Huish Episcopi Parish Council

Clerk: Julie Ferguson

Tel: 07365 293954 **E-mail**: clerk@huishepiscopiparishcouncil.org.uk

Minutes of a Meeting of Huish Episcopi Parish Council held at Huish Episcopi Primary School on Monday 16 September 2024 at 19:00hrs

Present: Councillors (Cllrs) – Rob Crumb, Arwyn Harris, Julia Gadd (Chair), Graham Lock, Peter Porter, Jane Redfearn, Val Saunders, John Wood (8).
In attendance: J Ferguson – Parish Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT (15 minutes) - 1 member of the public was present (p/t) and subject raised:

- Request to cut hedge by plots 1 and 2. Cllr Redfearn agreed to arrange with the Ranger.
- Flood Group Co-ordinator provided a report from recent meeting with EA where future management of Wagg Rhyne was discussed.
- Notification of upcoming Somerset Prepared event for Parish Resilience (6th Nov 24).

OUTSIDE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

- **Somerset Councillors (SCllrs) -** SCllrs had sent their apologies. No report had been received.

19:10 - Meeting opened

24/63 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (LGA 1972 s85(1)).
Cllr Horsgood had sent his apologies.

24/64 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None.

24/65 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** and sign the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 15 July 24**.**

24/66 MATTERS TO REPORT FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING
None.

24/67 CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter about bins in legacy Mendip and South Somerset. Details had been provided to SC in response to the letter. Cllr Harris had put the locations on Parish Online.

24/68 PLANNING – Decisions **REPORT**. None.

24/69 PLANNING – Applications (none).

24/70 FINANCE - To **REPORT** July & August 24 receipts. Noted.

Payee	Particulars	Amount
GREENSLADE TAYLOR	FBT-5ACRES	£ 497.88
TOTAL		**£ 497.88**

24/71 FINANCE – To **APPROVE** August & September 24 payment schedule.

Payee	Particulars	Amount	
TIMEBACK ACCOUNTS	INV 6690 (PAYROLL)	£ 6.00	REPORT
SOMERSET LANDSCAPES LTD	RANGER JULY 24	£ 1,056.00	REPORT
SALC	ANNUAL AFFILIATION FEE INV 0956	£ 790.43	REPORT
PKF LITTLEJOHN	ANNUAL AUDIT FEE INV SB20240520	£ 378.00	REPORT
SALC	TRAINING	£ 30.00	
SOMERSET LANDSCAPES LTD	RANGER AUG 24	£ 1,320.00	
TIMEBACK ACCOUNTS	INV 6727 (PAYROLL)	£ 6.00	
TOTAL	**Sep-24**	**£ 3,586.43**	

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the August and September 24 payment schedule.

24/72 **FINANCE** - To **NOTE** the External Auditor Report for FY 2023-24 and **CONSIDER** any 'except for' matters.
Noted. No 'except for' matters were raised.

24/73 **FINANCE –** To **CONSIDER** the purchase of water troughs, including connection fee for the allotments.
Connection fees estimate from Wessex Water:
- £1800 for supply to boundary of private property (2 metres of excavation inc. each additional metre charged at between £450-£550/mtr for hard surface or £250/mtr for soft/grass)
- £2500 if road closure is necessary (unknown until application completed)

a. £208.20 (trough and fittings)
b. £237.48 (trough and fittings)
The clerk explained that additional elements to the final solution would need to be quoted and presented before this could be considered for approval, those being the cost of the excavation from the Allotment boundary to the trough location, the connection inspection cost (from Wessex Water) and an accurate quote from Wessex Water to bring the supply to the boundary. Also the annual cost of water supply would need to be considered.
Cllr Crumb agreed to investigate and bring a complete quote for the installation and supply to the PC at a future meeting.

ACTION: Cllr Crumb

24/74 **FINANCE** – To **CONSIDER** the annual budget process.
A draft budget was provided to all Cllrs, showing end of year projections. Any budget considerations from Cllrs or Committees was to be notified to the clerk before the end of September. The draft budget would then be finalised by the Finance Working Group before being recommended to Full Council for approval.

24/75 **FINANCE** – To **CONSIDER** a budget for a replacement gate at the old railway track footpath.
Cllr Gadd agreed to bring quotes to a future meeting for the replacement gate.

ACTION: Cllr Gadd

24/76 **FINANCE** – To **APPROVE** a quote for allotment fencing:
a. £806 (28 posts)
b. £350 (26 posts)
c. £300 (30 posts)
d. £800 (30 posts)
Cllr Redfearn agreed to check that the post quality was like for like as there appeared a significant variance in the quotes.

ACTION: Cllr Redfearn

24/77 HELP ACTION PLAN – To **REPORT** on progress and **CONSIDER** any actions.
Cllr Harris had circulated the updated HELP community Plan, as reviewed June 2024. The document was a 'live' document and would be updated as individual Issues were progressed, but the next planned complete review would be June 2025.

24/78 MEMORIAL FIELD – To **CONSIDER** the S106 monies application.
RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** an application for £155K from the S106 monies by the Memorial Field Committee to Somerset Council.

24/79 PARKING PROVISION – To **CONSIDER** options for temporary additional parking, to include a budget consideration.
No obvious solutions materialised after a significant discussion. It was also going to be discussed at the next Langport Town Council meeting and the situation with parking would be monitored.

24/80 REPORTS – To receive reports:
a. Allotments. All actions had been discussed earlier.
b. Committees. None.
c. Working Parties.
Cllr Porter reported from a recent Traffic WP meeting expressing disappointment that the new signage agreed had not been forthcoming from SC.
Cllr Saunders reported from a recent Entertainment and Activities WP having distributed a Communication Strategy Document detailing aims and suggested methods of improving parish communications.
d. Parish Councillors
Cllr Lock raised concerns regarding the lack of attention to weeds growing along the footpaths and kerbside. It was agreed that this is SC Highways responsibility and was likely a consequence of the non-use of weedkilling sprays.
Cllr Redfearn reported a number of potholes on the Westover Estate by Lloyds Feedmill. It was unclear if the road was adopted, being a trading estate. If not, the potholes would not be the responsibility of SC Highways.

24/81 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA
- Grant request for Landmark Langport (if received)
- Quote for water supply for the allotments (if received)
- Quote for new posts at the allotments (if received)

24/82 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – Monday 21 October 2024 at 7.00pm, Huish Epsicopi Primary School, Langport, TA10 9RW. All agenda items to be notified to the clerk by Fri 11 Oct 2024.

20:50 - Meeting closed.