

APPROVED 24/04/2023.

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Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on Monday 27th February 2023
commencing at 7.30 pm at Rockhampton Village Hall

Present: Councillors: T Mitchell Skinner, A. England, H. Price and M Goode

Also in attendance: Severn Ward Cllr M Riddle, Neighbourhood Constable Will Price, Severn Vale & Pilning Beat Team and Mr J Carpenter (Clerk). There were no members of the public present.

Minute Ref	Contents	Action
192/23.0.	APOLOGIES	
/23.1.	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr T. Cullimore and Ward Cllr Keith Burchill.	
193/23.0.	TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA & DISPENSATION REQUESTS <i>(If any) in accordance with Local Code of Conduct to receive any declaration of disclosable pecuniary or non-disclosable pecuniary interests and to consider and grant dispensation requests.</i>	
/23.1.	None.	
194/23.0.	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	
/23.1.	None.	
195/23.0.	TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21st NOVEMBER 2022	
/23.1.	It was proposed by Cllr England, seconded by Cllr Goode, and RESOLVED unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 st November 2022 be signed as a correct record.	
196/23.0	CLERK'S REPORT	
/23.1.	The issue of the overgrown tree blocking out daylight into a house in Church Road reported at the last meeting had been reported to South Gloucestershire Council. No response to date had been received so the Clerk would follow this up again.	Clerk
/23.2.	Confirmation had been received from the Village Hall Booking Clerk that the dates required for the hall for Council meeting up to February 2024 were in order.	
/23.3.	The Armstrong Art Group had returned the necessary paperwork requesting the use of the amenity land at the rear of the Village Hall for their event on Sunday 18 th June 2023. The Rockhampton Folkfest Organisers who had requested the use of the land for Saturday 17 th June 2023 were still to formally return their application.	
/23.4.	The Clerk reminded Cllrs of the email received from Thornbury Town Council to the Parish Council requesting assistance in funding the Citizens Advice in Thornbury as due to lack of funding it may have to withdraw its service from Thornbury. The Clerk reminded Cllrs that at their November meeting they agreed a donation of £40.00 which had been sent to their Yate Office. Cllrs NOTED the contents of the email and AGREED that although they did not have the funds at the present time this would be looked at in November 2023 when they consider grants for approval for 2023/24 and preparation of the 2024/25 budget in November 2023.	
/23.5.	The Clerk reminded Cllrs that elections will take place on 4 th May 2023. Nomination papers and other supporting material had been circulated to Cllrs. The period for submitting nomination papers was from 27 th March to 4 th April 2023. The Clerk also advised Cllrs that information would be placed on the Council website publishing the Elections and how electors can put themselves forward for election.	
/23.6.	Concerning the comments in 196/23.4. Cllr Goode confirmed that he had approached Paul Clark, who had been keeping the amenity grass cut in 2022 on a voluntary basis, and asked if he would be willing to continue to do this and be paid for it. He responded that he did not require to be paid but would be happy if the Parish Council covered his cost for petrol used. Cllrs accepted his offer to continue to keep the area cut and unanimously AGREED to cover the cost for any petrol used. Cllrs also agreed that later in the meeting under Financial Matters consideration should be given to offer a one-off payment to Paul Clark for his work in keeping the land cut in 2022.	
/23.7.	Cllr England noted that in the current financial year only £201 of a budget of £925 had been spent on maintenance with a similar budget for next year and that there is little point in budgeting if we don't spend, particularly as there are areas which require maintenance.	

Minute Ref	Contents	Action
	Councillors indicated they did not wish to discuss this in Cllr Cullimore's absence and that it should be discussed at the next meeting.	
197/23.0.	WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT	
/23.1.	The Hill Road would be shut for a number of days at the beginning of March in order for test bore holes to be completed to understand the extent of the road subsidence.	
/23.2.	New 30 mph repeater signs were being installed on the road through the village to re-inforce the speed limit.	
/23.3.	The last speed check on the road reported an average of 38 mph although it was concerning that over 15% of speeds recorded were more than 45 mph. Further speed checks were to be completed in the coming months.	
/23.4.	30mph road markings will be undertaken by StreetCare on all roads entering the village.	
/23.5.	If it was decided to move the Village sign on the Lower Stone Road to a new position this would involve a legal process to be completed.	
/23.6.	At this point Cllr Goode confirmed that he and Cllr Cullimore had looked at the locations at both ends of the Village and agreed that the proposed Village Gates at the Lower Stone Road end of the Village could be attached to the existing signage without having to place posts into the ground. At the other end of the Village, they found an area of verge which would be wide enough for a pair of Village Gates to be positioned approx. 100 yards before the Thornbury Rugby Club entrance.	Cllrs Cullimore & Goode
/23.7.	Cllr Riddle went on to confirm that he had completed a written request to StreetCare for a traffic calming scheme through the village. However, this would be a lengthy project involving two phase of consultations and would take approx. two years to complete.	
/23.8.	He went onto say that South Gloucestershire Council had approved the budget for 2023/24 which would result in a 5% increase in their Council Tax. He also confirmed that the cost of a green bin would remain unchanged at £30 and that a budget of £1 million pounds was agreed for resurfacing of roads across the Authority.	
/23.9.	Cllr England noted that the development of Butt Lane, Thornbury for 600 houses had been approved by the Inspector on Appeal and was disappointed that South Gloucestershire Council were unable to demonstrate a five-year land supply even though their last annual monitoring report indicated that they had over six years supply. Ward Cllr Riddle declared an interest and suggested that perhaps the local MP should be contacted as the formula for producing the 5-year land supply is dictated by Central Government.	
/23.10.	Cllr England asked Ward Cllr Riddle who was responsible for the white lining/road markings as he was concerned that in respect of the roundabouts under the M5 at Almondsbury and Cribbs Causeway they were virtually non-existent. He responded that these are checked by StreetCare every six months but would bring these two areas to the attention of StreetCare.	Ward Cllr Riddle
/23.11.	Cllr Price was concerned that the fencing on the bridge by the Car Park on the common was unsafe and if anyone lent on it, they could fall in the stream. Ward Cllr Riddle confirmed that he had previously reported this but would follow up again.	Ward Cllr Riddle
	At this point Ward Cllr Riddle left the meeting.	
198/23.0.	Severn Vale and Pilning Beat Team Report by Neighbourhood Constable Will Price	
/23.1.	PC Price apologised that due to shift schedules and being re-located to other areas of operations outside of the Beat area, he had not been able to attend meetings sooner.	
/23.2.	PC Price confirmed that he was aware of the issues with speeding through the Village and confirmed that speeding is not only by people from outside of the area but from within the Village. He asked, to assist the police, that members of the public note the registration, location, date, and time of any vehicle seen speeding and to email him with the details and he would respond as soon as possible. He confirmed that his email details could be added on the Parish Council website and any information provided would remain confidential.	Clerk
/23.3.	Rural crime is an issue with a recent theft of oil from a farm in Sheppardine. If anything, suspicious then again email him. If the issue was of an urgent nature, it should be reported using either 999 or 101.	
/23.4.	Also poaching is an issue in the area with people using 4 x 4, cutting of locks on gates to enter fields and causing damage.	
/23.5.	Finally, be weary of callers whether on the phone or on the doorstep as fraud in these areas is on the rise.	
/23.6.	Cllr Mitchell Skinner thanked Neighbourhood Constable Price for his attendance especially as he was currently not on duty.	

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199/23.0.	PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED																	
/23.1.	There were no planning applications on the table to discuss.																	
200/23.0.	PLANNING DECISIONS & ENFORCEMENTS																	
/23.1.	P22/06415/CLP Erection of a single storey extension to provide a utility room, garage conversion to form home office and alterations to the existing porch. Tanglewood Cottage Church Road Rockhampton South Gloucestershire GL13 9DX NOTED Certificate of Lawfulness approved 5 th January 2023.																	
/23.2.	Cllr Price asked whether planning application P22/0679/F for a Temporary Agricultural Workers Dwelling which had been refused in October 2022 could go to appeal. The Clerk responded that any appeal would have to be made within 12 weeks of the refusal.																	
201/23.0.	REPORTS OF MEETINGS																	
/23.1.	Cllr England recently attended the New Nuclear Build Committee meeting on 13 th January at which Rolls Royce gave a presentation on their proposals for a small nuclear Fusion reactor at Oldbury and Berkeley. From this presentation he understood that it would quick be to build and a lot cheaper than current nuclear reactors and would be able to produce three times more electricity than the previous power station on the Oldbury site. The reactor is still in its development stage, but the expectation was that it could be operational within 10 years.																	
/23.2.	The Clerk informed Cllrs that he had attended an online meeting of the Town & Parish Forum on 31 st January. A number of presentations were given which included one by the Domestic Abuse and Violence Officer at SGC on Awareness and Violence against Women and Girls and a presentation by Chris Mewse of Parish online a software company providing software data for use by Town & Parish Councils. The Business Development Relationships Manager then gave an update of planning which included the current planning review and report, the latter was expected to be published in October 2023. Planning Engagement Forums would take place three times a year, two of which would be online.																	
/23.3.	Finally, elections took place for Chair and Vice Chair with Cllr Sue Hope elected for one year as Chair and Cllr Nick Quinlivan as Vice Chair for three years. Minutes to be published in due course.																	
202/23.0.	CONSULTATIONS																	
/23.1.	Thornbury to North Bristol Sustainable Transport Corridor improvements. NOTED.																	
203/23.0.	FINANCES																	
/23.1.	Financial Statement The Financial Statement Report dated 27 th February 2023 had been circulated to all Cllrs ahead of the meeting. Current Account £ 5,746.29 (Statement No 272 – 30 th Jan 2023) Business Reserve Account £ 1,424.15 (Statement No 87 – 5 th Sept 2022) Total Balance <u>£ 7,170.44</u> Cllrs RESOLVED unanimously to APPROVE the Financial Statement Report which was signed by the Chair and Clerk.																	
/23.2.	Receipts There were no receipts to report.																	
/23.3.	Payments It was RESOLVED unanimously to APPROVE the following payments: - <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Payee</th> <th style="width: 40%;">Detail</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Amount</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Chq No</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>T Mitchel Skinner</td> <td>Platinum Jubilee expenditure</td> <td>£ 248.75</td> <td>591</td> </tr> <tr> <td>J. Carpenter</td> <td>Clerks' 4th quarter salary (Jan - March)</td> <td>£ 445.38 *</td> <td>592</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>3rd quarter PAYE</td> <td></td> <td>593</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> *Until the March salary input, which cannot be completed before 5 th March, the split between net salary and PAYE cannot be established.	Payee	Detail	Amount	Chq No	T Mitchel Skinner	Platinum Jubilee expenditure	£ 248.75	591	J. Carpenter	Clerks' 4th quarter salary (Jan - March)	£ 445.38 *	592	HMRC	3 rd quarter PAYE		593	
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/23.4.	The Council's Internal Audit Process for 2022/23																	

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	Cllrs unanimously AGREED to use the services again of the Smaller Councils' Internal Audit Scheme overseen by Avon Local Councils Association.	
/23.5.	Following on from the earlier discussion regarding the cutting of the grass on the amenity land it was proposed by Cllr Mitchell Skinner, seconded by Cllr Price and unanimously AGREED to make a payment to Paul Clark of £100.00 for his work on keeping the amenity land cut and tidy during 2022.	
204/23.0.	HIGHWAYS	
/23.1.	All the items on the agenda had been covered during Ward Cllr Riddle, 's Report under minutes 197/23.1. to 23.7.	
/23.2.	There were no other highways issues raised.	
205/23.0.	ITEMS FOR ACTION / DISCUSSION	
/23.1.	Town & Parish Forum draft Parish Charter	
	Cllrs NOTED this draft confirming that they had no comments to make.	
/23.2.	Police/Parish Initiative	
	The Clerk informed Cllrs that at the Town & Parish Forum meeting the Vice Chair confirmed that following discussion with the Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner a representative from the Local Beat Teams would attend Council meetings at least on an annual basis where they would provide a report of the activities of the Beat Team in the preceding twelve months.	
/23.3.	Tension Monitoring Reports	
/23.3.1	The Clerk informed Cllrs that at the Town & Parish Forum it was suggested that the Parish Council complete a Tension Monitoring Report and return it to South Gloucestershire on a monthly basis even if there was nothing to report.	
/23.3.2.	Cllrs felt that for a small rural Parish like Rockhampton ,where issues of tension related matters were almost non-existent that it was not applicable and was a waste of the Clerks' time and resource, and unanimously AGREED not to accept the suggestion of the Town & Parish Forum.	Clerk
/23.4.	Commemoration of the Kings Coronation	
/23.4.1.	Cllrs understand that there are several villagers who are meeting shortly to discuss commemorating this occasion on similar lines to that of the Queens Platinum Jubilee in June 2022.	
/23.4.2.	As to whether the Parish Council wished to commemorate the Coronation in some lasting form Cllrs unanimously AGREED to defer any discussion and decision until their next meeting.	Clerk
206/23.0.	CORRESPONDENCE OF NOTE	
/23.1.	Correspondence had been circulated to all Cllrs prior to the meeting.	
207/23.0.	OPEN FORUM	
/23.1.	Cllr Price indicated that the Village Hall is looking to have a small recycling bin for clothes etc placed at the hall and had several possible locations around the Hall to site it. He asked whether the Council if it would have any objection if it was placed in the Parish Councils Car Park. Cllrs England and Mitchell Skinner felt that due to the small size of this Car Park that this would be an issue. Cllr Price agreed that the bin would be sited on Village Hall land in their Car Park.	

This concluded the business of the meeting which finished at 9.40 pm.

Signed: Cllr T. Cullimore.

Dated: 24th April 2023