



**Minutes of the meeting of the Somerton Parish Council held on
9th March 2022 in the Village hall**

Present: - Alison Smith [chair], Neil Good, John Gatley, Neil Clare

Members of the public: Cllr Mike Kerford Byrnes, Ruth Power, Rosemary Arnold, Chrissie and Andy Rose

In attendance: Cathy Fleet (Clerk)

03.22.01 Apologies No apologies had been received

03.22.02 Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

03.22.03 Minutes of the last meeting held on 25th January 2022 were read and it was **RESOLVED** to accept these as a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Chair.
Following the PWLB application a response has been received requesting a more detailed wording of the decision to apply for the loan. This is minuted below.

03.22.04 Public Participation: Chrissie and Andy Rose were attending regarding their planning application.

03.22.05 Clerk's Report and Actions from previous meeting

No	Action	Owner	Update
03.21.14	NC and AC to action letter from Unity when received	NC/AC	On-going. Ac to provide passport. AS to complete paperwork to Unity Mar 22 - on hold pending co-option of councillor.
09.21.03	Playground: NG to send the report to Richard Townsend and ask him to prioritise and quote for the work recommended NG to enquire of costs for a longer lasting hardwood post for the gate		On-going. NG to accept quote for hardwood post and request work to be carried out asap. March 22 On-going
11.21.02	AS to email the village list via Mail Chimp regarding the Barton Bus service	AS	NC/Ac to action
01.22.01	Precept - CF to complete paperwork and submit to CDC	CF	Completed

01.22.02	CF to sent grant application form to Ruth Power	CF	Completed
01.22.03	AS to complete application for 20mph speed limit and submit to OCC	AS	Needs approval of OCC Councillor. March 22 AS to write letter to Cllr Fatemian due to non response to emails.
01.22.04	AS will email Cllr Mike Kerford-Byrnes to find out how to get a schedule of road sweeping in place.	AS	Completed

03.22.06 Finance

The following accounts were approved for payment :

Payee	Details	Amount	VAT	Note
Cathy Fleet	Clk sal Feb	191.18		S/O
OFPA	Subs	45.00		
Alison Smith	reimbursement	32.00		

The Church submitted a grant application for £1800. It was agreed that £1500 would be granted as agreed in the precept

03.22.07 CDC

MKB reported on the pre planning application for Baynards Green and had sent email to AS which was not received. CDC has local plan setting out sites for industrial development. All proposals go through CDC planning but some are too big. CDC will be revising the local plan. Asking for suggestions for new sites for development for housing and industrial. S106 and S278 - (278 is transport). 2 Planning applications have been received from Albion Land for sheds at Baynards Green - there is a lot of information regarding this in the public domain. Further application on the B4100 roundabout (Stoke Lynes) has not yet been submitted. Albion is official and has been sent to National highways. No decision can be made by CDC until National Highways decide.

MKB attended last full council meeting and reported that council tax for Somerton properties will be : BAND a £1424.59, Band B £1662.03 Band C £1899.46 Band D £2136.89 Band E 2611.75 Band F £2896.63 Band G £26=561.48 Band H £4273.78

CDC are fully supporting Ukraine and flying the Ukrainian flag on its building.

Grey food bins have now been distributed, with some omissions and are being collected weekly

This was the last meeting Cllr Kerford-Byrnes will be attending prior to his retirement and a small gift was presented to him in appreciation of his help over recent years. He will, however, be attending the Annual Parish meeting in May.

03.22.08 Highways

The 20mph speed limit initiative requires the support of the County Councillor, so until response is received from Cllr Fatemian no progress can be made.

Roadworks are due to commence next week by the bridge.

Flooding - meeting and email exchange have taken place between Thames Water, OCC and the Parish Council and are on-going.

An email had been received from OCC confirming that £15000 will be allocated to Somerton PC as S106 payment. A meeting will be arranged for discussion in due course.

03.22.09

SARA

It was resolved at the Parish Council meeting on 25th January 2022 to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to apply for a PWLB loan of £20,000 over the borrowing term of 10 years - Annuity repayments, for the purpose of purchasing land for the use of Allotments and Recreation. The annual loan repayments will be in the region of £2800 and the precept request has been increased to reflect this.

AS will complete the form as requested by PWLB.

It was agreed to ring-fence £10,000 of reserves to satisfy PWLB's request for contingency in the event of non-payment.

AS/RP to meet on site to obtain quotes for fencing.

03.22.10

Emergency Plan

Due to time constraints this item was deferred to the next agenda.

03.22.11

Platinum Jubilee celebrations

The Social Club will be applying to OCC for road closures. . It was agreed that the PC may cover costs for road closure if necessary

03.22.12

Planning

Applications:

22/00401/F	Manor Farm Barns, 1 The Stables, Heyford road	No objection
22/00323/F	The Old Barn, Manor Farm Barns Heyford Road	No objection
22/00324/LB	The Old Barn, manor Farm Barns, Heyford Road	No objection

03.22.13

Clerk's pay increase

NALC guidance had been received that Clerks' salaries will increase by 1.75% backdated to April 2020. It was unanimously agreed to apply this increase.

AS to instruct TP Jones Payroll.

Other matters

An email had been received by the Clerk from CDC's Democratic and Elections Officer. A resident of another parish had reported to them that one of Somerton's councillors (and other PCs as well) had not attended meetings for 6 months prior to January and should therefore be disqualified (as per the statutory 6 month rule). Despite providing CDC with evidence and explanations, CDC enforced this rule and a Vacancy Notice was issued. This will allow the PC to co-opt after 14 days providing no election is called.

The councillor in question had been a valuable asset to the PC and will be greatly missed. He was thanked for all his work over many years.

Meeting dates for 2022 - last Tuesday of alternate months

31st May
 26th July
 27th September
 29th November

Provisional dates for the Annual Parish meeting are 19th or 26th May. AS check dates do not clash with other village meetings and will make enquiries about a speaker, possibly regarding ground source heating.

The Annual meeting of PC will be on 31st May ahead of the scheduled PC meeting

Signed **Alison Smith (Chair)** **Date**

ACTION LIST SUMMARY

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03.22.01	SARA - As to complete the form for PWLB	AS	
03.22.02	SARA - AS/RP to meet on site to obtain quotes for fencing.	AS/ Ruth Power	
03.22.03	Clerk's pay increase - AS to instruct TP Jones Payroll	AS	
	Tree survey re Jubilee - RP to investigate getting survey done.	RP	

