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Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Monday 3rd October 2022

at 7:30pm in the Conygre Hall

Ref.	Item and Minute	Action
	<p>Present: In the Chair Cllr Josie Pownall; Cllr KC Bradley (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Mary-Anne Ansell, Cllr Sheila Clarke, Cllr David Collett, Cllr Mark Foster, Cllr Ray Merchant, Cllr Debbie Murphy, Cllr Sean Stephenson-McGall, Cllr Shaun Stephenson-McGall (after Agenda Item 18). Clerk: Angela Wilson</p> <p>Also in attendance: The Chairman of Bath & NE Somerset Council, Cllr Shaun Stephenson-McGall</p>	
5295	<p>1. Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr Nick Lewis. The Chairman welcomed Cllr Shaun Stephenson-McGall, Chairman of Bath and NE Somerset Council, and invited him to address the meeting. He explained that he wanted to visit as many Parish Councils as possible to both thank them for their voluntary work, which was vital in stimulating local activities, and to gain an insight into the work of rural communities. In this respect he had also set up the Peter Duppa-Miller award for the best Parish or Ward Councillor.</p>	
5296	<p>2. Declarations of interest</p> <p>Cllr Sean Stephenson-McGall declared an interest in Item 3 of the agenda as his spouse was applying for co-option to the Parish Council.</p>	
5297	<p>3. Co-option of new councillors</p> <p>Two applications had been received. One of the candidates had been asked to provide further information and would be invited to attend the next meeting once this was received. The second candidate, Shaun Stephenson-McGall, was already in attendance in his official capacity as Chairman of B&NES council. In view of this it was considered prudent to consider his application once the bulk of the meeting had been concluded. This agenda item was therefore considered after agenda Item 18. Shaun outlined his reasons for wanting to become a Parish Councillor. He has lived in the village for a number of years and has a keen interest in the local community. He is also a long-serving member of B&NES council. <i>On a vote it was unanimously agreed that Shaun Stephenson-McGall be co-opted.</i> He then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office papers and joined the meeting. (Cllr Sean Stephenson-McGall did not take part in the vote having declared an interest at item 2 of the agenda.)</p>	Clerk

5298	<p>4. Minutes of the last meeting</p> <p>The minutes were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
5299	<p>5. Matters arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5281 (re 5263, 5244, 5228, 5201, 5157) The Clerk has chased Volker regarding the work needed on the final two streetlights to be upgraded and the replacement of the isolation point with the National Grid. • 5281 (re 5263, 5244, 5288, 5201, 5167) A visit to the property in breach of the planning regulations had been conducted and the issuing of formal papers was imminent. B&NES Planning enforcement would notify the Parish Council when this was done. • 5281 (Re 5264) The Clerk will be contacting the owners of Sleight Farm to ascertain whether they are also the owners of Emlett field. • 5281 (re 5268) A site meeting took place on 29th September between the Streets and Safety committee and B&NES Highways and will be reported on at Item 10 of the agenda. • 5281 (re 5269) The Chairman of Somerset Miners Welfare Trust (SMWT) has been informed of the decision for the preferred site for the placement of the miner silhouette on the land at the corner of The Avenue and Hayeswood Road. A photograph of the site was also sent to him. • 5282 The viability of a bank debit card is still being investigated. • 5282 The Community Payback Team started work in the village today and will continue every Monday until 21st November 22. They have been asked to concentrate on picking up litter, cutting back weeds, clearing the cemetery vegetation and cutting back overhanging vegetation on Radford Hill. • 5282 Volker have agreed to reduce the luminosity of the four lights on Chapel Walk which are currently too bright. They will also look into reducing this further during the early hours. • 5284 The sign for the Children’s Play area was now made and will be placed on the gate. • 5288 The meeting of the Community Infrastructure Levy working group would be meeting on 14th October 2022 at 10.30am. • 5291 An appraisal meeting has been arranged between the Clerk and the Staff committee for 28th September 2022 at 11am. (A report is at agenda item 19). • 5293 A response to the Buses – Big Choice consultation has been prepared and will be forwarded to WECA in time for the deadline of 10th October 2022. • 5293 The issue of litter in the village would be best addressed initially by the Community Payback Team whilst they are visiting each Monday for the next 8 weeks. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
5300	<p>6. Clerk’s Report</p> <p>Nothing to report as included in separate agenda items</p>	
5301	<p>7a. Planning applications to B&NES for the Parish Council to consider: <u>22/03515/TCA</u> 11 Rectory Lane, Timsbury BA2 0LB T1-Ash Tree- Dieback-Remove <i>It was unanimously agreed that there was no objection to this application.</i></p>	

	<p><u>22/03638/TPO</u> Parish's House Hook Timsbury BA2 OND T1 - Beech Tree - Rot at the base, causing damages. Need the canopy removed and mono lift leaving the stump for the habitat and wildlife. T2 - Beech Tree - Rot at the base, causing damages. Need the canopy removed and mono lift leaving the stump for the habitat and wildlife. T3, T4 T5, T6 - Sycamore Trees - Remove to allow space for the beech tree to be dismantled safely. <i>It was unanimously agreed that there was no objection to this application.</i></p> <p><u>22/03639/TPO</u> Parish's House Hook Timsbury BA2 OND T1 - Macarpha (montreecyprus) - Prune back limbs 30 from the building. It is overhanging the building and may cause damage. <i>It was unanimously agreed that there was no objection to this application.</i></p> <p><u>22/03641/TPO</u> Parish's House Hook Timsbury BA2 OND T1 to T7 - Elm trees - Dead/Remove them. <i>It was unanimously agreed that there was no objection to this application.</i></p> <p><u>22/03472/FUL</u> Sleight Farm Hayeswood Road Timsbury BA2 OHN Erection of a part two storey, part single storey extension to rear of farmhouse following demolition of existing single storey rear element, and other alterations to building. Alterations to existing access onto Hayeswood Road. <i>It was unanimously agreed that there was no objection to this application.</i></p> <p><u>22/03473/LBA</u> Sleight Farm Hayeswood Road Timsbury BA2 OHN Internal and external alterations for the erection of a part two storey, part single storey extension to rear of farmhouse following demolition of existing single storey rear element, and other alterations to building. Alterations to existing access onto Hayeswood Road. <i>It was unanimously agreed that there was no objection to this application.</i></p> <p><u>22/03677/TPO</u> Laurel Gardens South Road Timsbury BA2 OEP Description of Proposal: T1- Copper Beech - Crown reduction (approx 1.5m) & crown thin (approx 15%). Follow previous reduction. Cobra bracing present. <i>It was unanimously agreed that there was no objection to this application.</i></p> <p>7b. B&NES decisions on planning applications: <u>22/03134/TPO</u> Parish's House, Hook, Timsbury BA2 OND Tree works subject to TPO - 2 no beech trees fell. CONSENT</p>	
5302	<p>8. Conygre Trust liaison report. The Conygre Trust is planning to hold a celebration day at the end of June 2023 to mark the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Conygre Hall. It was hoped to involve as much of the village as possible and to collaborate with other groups who had already shown an interest in holding a village day. An initial meeting between the interested parties would be held in the forthcoming week to discuss arrangements.</p>	

	<p>The B&NES quarterly play inspection highlighted items that needed repair and the Trust are awaiting quotes for these. Concern was raised on whether it was still viable to be repairing the equipment or whether consideration should be given to replacing it. It was thought to still be more cost-effective to repair rather than replace but, in order to give this due consideration, Cllr Collett would ask the Trust to provide the Council with a list of the cost of repairs for each item to date.</p>	DC
5303	<p>9. Reports from delegates to other organisations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avon Local Councils' Association (ALCA) 7th September 2022 – The Chairman had circulated a report of the meeting. • Parish Councils' Airport Authority (PCAA) 15th September 2022 Cllr Stephenson-McGall had circulated a report and also advised that the PCAA would determine the next steps once the outcome of the hearing on the 8th and 9th November 2022 was received. In the meantime, they are starting get complaints from Parishes about an increase in noise and perceived changes in flight paths. The airport has denied this and so the PCAA had agreed to provide guidance to residents on how they should complain directly to the airport. • Somer Valley Forum 28th Sept 2022 - The Chairman attended and had circulated a report. 	
5304	<p>10. Update from Streets and Safety Working Group</p> <p>The Working Group met with officers from B&NES Highways on 29th September 2022 at The Avenue to discuss the proposed plan for reducing the speed and enhancing the safety for pedestrians. Councillors were appraised of the proposed changes which would involve a 'build-out' with 20mph and priority signs for traffic and also contain a dropped kerb crossing point for pedestrians. The plan received a favourable response and it was confirmed by Highways that the work would be completed during the current financial year.</p> <p>Other issues discussed were the junction at Church Hill, which was scheduled for imminent attention because of the pedestrian safety issues and Radford Hill. B&NES Highways would also consider changing the 30mph sign in Hayeswood Road to 20mph and erecting two more 20mph signs in Bloomfield Road.</p> <p>The meeting relocated to Lippiatt Lane to look at viable schemes for slowing traffic and addressing safety concerns regarding children playing in the area. It was agreed that Highways would look into providing more 20mph signs in the lane and that there would be no issue with the Parish Council placing offset barriers on the footpath that enters directly onto the lane next to the allotments' car park.</p>	Clerk
5305	<p>11. Youth Services update from the Young People's Working Group</p> <p>The Working Group met on 20th September 2022. Both Youth Connect South West (YC-SW) and Timsbury Youth for Christ (TYFC) reported that their groups are well-attended. In addition, YC-SW have obtained extra funding and so are able to carry out extra activities such as coaching and away days whilst TYFC are encouraging young leaders and putting this into practice by getting the older participants to manage the younger ones.</p> <p>The 2020 Consultation exercise was reviewed, as this was the first meeting since Covid. One of the key ideas was the request for better play equipment for the older young people. Such equipment was currently in use at a multi-</p>	

	use games area (MUGA) at the Welton Rovers ground in Midsomer Norton. Cllrs Murphy and Clarke were arranging to view it although it would probably prove to be prohibitively expensive.	DM/SC
5306	12. Review of Risk Register and Committee Remits It was agreed that due to time constraint the revisions of both the Risk Register and the Committee Remits should now be considered at the November meeting of the Full Council.	Clerk
5307	13. External Audit of the 2021/2022 Parish Council Accounts The External Auditors, PKF Littlejohn LLP, notified the Parish Council that no issues have been found following the audit of the accounts for 2021/22 and they have subsequently issued a notice of conclusion. This has been posted both on the Timsbury.org website and on the notice boards.	
5308	14. Recommendations from the Finance Committee on the current budget to date and the allotment rent review. The draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 26 th September 2022 had been circulated to members prior to the meet <u>a. Current budget to date and projected expenditure to end of March 2023</u> This year's expenditure is currently projected to be £5,190 over budget which has mainly been driven by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the increased costs in the upgrading of the Parish streetlights that needed new power units to replace those that were in disrepair along with the increase cost of the electricity. • the increase in the Clerk's hours • the increased charges for printing and publication of the Timsbury Letter <i>On a vote was unanimously agreed to accept the current budget and projected figures as recommended by the Finance Committee.</i> <u>b. Allotment Rents</u> It was projected that the annual cost of providing water for the allotments would rise during the next year. With the need to ensure that a surplus continues to be built for the future and costs minimised for the community as a whole, additional income would be needed to meet the anticipated increase in the utility costs. It was recommended, therefore, that allotment rents be increased to £23 per year a year to take effect from January 2024. The committee considered this to be fair yet still represent good value for money for allotment holders. <i>It was unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation of the finance committee to increase allotment rents to £23 with effect from January 2024.</i> The Clerk would inform the Allotments committee accordingly.	Clerk
5309	15. Date for next meeting of the Communications Committee It was agreed that the next meeting of the Communications committee would be held on 17 th October 2022 at Conygre Hall. The Editor of the Timsbury Letter and the Hub Co-ordinator would be invited to attend.	Clerk
5310	16. Village Day This had been discussed under agenda item 8 and would be a joint collaboration between the Conygre Trust and other interested groups in the village.	
5311	17. Finance Expenditure since the last meeting was listed and circulated to members and will be shown on the Parish Council finance pages on www.timsbury.org.uk/parishcouncil	

