

Minutes, Bicknoller Parish Council
Tuesday 27th September 2022, commencing at 7pm at the Village Hall
(in the format to be presented to the next meeting for approval)

PRESENT:

Councillors C Warren (Chairman), S Dowding (for item 1 only), M Andersen, D Leggetter, A Harrison.
1 member of the public present after item 1

IN ATTENDANCE:

SWT Cllr A Trollope-Bellew
C Morrison-Jones (Parish Clerk)

PARISH FORUM:

No issues raised

SWT Cllr A T-B

Cllr Trollope-Bellew reported on current matters of interest

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies of absence received from Cllr M Rawle and SCC Cllrs C Lawrence and M Kravis

With the permission of the Chairman, Cllr Dowding read out a personal statement. He then offered his resignation as a councillor and his resignation was accepted by the Chairman. He remained for the rest of the meeting as a member of the public

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None

3. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 13th JULY AND 6th AUGUST 2022

Councillors resolved to approve the minutes of the above meetings as a true record, and they were signed by the Chairman

4. CONSIDER THE CO-OPTION OF MR BRIAN LLOYD TO THE COUNCIL

Since the publication of the agenda, the candidate had indicated that he didn't wish to join the Parish Council at present.

5. THE DEATH OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II AND THE ACCESSION OF KING CHARLES III

The Parish Council's sadness on the passing of Queen Elizabeth II on September the 8th was recorded, together with its celebration of the accession of King Charles III to the throne.
The Chairman reported that he had received a reply to the letter sent from the village in honour of the Queen's platinum jubilee. It was proposed to frame a copy of the village letter and the response from the Palace and display it in the Village Hall. The Chairman offered to organise the framing

6. MATTERS OF REPORT ARISING FROM THE AGREED MINUTES NOT COVERED BY THE BELOW AGENDA ITEMS

None

7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Nothing to report

8. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

8.1. Environment (Cllr Leggetter)

- Internet to Woolston – no timetable for works as yet
- Woolston moor brambles to be covered in agenda item 13

8.2. Police Liaison & Neighbourhood Watch (Cllr Harrison)

- Serious assault in village a month or so ago – in hands of police

- Possible theft of items from house and night time prowler – PCSO has visited and checked security and re assured the property owner
- Theft of horse equipment from Woolston

8.3. Rights of Way (Cllr Warren)

- Sarah Cresswell (SCC rights of way) has been in touch with Cllr Warren - a replacement stile is in hand

8.4. Roads (Cllr Andersen)

- Dashwoods Lane (overhanging vegetation) and Chilcombe Lane (verge has not been reinstated where materials and plant were stored) –both issues have been inspected by Highways team and assessed as needing attention but not urgent. Works scheduled as part of planned maintenance later
- MA was asked by Members to chase up the overhanging vegetation on A358 between the Dashwoods Lane and Woolston turnings. It has previously been raised with SCC but needs raising again as a huge safety issue for cyclists
- Also requested to recheck overhanging trees over the road, Woolston down to Vellow

8.5. Community Resilience (Cllr Andersen)

- The clerk was asked to request a physical place in the Village Hall for the plan and ask VH if there is currently any resilience equipment stored in VH
- 13th October is a community resilience day. AH has booked a space to attend
- Defibrillator support training evening. A good attendance was recorded and those present were very pleased with the trainer and the information he delivered

8.6. Bicknoller Volunteer Group

- No report. The Chairman reminded SD to handover the volunteer group information to the Parish Council now that he was no longer a councillor

8.7. Quantock Hills & Farming (Cllr Rawle)

- No report

9. PLANNING

9.1. To note the following decisions of Somerset West & Taunton Council:

- i) ABD/01/22/001 | Prior approval for change of use of agricultural building to 1 No. dwelling house (Class C3) and for associated operational development. Barn located off Newton Lane. Decision 8.8.22 – Prior approval required and given
- ii) H/01/22/001 | Removal of 2 No. 5m sections of hedgerow to facilitate installation of a replacement water main to serve Bicknoller village. Hedgerows within the fields east of Honey Row Lane.
Granted on 25.8.22

9.2. Appeals
None

9.3. General Planning Update
Planning meeting on 1st Oct to consider application ref 3/01/22/007

10. SOMERSET UNITARY: LCN CONSULTATION

Councillors decided not to reply as a council but noted that they could lodge an individual response

11. FINANCE

11.1. To approve, bank reconciliation dated 22.8.22
Councillors resolved to approve the bank reconciliation, dated 22.8.22, of £14,415.49.
Of this amount, £1896.67 is held in earmarked reserves

11.2. Income received
None

11.3. Payments to authorise		
Clerk	salary, July & August 2022	£594.88
Clerk	expenses and reimbursements, July & August 22	£103.56

SALC	Annual affiliation fee	£115.97
Bicknoller Village Hall	August & September room hire	£42.50
Information Commissioner	Membership renewal (paid by direct debit)	£35.00

- 11.4 Audit: Option to opt out of the SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangements
Councillors resolved not to opt out of the SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangements

SWT Cllr A Trollop-Bellew left the meeting at this point

12. CONSIDER PARISH COUNCIL EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR COUNCILLORS

The clerk had previously circulated a report to councillors outlining the cyber security and GDPR benefits of specific parish council email addresses.
Councillors resolved to progress this and asked the clerk to action it with website provider

13. WOOLSTON MOOR:

13.1 Consider Woolston Moor 5 year management plan
Cllr Leggetter explained that the plan had been drawn up by a group who knew the moor intimately. Councillors resolved that the plan should be used by the Parish Council as guidance for future management but not formally adopted in its entirety in order that it did not become a straight jacket and remove the Parish Council's ability to react to situations as they evolve.

13.2 Consider quotations received for bramble cutting
Cllr Leggetter reported that she had carried out a moor walk on 21st September with contractors and various other interested parties and as a result had obtained a quote involving several specialised contractors for £350 (work to be done between Oct and Feb). Councillors resolved to accept the quote, subject to proof of all contractors' 3rd party liability insurance. Cllr Leggetter to liaise with contractors regarding when the work can start. It was noted that this will be an annual commitment that needs to be budgeted for in future PC budgets.

14. CHAIRS'S AWARD FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY 2022/23

No nominations were made

15. GRIT BIN AUDIT

The clerk reported that SCC Highways have asked for an audit of parish grit bins to establish levels held in each bin.

Cllr Andersen reported that the Church Lane bin was full, and Cllr Warren offered to check the bin at Halsway and report back to the clerk

16. BICKWATCH COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Cllr Harrison reported that there had been no meetings since the last PC meeting. It is believed that there are only currently two approved drivers in Bicknoller currently. The July 'meet & greet' meeting for volunteer drivers, including a refresher on use of wheelchair access, was useful

17. ITEMS OF REPORT AND SUGGESTIONS OF MATTERS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- i) The clerk requested suggestions of projects to accommodate in next years budget
- ii) Installation of wrought iron gate with a plaque to entrance of memorial garden in churchyard in memory of Queen Elizabeth. AH to feed back to parishioner suggesting & invite them to formulate a formal proposal to the PC for next meeting
- iii) Mary Rudram's bench is being removed by son for renovation and will be replaced once repaired

18. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 9th November 2022

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.22