**ABBAS AND TEMPLECOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**
**Minutes of the Meeting held on the**
**14th September 2021**

**PRESENT** Councillors R Cave (Chairman), Sarah Webb (Vice Chair), P Batchelor, C Hukins, A Kerry, D Seares, S Hood, C James, G Kerry

**IN ATTENDANCE**
Mr Hayward Burt (District Councillor), 3 Parishioners

Chairman opened the meeting and invited a Parishioner to speak to the meeting in respect of the 2021 Village Christmas Lunch. Due to a reduction in vouchers additional funds would be needed towards providing the lunch. S Webb suggested contacting Morrisons and the Co-op. Matter would be discussed under Accounting Matters.
Hayward Burt reported that the Chief Executive had started at South Somerset District Council (SSDC) and another Lead Planner had been taken on. Refuse and Recycling collections were now back on track.
A Kerry enquired if there was an update on the Slades Hill development and in particular the issue about the planting, bund and the matter of planning conditions not being met. S Webb referred to the report from the Tree Officer Phil Poulton which stated the bund and planting had to be redone preferably in November. Also, the wire, on top of the security fence, will be removed. It is not clear if Tilia can start the development before the bund is redone. It was felt the SSDC planning portal is not updated like some other authorities planning portals.
The Area East Committee were having informal meetings and any decisions are being made by the Chief Executive. It will be six months before meetings recommence in person.
Future dates of meetings will be included on the Website. Parishioner enquired what the Parish Council quorum was. Clerk confirmed it is three or a third.

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Mr William Wallace (District/County Councillor), G Wilson

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**
S Webb declared her dispensation in respect of Slades Hill development. A Kerry independently declared an interest in Agenda item 10) Highway Matters 1) Road Scheme/Draft A357 Templecombe Scheme Traffic Review.

**3 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 10TH AUGUST 2021**
It was proposed by C Hukins and seconded by S Webb that the draft Minutes, as previously circulated, be agreed as correct and signed by the Chairman.

**4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 10TH AUGUST 2021**
None

**5 CORRESPONDENCE**
Received since the last meeting as discussed: -
1) South Somerset Community Accessible Transport (SSCAT) – Acknowledgement of grant support – 18.8.21 – read out by Chairman

2) PCC Response – Mark Shelford – Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner – email 10.9.21 (circulated to Members prior to meeting)
It was agreed that the response should be published on the Website. The email was discussed, and the following points of concern were noted: -

- Continuing vandalism – it was felt clearing up and replacing as soon as possible was the best course of action and showed a duty of care to the community
- Petty behaviour – evidence of use of pellet gun; littering – often comes from the like of McDonalds suggest litter picking carried out to outlying Villages
- Motorbike issues at the Recreation Ground and within the Village – not always young people from the Village
- Possible drug issues
- Update CCTV and consider night vision cameras
- Raise anti-social behaviour issues with Hayward Burt to see how other Parishes fair

**6 PLANNING**

**1)** None received prior to meeting.

**2) Determinations**

**a)** Planning application no 21/02427/CPO (SSDC) – Construction of stone/tarmac access road – Templecombe Water Recycling Centre Temple Lane Templecombe (Granted)

**3) Other**

Chairman reported that Tilia had asked the Parish Council to name the roads within the proposed Slades Hill develop. Clerk had replied to the e mail to ascertain how many roads names were required.

**7) ACCOUNTING MATTERS**

**1) To approve accounts and sign cheques**

It was proposed by A Kerry and seconded by P Batchelor that the following cheques be paid:-

| | |
|---|---|
| D Seares – Refund for materials – Post fix/nuts and bolts – benches | 56.33 |
| Glasdon UK Limited – 1 x Trimline bin – Rec/2 x seating concrete in Anchor kit | 156.42 |
| Vale Signs and Print – Update of Village Hall sign two sides | 30.00 |
| NDM Electrical – Electrical installation condition report – Village Hall | 180.00 |
| PD Fire and Safety – Fire Safety service 2021 – Sports and Social Club | 108.00 |
| PKF Littlejohn LLP – Audit fees year end 31.3.21 | 240.00 |
| J Pratt (Groundsman) – Salary/Expenses August 2021 – Rec/Bgd/Cyd | 385.00 |
| Chapman (Clerk) – Salary/Expenses September 2021 | 478.49 |

**Following cheques received**

G Holmes Memorials – Headstone – P Buckingham deceased 104.00

**Following monies received**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| NatWest Business Reserve Account | - | £0.16 as at 30.7.21 (£19,470.89) |
| NatWest Business Reserve Account (Play Area) | - | £0.01 as at 30.6.21 (£632.45) |

**Also** - Utility Warehouse electricity account for August 2021 amounted to £4.64

**2) Future projects – update**

Chairman had circulated notes from the working group that met on the 24th August. The contents were noted. The following conclusions were reached: -

- Council would maintain a contingency of £25,000
- Replacing/installing seating in the Village to continue next year with a similar budget

Recreation Ground

- Dikes gift of £2,000 to go potentially towards purchase of a seesaw or a roundabout with a seesaw motion
- Planned future budgeting for replacement of play area equipment
- Replace gates to play area from maintenance grant
- Levelling/resurfacing/installation of fencing/make good MUGA. CIL monies could be used along with grant aid
- Installation of 2m wide path around the perimeter of the upper field/installation of outdoor gym equipment/landscaping could extend to path to Tennis Courts. Funding sourced outside of Council's annual budget

Village Hall

- Refurbishment of kitchen/toilets £5,000 in this year's budget. It was proposed that is this sum is not required in this financial year it is ring fenced for the project and a similar amount included in the 2022/23 budget. Proposed project includes refurbishment of the exterior of building

Other proposals to be investigated for costs and implications

- Speed indicator units on the main road at either end of the Village – to be updated at October meeting
- A shelter for the bus stop outside the Templar Place flats

**3) Donations 2021/22**

Members discussed the following groups/organisations for donations: -

- Village Christmas lunch – Members agreed to donating £250.00 to Mrs J Stevens towards the Christmas Lunch 2021

- Chairman proposed a donation of £250.00 to South Somerset Citizens Advice seconded by A Kerry and agreed by all Members present
- Village Christmas Trees 2021 – S Webb reported that the group would not be able to obtain the trees from the usual supplier. It was agreed to discuss a donation when the likely costs of the trees would be known
- Royal British Legion – Poppy Appeal for wreath - £150

**4) Other**

Clerk reported that Andy Greene had been contacted in respect of the annual work in the Churchyard/Burial Ground, High Street and footpath. He submitted a quote of £935.00 for all the work. It was proposed by C Hukins and seconded by S Webb that the quote be accepted. All Members present agreed.

**8 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a) Village Hall sub-committee report**

Clerk had circulated a copy of the draft Minutes from the meeting held on the 23rd August 2021. Chairman had attended the meeting to discuss the roles/responsibilities of the Committee and Parish Council. Enquiries had been made into obtaining Wi-Fi for the Village Hall and it was agreed to go ahead with the Talk Talk option amounting to £215.40 per annum. Five-year electrical check had been carried out. Next meeting was scheduled for the 27th September when the Committee would look at the proposed improvements to the kitchen/toilets. Chairman would be attending.

**b) In Bloom Group – (J Carr)**

Clerk reported that the group would be meeting on the evening of the 15th September.

**9 PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE – COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP (A KERRY/G KERRY)**

A Kerry had circulated a report prior to the meeting. He felt that the item should now be removed from the agenda. J Flynn would assist when needed.

**10 HIGHWAY MATTERS**

**1) Road Scheme/Draft A357 Templecombe SchemeTraffic Review – update (A Kerry)**

A Kerry circulated his report prior to the meeting. He had now received confirmation that the design work for the modifications in the High Street had been discussed at a Small Improvement Scheme (SIS) meeting on the 3rd September. The item should now appear on the SIS page for projects in South Somerset

**2) Clerk to update on various highway issues**

**Street scene issues** – SSDC had sent out a team to carry out the street clean and sweeping. They had returned to the Village and cleared the School Lane Car Park. Clerk would raise the issue of the blocked drains with them again.

**Defaced signs – Vine Street/Yarnbarton entrance –** reported awaiting a response

**Give way marking – Brines Orchard/The Knapp –** reported awaiting a response

**Request for consideration of derestriction signs – Combe Hill –** reported awaiting a response

**Templecombe surgery – access issues –** reported awaiting a response

**Damage to raised wall – Yew tree bend – East Street/wall damage at entrance to Yarnbarton –** both issues have been made safe and are awaiting a repair

**Application for Tree Preservation Order (TPO) –** information had been sent to SSDC

**Grass bank at entrance to Throop Road –** SCC Highways had carried out an inspection and could not identify an issue with visibility at the junction and did not feel an interim cut was needed. The location will be added to the next finance year. P Batchelor reported that an inspection had been carried out and to promote wildflower growth next year it would all need strimming late September early October. Clerk would contact Peter Coombes to see if he could carry out the cut.

**3) Other**

No matters to report.

**11 ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUP (D SEARES/G WILSON)**

D Seares reported that he had been approached by the lease hold owner of Jasmine and Bay who had asked if the rubbish bin could be removed from outside of the premises as he felt it was a fire hazard. It was felt this was appropriate and D Seares would arrange to remove the bin.

**a) The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations – set up a working group – update (R Cave)**

Chairman opened a discussion, and the following was noted: -

- The ladies from the previous Church fundraising group are prepared to help with activities. Other Village groups could be approached i.e. In Bloom group, Friends of Templecombe Station (FOTS), Sports and Social Club. Chairperson had offered the Sports and Social Club for a meeting.
- Emphasis needs to be put on the beacon and memorabilia for the children. If the beacon is not a permanent structure S Webb felt that G Wilson could use it at the Pageant.

- If it was decided to have a commemorative mug the school children could be approached to produce a design for the mug. It was considered an order of 200 would allow for children not at the School/Pre-school.
- A lit procession from the School Lane Car Park to the Recreation Ground could be investigated
- It was agreed to set a budget of £2,500

**b) Roadside wildling enquiry – Dr Lizzie Rowe**

D Seares had circulated Dr Lizzie Rowe's report prior to the meeting. The Parish Council had previously agreed in principle to the scheme. It may be necessary for Dr Rowe to contact Somerset County Council – Highways for some of the suggested areas. The inside of the Recreation Ground hedge, along Vine Street, had been suggested. Groundsman would need to be consulted.

**12 FOOTPATHS REPORT (P BATCHELOR)**

P Batchelor reported that she had heard from Eve Wynn – SCC in respect of the footpath across the Recreation Ground on the 23rd August. She would arrange a site visit as this was a right of way SCC are responsible for the surface.

**13 TREE WARDEN'S REPORT (C JAMES)**

C James reported there was a broken branch at the School Lane Car Park. D Seares reported that an oak tree, donated by Parishioners, had been planted by the new bench on the track way at the end of Lily Lane. Clerk would write to thank them for donating the tree.

**14 BURIAL GROUND/CLOSED CHURCHYARD REPORT (CLERK)**

Clerk had given Chairman details of a suggested leaf blower, for use by the Groundsman in the Churchyard and Recreation Ground. P and C Batchelor had investigated what was available and had sourced one available from Screwfix for £59.99. It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by S Webb that the Parish Council purchase the leaf blower. All Members present in agreement.

Clerk had contacted Tom Trouton to make an appointment for him to look at what future maintenance the churchyard walls will require.

**15 RECREATION GROUND MATTERS/CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA**

**A) Play Area Report (P Batchelor/G Kerry/C James)**

The group circulated their report prior to the meeting. P Batchelor reported that the group will be prioritising obtaining costs for a piece of play equipment to be purchased from the donation from Dikes.

The shrubs and trees are in good order, the cherry tree would need pruning so it would not become top heavy. A volunteer had approached the Sports and Social Club and would be cutting back the garden area by the main door.

An incident of dog waste, from a Parishioners own garden, being discarded in one of the Recreation Ground bins had occurred. The dog bins at the Recreation Ground are intended for people walking their dogs on the Recreation Ground only. Dog waste can be double wrapped and deposed of in a domestic refuse bin.

**1) Zip Wire – update**

P Batchelor reported that a site visit had taken place with the Contracts Manager for Proludic to check the cracked timber on the uprights. He recommended filling and varnishing to stop water ingress. He confirmed that the stress is taken by the metal struts and cable itself, so it did not present a safety issue. Parts of the timber could be replaced if necessary. P Batchelor will ask Steven Day of Elite Playgrounds to provide a quote for the work required to the uprights.

**2) Vandalism/bad behaviour – update**

Four of the wooden posts, to stop unauthorised vehicles driving on to the Recreation Ground, had been pulled out on the evening of the 12th September. The Police and PCSO had been informed and a crime number allocated. PCSO had attended and viewed CCTV footage. P and C Batchelor suggested that the wooden posts could be replaced with concreted in lower metal posts that would allow HGV's to drive over them but no cars or 4 x 4 vehicles. The chain and post fencing, from the edge of the path to the entrance to the Play Area is showing signs of corrosion. It was agreed that P Batchelor should ask Gartells for a quotation for all the posts required including the ones that back on to the Play Area.

**3) South Somerset Play and Youth Facilities Assessment**

P Batchelor had initially looked at the survey was happy to complete it.

**B) Social Club**

**1) Social Club Report (C Hukins/C James/S Hood)**

C Hukins circulated his report from the meeting held on the 7th September prior to the meeting. The annual fire safety check had been carried out by P D Fire and Safety. As a result, one additional sounder was required in the changing rooms, an emergency light in the cellar and in the room leading to the cellar. The cost of the work would amount to £330.00 exclusive of VAT. Members present agreed to P D Fire and Safety to be instructed to carry out the work. It was also agreed that the interpretation of the lease as proposed and circulated to members of the Parish Council by the Parish Council Chairman should be discussed with the Sports and Social Club Committee to identify any differences in interpretation.

**C) Refuse collection (update)**

Chairman reported that Somerset Waste Partnership (SWP) had not collected the refuse from the Recreation Ground at the last scheduled pick up. Further exchange of e mails had taken place with South Somerset District Council (SSDC) and SWP. SWP confirmed that the collection from the Recreation Ground was not on their records and never had been officially, therefore, no further collections would take place. Clerk had already previously made enquiries and obtained quotes for a private collection. Members agreed that the Parish Council should instruct Virador (now taken over by Biffa) to carry out a site clearance and thereafter collect the refuse fortnightly. Clerk would speak to Virador and complete paperwork.

**D) Other**

Clerk reported that the Doctor's Surgery had contacted her to book the Recreation Ground for flu vaccinations on Tuesday 5th October.

**16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING ON TUESDAY 12th OCTOBER 2021**

None.