrs Skinner – there had been a car crash on the A358 opposite the Chilcombe Lane turning which had left car debris on the verge. Councillor Dowding had reported the incident to the Police, and there is an existing crime number, and to the District Council. An overturned vehicle in Dashwoods Lane had been dealt with by Idverde.
- 5.2. Police Liaison & Neighbourhood Watch – Councillor Harrison – there had been break-ins to sheds and garages in the Roadwater area but nothing in our Parish. A couple of weeks ago one of our residents was seriously verbally abused and threatened by men in a white van. The Police have been given their description and know who they are.
- 5.3. Rights of Way – no report.
- 5.4. Roads – Councillor Anderson – had a meeting with Kevin Bridgwater, SCC Highways, early in January about flood prevention in Chilcombe Lane, which now has multiple potholes some of which are large and deep. He advised me to talk to David Peake about this and Councillor Anderson had emailed him on 1 March 2020 and had not heard anything back. Some of the potholes have now been marked for repair so some action has been taken but no repairs to date. He had also spoken to Kevin Bridgwater regarding the debris on roads after hedge cutting and been referred to the Highways

Act 1949 as a means of dealing with this sort of debris. He reported that Kate Brown, SCC Traffic Engineer, and the Police had identified an existing post on which speed cameras could be placed to record the speed with which A358 traffic passes through the Parish. Once the results of this survey as known, he would report back to the Parish Council.

- 5.5. Community Resilience – no report.
- 5.6. Bicknoller Volunteer Group – the Parish Clerk reported no update available. Councillor S Dowding stated that at least two of the bus shelters need creosoting in the summer. He also mentioned that brambles and trees needed removing from various streams, Hill Lane, A358 by Church Lane bus shelter and Woolston Moor bus shelter. It was a big job but needed doing.
- 5.7. Quantock Hills & Farming– Councillor Rawle – reported that there had been a lot of joy riding on the top of these hills, particularly from Crowcombe to Over Stowey, which had made a real mess. New car parking was going to be built at the top of the hill at Crowcombe Park, starting at the end of the year.

6. **PLANNING** (Stuart Dowding)

- 6.1. Applications:
 - 3/01/20/002: Chapmans Combe Farm, Crowcombe, TA4 4BG: Change of use of redundant stables to holiday let, including extension to south elevation (No Objections).
 - 3/01/20/003: Byways, 19 Church Lane, Bicknoller, TA4 4EL: Erection of 5 (No.) dwellinghouses with access and associated development (Objections).
 - 3/01/20/004: East Purlands, 16A Dashwoods Lane, Bicknoller, TA4 4EQ: Construction of 16.2m x 30m all weather horse exercise and turn out arena (No Objections). Amended Plans submitted 27 February 2020: The proposed arena has moved position within the field. It was resolved to object to the amended plans on the grounds that the Parish Council still consider the drainage and design plans are inadequate and, as far as they can see, no percolation test has taken place. The Parish Council would like to request that the application be deferred pending these plans and test.
- 6.2. Planning application plans from Somerset West & Taunton Council: All Councillors felt that some of the plans recently received were very well below standard.

7. **FINANCE**

- 7.1. Budget & (Final) Actual for 2019-20: noted.
- 7.2. To note Bank Reconciliation
The Bank Reconciliation was undertaken by Councillor Harrison on 24 January 2020 when the current account balance as at 21 January 2020 was £4,732.77.
- 7.3. It was resolved to note the following income had been received:

Wayleave Payment	£100.45
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- 7.4. It was resolved to note the issuing of the following Cheque:

Chq. No. 214, Hire of Village Hall (Invoice No. 634, November 2018)	£22.50
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- 7.5. It was resolved to issue the following cheques:

Chq. No. 215 – Hire of Village Hall (Invoice No. 661)	£56.00
Chq. No. 217 – Clerk's Expenses (3 January 2020 to 5 March 2020)	£38.58

NOTE (1): Chq. No. 215 had been incorrectly made out and Chq. No. 216 had been written out in its place.

NOTE (2): Chq. No. 217 had been incorrectly made out in the wrong sum. The sum should have been £57.68 and Chq. No. 220 was raised in its place after the meeting.

8. **RISK ASSESSMENT**

The Risk Assessment was reviewed, amendments suggested and agreed.

9. SOMERSET WEST & TAUNTON COUNCIL – LOCAL PLAN ISSUES & OPTIONS CONSULTATION

Councillor Anderson gave an update. He advised that he and Councillor Ogilvie-White felt that, with regard to the climate crisis and the environmental aspect of the plan, it was an extremely good piece of work and in many respects they both supported it. They felt there were two fundamental omissions: firstly, they talk about being carbon zero by 2030 but what is the baseline where we are starting from and secondly, with regard to the economic development plan for the area, if they do not have that how can they allocate housing/what infrastructure could be built. These are fundamental questions. It was agreed he would draft some comments and circulate to all Councillors before submission.

10. PROVISION OF LITTER BIN

It was agreed to purchase a dog litter bin, although where it would be sited would need to be agreed.

11. DRAFT BICKNOLLER PARISH COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

It was agreed the draft Plan as circulated was a very good document. However, it was resolved to defer further discussion for when Councillor Ogilvie-White was in attendance.

12. COUNTRYSIDE CLEAN-UP – 28TH-29TH MARCH 2020

It was noted the Countryside Clean-up would take place on 28th-29th March 2020 and some Parish Councillors had offered to undertake this in certain areas of the Parish.

13. ‘QUIET LANES’ INITIATIVE

Holford Parish Council was endeavouring to improve the quality of their minor rural roads for the benefit of residents and was seeking the support of other Parish Councils in the area. It was agreed to support the ‘Quiet Lanes’ initiative in principle.

14. ITEMS OF REPORT AND MATTERS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Draft Bicknoller Parish Community Emergency Response Plan

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

13 May 2020	7 pm
20 May 2020 (Annual Parish Conference)	7 pm
8 July 2020	7 pm
9 September 2020	7 pm
11 November 2020	7 pm

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

Signed:
Chairman

Date: