



Minutes of the meeting of the Somerton Parish Council Meeting held on 6th December 2022

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

Members of the public : Richard Thompson

In attendance: Cathy Fleet (Clerk)

12.22.01 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Andy Corner

12.22.02 Declarations of Interest :

There were no declarations of interest.

12.22.03 The minutes of the meeting held on 27th September 2022 were checked for accuracy and content and agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

12.22.04 Public Participation

Richard Thompson was attending to discuss the allotments.

12.22.05 Clerks Report

No	Action	Owner	Update
Sept22.01	AC to visit home owners regarding the dumping of rubbish on the footpath behind the village hall.	AC	outstanding
Sept22.02	Comments to be made to the Risk Assessment document on the g-drive	ALL	The Risk Assessment was amended and approved.

12.22.06 Highways/Footpaths

An email had been received regarding the state of the footpath on Portway running through Village Farm. The footpath is muddy but the landowner has put stone down to prevent the mud. The email was sent to **NG so he will respond.**

The cost of a replacement bus shelter will be £20K for the hardstanding and must be done by an approved county council contractor. The shelter would be an additional cost. It was agreed that in the current economic climate the cost is prohibitive and so a replacement bus shelter will not be progressed.

A consultation has taken place for the 20mph limit in Somerton and it has been confirmed that Somerton is on the waiting list for the 1st tranche of 20mph limits which will take place in 2023

12.22.07

MCNP

MCNP are updating the Neighbourhood Plan and have requested that Somerton PC will engage with the community to promote the revisions to the various policies within the Neighbourhood Plan. This was agreed and **AS will inform Martin Lipson.**

12.22.08

SARA

The soil analysis is on the limit for arsenic content for home grown produce. Enquiries are being made to find out how to get the soil below the threshold. Legal work on the contract is on hold until results on the ground are known.

12.22.09

Defibrillator

New defibrillator pads have been purchased and fitted. The gutter above the defibrillator is leaking – **NC will ask his brother if he could install a small piece of polycarbonate above to prevent leakage.** The defibrillator requires a software update and a temporary replacement will be in place.

12.22.10

Clerk Salary

NALC have awarded a pay increase to Clerks. It was agreed to apply the pay increase. **AS to inform payroll.**

12.22.11

Playground

Bryony and Andy Slater have carried out a lot of the issues highlighted on the ROSPA report. This has been done free of charge – the parish council expressed this thanks to him and a 'thank you' gift will be arranged. **AS will speak to Bryony regarding setting up a sub committee to oversee the maintenance and grant applications required for any equipment which may need replacement.**

12.22.12

Risk Assessment

The Risk Assessment was circulated and has been updated and was approved and will be adopted.

12.22.13

Meetings

No meeting had been attended

12.22.14

Communication

Training on Mailchimp has been arranged for 14th December by Zoom

Village Group meeting has been arranged for 28/01/24 in the Church. AS asked that all councillors attend at some point to represent the PC

12.22.15

Planning

22/03405/F - Orchard Way, Heyford Road – no objection

12.22.16

Finance

The following accounts were approved for payment :

Payee	Details	Amount	VAT	Note
Grid24	web support	207.60	34.60	paid 5/10/22
Cathy Fleet	clk sal Oct		193.95	s/o
Valley News	annual contribution		129.00	
MCNP	admin fee		183.00	
Alison Smith			600	payable from Resilience Fund Acct
Cathy Fleet	clk sal Nov		s/o	
Wel Medical	Defib pads		103.02	17.17

The budget and precept was discussed at length and it was agreed that the precept request to CDC for 2023/24 will be £16602 representing a 9% increase on last year.

Meeting dates for 2023

31st January, 28th March, 30th May, 25th July, 26th September, 28th November

Annual Parish meeting and Annual meeting of the Parish Council tbc

ACTION SUMMARY

No	Action	Owner	Update
Sept22.01	AC to visit home owners regarding the dumping of rubbish on the footpath behind the village hall.	AC	Outstanding
Dec22.01	NG to respond to email re footpath through Valley Farm	NG	
Dec22.02	AS will inform Martin Lipson that Somerton PC will engage with community and promote responses to policy changes	AS	
Dec22.03	Defibrillator - NC will ask his brother if he could install a small piece of polycarbonate above to prevent leakage	NC	
Dec22.04	Clerk salary - AS to inform payroll	AS	
Dec22.05	Playground - AS will speak to Bryony regarding setting up a sub committee to oversee the maintenance and grant applications required for any equipment which may need replacement.	AS	