

**Meeting of Bicknoller Parish Council**  
**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023, commencing at 7pm at the Village Hall**  
(in the format to be presented to the next meeting for approval)

**PRESENT:**

Councillors C Warren, M Andersen, D Leggetter, A Harrison

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

SCC Cllr M Kravis (from 7.30pm, item 7.4)

C Morrison-Jones (Parish Clerk)

**PARISH FORUM:**

No members of the public present

SC Cllr M Kravis gave his report after agenda item 7

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

None

**3. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

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

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

None

**5. CASUAL VACANCIES ON THE PARISH COUNCIL**

There are still two vacancies on the parish council to be filled by co-option.

**6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Nothing to report

**7. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

**7.1. Environment (DL)**

- The designated areas of the moor have now been cleared. The stream is now visible and clear and the contractor also cleared around bus shelter. Residents at Woolston are very pleased with the job.
- Bus shelter at Woolston. Back wall timbers will need some attention soon as some are degrading.

**7.2. Police Liaison & Neighbourhood Watch (AH)**

- PCSOs Sue Thompson and Sue Marks have now retired. The new PCSO covering Bicknoller is Zack Howe

**7.3. Rights of Way (CW)**

- The condition of the stile on the footpath from Chilcombe Lane to the church was raised again by MA. CW will investigate.

**7.4. Roads (MA)**

- The 3 matters highlighted at the November meeting are still logged at the 'inspected; planned maintenance' stage by Highways
- The trees encroaching on the A358 has been inspected but Highways report it is not considered a safety issue. It is a safety issue for those on bikes/motorbikes – SC Cllr M Kravis was asked to escalate with Highways

- Cookly Lane. The potholes either side of the ford have been filled

**7.5. Community Resilience (MA)**

- MA reported that there is no statutory requirement for a village emergency plan. Bicknoller's demographic means that help is best provided by existing agencies and organisations. The value in the written plan is a 'go to' list of useful numbers/agencies that can help.
- MA to organise handover and storage location of the plan with the Village Hall

**7.6. Bicknoller Volunteer Group**

- None

**7.7. Quantock Hills & Farming (MR)**

- None

**8. COUNCILLORS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR**

**8.1 Bicknoller Volunteer Group**

Resolved to defer to a later meeting

**9. SOMERSET UNITARY**

- Proposed LCNs (18) to be decided at Executive Committee
- New chief executive, Duncan Sharkey, is now in place.
- A letter to all West Somerset parishes was sent by Stogumber PC highlighting the inequality of funding across Somerset West and Taunton

**10. PLANNING**

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

- i) 3/01/22/010 | Conversion of barn, with erection of extension, into 1 No. dwelling with associated works, (previously approved Class Q barn conversion ABD/01/22/001) | Barn located off Newton Lane, Bicknoller Grant 1.12.22.
- ii) 3/01/22/007 | Installation of an array of ground mounted photovoltaic panels | Land to the rear of 18 & 20 Trendle Lane, Bicknoller Grant 2.11.22

**10.2. General Planning Update**

None

**11. FINANCE**

**11.1. To approve, bank reconciliation dated 21.12.22.**

Councillors resolved to approve the bank reconciliation, dated 21.12.22, of £12,465.33. Of this amount, £1,896.67 is held in earmarked reserves.

**11.2. Income received**

None

**11.3. Payments to authorise**

Clerk	salary, expense & reimbursements Nov & Dec 2022	£494.49
Bicknoller Village Hall	November room hire	£17.50
SALC	councillor training	£25.00
Councillors resolved to approve the payments listed		

**11.4. Payments made under delegated powers between meetings**

JPC Design	PC email addresses	£79.79
J Ely	flailing, Woolston Moor	£350.00
Councillors resolved to approve the payments listed		

**11.5. Consider and approve 2023/24 budget and precept**

Councillors resolve to approve the budget for 2023/24 that had been prepared by the clerk  
Councillors resolved to set the precept for 2023/24 at £7,600. This will result in a precept of £35.92 for a band D property, and increase from 2022/23 of £7.03

**12. FRAMING AND DISPLAY OF THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE SCROLL**

CW outlined the framing suggestions offered by the gallery in Williton. Councillors resolved to delegate authority to CW to spend up to £300 (ex VAT) to frame the documents

*SC Cllr M Kravis left the meeting at this point*

**13. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Councillors resolved to hold the APM in April (after the clocks changes) commencing at 7pm. Actual date to be arranged by the clerk in consultation with the Village Hall.

Refreshments to be provided by councillors.

The PC has been approached by local community groups to endorse and assist in their drive to recruit more volunteers. The APM was considered an ideal vehicle to promote the wide range of groups and societies in the parish and it was suggested that the format of the APM was expanded to allow each group, as well as reading an annual report, to have a display/give a presentation to encourage more volunteers.

The PC also agreed, in principle, to endorse a flyer to be distributed around the village to generate support for village groups. The content of the flyer yet to be agreed.

**14. BICKWATCH COMMUNITY TRANSPORT**

**14.1 to approve the quotation, and release of funds, for solar battery installation at the Village Hall as part of the Bickwatch grant award from SCC's Climate Emergency Fund**

i) Councillors resolved to approve the quotation.

ii) SCC (the grant awarding body) have yet to provide written confirmation that the proposed variations in the grant conditions are acceptable (that the battery becomes the property of BVH and that EVIE (the car) may not be the sole beneficiary of the battery installation as it may be stored in Watchet, not Bicknoller)

Councillors resolved that, in principle, it would approve the release of the funds to BVH as long as written approval of the variations to the original application outlined is received by BPC.

**14.2 to consider inviting a Bickwatch representative to give a short presentation at the next BPC meeting**

Councillors resolved to invite a representative of Bickwatch to attend the APM meeting (April) to give a short presentation.

**15. ITEMS OF REPORT AND SUGGESTIONS OF MATTERS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

None

**16. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.02 pm