

Minutes of meeting of the Parish Council, which took place on Monday 10 February 2014 at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT Cllrs Cripps (Chair), Bishop, England, Finlay, Hallett, Lillywhite, Wakely, Willoughby, Mr P Thompson (District Councillor), PCSO Ceara Sturt.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Rowswell,
Messrs B Walker (District Councillor), C Le Hardy (County Councillor).

POLICING

PCSO Ceara Sturt said there had been several recent non-dwelling burglaries in the area and she reminded people to make sure sheds are secure and to install security lighting.

An incident of anti-social behaviour had been dealt with in Lambrook Road.

She is aware of the problem of parking on pavements and anyone seeing such an obstruction is asked to telephone 101 and it will be investigated.

MINUTES The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed and signed.

DC REPORT

Mr Thompson said the next meeting of Area North would take place at Seavington on 26 February and a presentation will be given on the Octagon Theatre and there will be a Community Safety update.

The District Councillors had received a briefing about the flooding and the 20 year action plan for the Somerset Levels and the District Council had been involved with arranging portaloos and getting fuel to people living in areas cut off by the floods, such as Thorney and Muchelney.

PARISH PLAN

An interesting newsletter was received from Shaun Watson, the new Headteacher at the School.

Cllr Willoughby said the Recreation Committee Meeting arranged for 3 February had been postponed and was taking place at the same time as the Parish Council Meeting.
More trees had fallen at the Recreation Field.

The gate had been repaired at Cowleaze and Cllr Finlay is looking into stabilising the bank.

LENGTHSMAN

Cllr Cripps had attended a meeting in South Petherton about the Lengthsman Scheme, when the Chair of Lopen Parish Council had suggested offering to return unspent monies to the District and County Councils. The Councillors felt the surplus funds should be held and gradually used as needed and Cllr Cripps will relay this view to the Group, who next meet on 3 March.

HIGHWAYS

Cllr Rowswell had sent a message from Mike Fear of the County Council, stating that the silt trap at the top of Love Lane would be in place by the end of March.

The drainage scheme in Lambrook Road will commence when none of the roads are flooded and traffic flows return to normal.

At the top of the village, where the landslide occurred, the Highway Authority has tried to sign the deep potholes but the signs are regularly moved and vehicles driven through and an effective repair cannot be carried out until the water flows subside. The Councillors wondered if a temporary metal plate could be positioned over the erosion.

A drain cover had been removed at the bottom of Shells Lane and not replaced correctly and blocked drains will be reported at Belmont Terrace and Great Lane.

Notification was received of a temporary closure of Stocklinch Lane from 24 February for drainage works.

Cllr Bishop had been asked to report an overhanging hedge in Lambrook Road and Cllr Wakely said he would speak to the landowner.

FOOTPATHS

The Lengthsman will be asked to repair a stile at Washcross.

ALLOTMENTS

It was reported that vegetation on some of the vacant allotments needs trimming off.

DEFIBRILATOR

Possible suggested sites for the defibrillator were outside the shop or in the Village Hall porch and Cllr England will ask the Village Hall Committee if a decision has been reached.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.