ABBAS AND TEMPLECOMBE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held on the
8th MARCH 2022

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

IN ATTENDANCE
5 Parishioners, Mr Hayward Burt (District Councillor)

Chairman opened the meeting.
A Parishioner enquired in connection with the decision made at the February meeting to proceed with white lining the School Lane car park. Chairman commented that the January minutes stated the Parish Council would initially investigate costs. This was done and the quote accepted at the February meeting.
Several Parishioners were present in relation to the tree/hedge issues on the Kington View footpath. Chairman stated that as a number of questions had only just been received from one of the Parishioners the matter should be deferred to the April meeting to allow Members to study the questions. This was accepted and the following comments were made: -

- Should a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) be investigated for the tree in question. Chairman commented that the Parish Council were not against TPOs and had looked at one for the Yew Tree, at the East Street junction, but it had been turned down
- Who would be responsible if the tree fell on to the footpath - Somerset County Council (SCC)? The surface of the footpath is the responsibility of SCC
- Due to the angle of the tree, it is felt it is unsafe and a Health and Safety issue. Chairman commented that there is no evidence from the tree specialists that it is unsafe

Hayward Burt reported that the South Somerset District Council (SSDC) element of the council tax will rise by 2.8% meaning an increase of £5 for a band D property. £2.9 million will be spent on the Wincanton Town regeneration project. There is also a Somerset Food Fayre taking place in July.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
G Wilson, PCSO Will Mortimer

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 9) Update on traffic calming modifications. D Seares declared an interest in the Slades Hill development if the matter is mentioned during the meeting.

3 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 8th FEBRUARY 2022
It was proposed by S Webb and seconded by C Hukins 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 8TH FEBRUARY 2022
None.

5 CORRESPONDENCE
Received since the last meeting as discussed: -
1) Election information for Town and Parish Councils in South Somerset – email 8.2.22. Clerk had now received the election forms to hand out to Councillors.
2) PCSO Will Mortimer – e mail 8.3.22 – Chairman read out e mail, PCSO Will Mortimer confirmed his commitment to traffic calming and would continue to park up in the Village. He would also visit Bowden Road to monitor the parking issues and carry on visiting the Recreation Ground.

6 PLANNING
1) Planning Application no 22/00509/HOU Extension – 24 Brines Orchard Templecombe
S Webb reported no planning reasons to object to the application.

2) Committee Notification 21/03171/FUL – Rachel's Stables Temple Lane Templecombe – Erection of a timber cabin as a self-build First Home with associated landscaping works (re-submission of 20/027873/FUL)
Noted.

3) DETERMINATIONS
None

4) OTHER
No matters to report.

7) ACCOUNTING MATTERS
Chairman reported that the Village Hall insurance cover is due for renewal on the 25th March. Last year enquiries were made with Gallagher (then Came and Co) to include the Village Hall insurance cover with the Parish Council's insurance policy. Clerk had contacted Gallagher again this year who confirmed that given the hall is owned by the Parish Council and the Committee is a sub-committee of the Parish Council there is no need for the Committee to continue with a separate policy. The annual addition premium due would be £415.88 including Insurance Premium Tax (IPT), a pro-rata additional premium would be due of £77.40 to cover the period until the renewal of the Parish Council insurance on 1st June 2022. The Village Hall Committee would pay the pro-rata premium due, and the Parish Council would then take on the cover from the 1st June 2022.
Clerk reported that the Village Hall Committee had paid the premium and Members agreed a cheque could be drawn to Gallagher for £77.40.

1) To approve accounts and sign cheques
It was proposed by A Kerry and seconded by S Webb that the following cheques be paid: -

In Bloom – Donation towards Village planting for Platinum Jubilee	300.00
P D Fire and Safety – fee for fire safety service 25.2.22	108.00
Play UK Playgrounds Ltd – Installation of Wehopper/Grassloc/Basketball Hoop – Play Area/Recreation Ground	1,965.60
J Pratt (Groundsman) – Salary/Expenses February 2022 – Rec/Bgd/Cyd	195.00
T Chapman (Clerk) – Salary/Expenses March 2022	493.55
A J Gallagher Insurance Brokers – Pro-rata insurance premium for the Village Hall insurance cover	77.40

Following cheques received
Templecombe Village Hall Committee – Pro rata premium payment for Village Hall insurance now being included with Parish Councils £77.40

Templecombe Rovers Football Club – Refund for water/electric usage £358.43

Online Payment
Templars Tennis Club – refund for electric usage £111.35

Following monies received

NatWest Business Reserve Account	-	£0.17 as at 31.1.22 (£19,471.88)
NatWest Business Reserve Account (Play Area)	-	£0.01 as at 31.1.22 (£632.50)

Also - Utility Warehouse electricity account for February 2022 amounted to £54.07
Biffa Waste Payment £54.60

The sum of £550.00 will be withdrawn from the Business Reserve Account – Play Area to go towards the purchase and installation of the Wehopper – Play Area

2) Future Projects – update if applicable
a) Vehicle Activated Speed Signs/Speed Indicator Devices (SID) (A Kerry)
A Kerry circulated his report prior to the meeting. The Memorandum of Undertaking (MOU) is almost ready now to be submitted. Estimated budget, including 10% contingency, is £5,430. It is intended to make a grant application to the Road Safety Fund administered by Avon and Somerset Police. Next Grant funding slot closes on the 31st March but they occur on a quarterly basis. Thought will need to be given to the following: -

- Resolve practicality of charging batteries – how to pay, where to charge etc
- Identify people who will need training – at least three Parish Council Members
- Identify right logistics for purchasing pole additions and training

b) New bench locations – update (D Seares)

D Seares reported that the tree Section 171 Licences had been received. He would now liaise with A Gartell as to a timescale for the project. He would arrange to speak to P Batchelor and the Groundsman to agree the locations for the two seats intended for the Recreation Ground.

3) Other

No matters to report.

8 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Village Hall sub-committee report

A copy of the draft Minutes from the meeting held on the 28th February had been circulated prior to the meeting. The kitchen installation had gone well and almost finished.

b) In Bloom Group – (J Carr)

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The In Bloom group had begun preparations for the Platinum Jubilee displays and purchased plug plants. Funding is being sought from local businesses and fortnightly working parties are planned. An advert will go out for more help.

9 UPDATE ON TRAFFIC CALMING MODIFICATIONS (A KERRY)

A Kerry reported he and the Chairman will be meeting with representatives of SCC Highways regarding their response to our letter of the 4th January on Friday 18th March. Councillor William Wallace and District Councillor Hayward Burt will be attending the meeting in support.

10 HIGHWAY MATTERS

1) Bowden Road/Westcombe junction issues (update)

Chairman read out email dated 27.2.22 from PCSO Will Mortimer. He had visited the area on a regular basis and had identified the offenders who were parking within 10 metres of the junction. He had spoken to one of the vehicle owners and upon a recent visit both vehicles were now parked far enough away from the junction and legally. He will continue to monitor the area and act when appropriate.

2) White lines to School Lane Car Park/School Parking issues (update)

Clerk confirmed that the work would be carried out on the 12th April, weather permitting, during the Easter holidays. A working party may be needed the day before to ensure the car park surface is clear. Closure notices will be put up in advance.

3) Temporary closure of East Street – SCC 14.3.22 to 25.3.22

Noted.

4) Clerk to update on various highway issues

No matters to report.

5) Other

D Seares reported that the damaged East Street sign was ready to be replaced along with the Slades Hill sign. An enquiry had been made as to whether the Westcombe litter bin could have a lid, but it was thought the style of bin would not allow this.

Somerset Bus Partnership – update (S Webb)

S Webb reported that funding had been extended. There is uncertainty as to the full impact of any changes going forward. Not aware at present of any allocations in Somerset and the wider area. Awaiting date of next meeting.

11 ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUP (D SEARES/G WILSON)

a) The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations – update

An up-to-date report was circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

Members of the working group reported as follows: -

- Next public meeting would now take place on Wednesday 6th April at 7 pm in the Village Hall. This meeting will firm up events and involvement of people on the respective days
- Tennis and Football Clubs to be approached to hold some taster sessions
- Working group will provide the information when it is the appropriate time for it to go out
- Chairman has been approached by G Wilson who wishes to have a flagpole at the end of Bowden Road and another at the other end of the Village
- S Webb had spoken to G Wilson as to the proposed fireworks on the Pageant site. The costs would be in the region of £1,500. He is proposed to open the firework display to the public and G Wilson had enquired if the costs could be shared with the Parish Council
- A site meeting had been held at the Recreation Ground, with the Groundsman, to agree a position for the beacon. Oak trees will be planted along the area of the beacon

- P Batchelor had now received a quote for an Oak tree, to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee, amounting to £101.69 this includes accessories – guard, ties, stakes, root grow. Locations were discussed, the top of Throop Road and in the Churchyard were suggested. Planting would not take place until November/December 2022. A time capsules had also been suggested to go under the tree
- S Webb circulated an example of the design for the mugs, produced by the school. 120 will be needed for the School and 25 for Sticky Fingers Pre-School. Extra mugs would be ordered in case of breakages, and these can be sold at £5.00 each. Further orders can be placed. The distribution of the mugs was discussed and whether it was intended to extend giving them beyond the School and Pre-School. It was felt that children from the Village, who attend other Schools, may well be given a mug from their respective School. It was concluded that applications for mugs could be looked at on a case-by-case basis.

b) Other

Area East Thermal Imaging Camera

D Seares reported that the use of the thermal imaging camera went well. Problems had been identified and some people are planning to act on their findings.

D Seares and S Hood would be visiting Wyke Farms.

12 FOOTPATHS REPORT (P BATCHELOR)

a) KINGTON VIEW FOOTPATH/CASTERBRIDGE PLACE – REMOVAL OF TREES – UPDATE

1) Response from adjacent resident – email dated 17.2.22

Covered in Open Session.

b) OTHER

P Batchelor had circulated a report on the collapsed wall on the High Street. This is now a matter for SCC Highways. A structural inspection has been carried out and the area had been made safe. P Batchelor thanked Mr Hayward Burt for his help on the day of the collapse.

13 TREE WARDEN'S REPORT (C JAMES)

No matters to report.

14 BURIAL GROUND/CLOSED CHURCHYARD REPORT (CLERK)

No matters to report.

15 RECREATION GROUND MATTERS/CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

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

Report circulated prior to meeting. P Batchelor reported that the Wehopper rotating see saw arrived earlier than expected on the 15th February and Simon Williams had completed the installation. He had also put up the new basketball hoop and carried out the quarterly inspection on the zip wire.

1) Replacement Bollards/proposed knee rail – update (D Seares/P Batchelor)

P Batchelor reported she had met again with Mr Richard Pike. It has been agreed to lower the height of the rails and to have closer gaps between the uprights. There would now be a reduction of £700 from the original quote. He is now ordering materials and plans to carry out the work mid-April. The revised quote was now as follows, excluding VAT: -

- £3,195 – materials £3,695 – labour, tools, and machinery

D Seares suggested looking at a possible Community Grant from SSDC.

2) Other

D Seares reported that the re-wilding project would not be going ahead at the present time.

B) Social Club

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

C Hukins reported that the scheduled meeting had not taken place. It was suggested that the Chairperson be asked to inform Clerk when meetings are cancelled so she can inform the Parish Council committee members.

2) P D Fire and Safety – Report from inspection on 25.2.22

Chairman reported that P D Fire and Safety had carried out an inspection and reported the work that needed to be carried out amounting to £325, excluding VAT. Clerk would let the Social Club have a copy of the report. Chairman felt now that the Social Club should meet the costs for any required works and pay the inspection fee.

Clerk would contact the Chairperson as to the outstanding water bills.

C) Other

No other matters to report.

16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING ON TUESDAY 12th APRIL 2022. This meeting will commence with the Annual Parish Meeting at 7 pm with the usual monthly meeting following on. No matters to report.