

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

PRESENT Cllrs Rowswell (Chair), Cripps, England, Lillywhite, Messrs P Thompson (District Councillor), P Maxwell (County Councillor) and 4 parishioners.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllrs Bishop, Fowler, Hallett, Wakely.

#### SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S AWARD

On behalf of the County Council Chairman, County Councillor Paul Maxwell made a presentation to Jo Walshe for being such an active member of the community as Postmistress and member of the Parish Plan Events Committee. Cllr Rowswell, on behalf of the Parish Council, congratulated Jo and thanked her for all she does in the village.

#### POSSIBLE ERECTION OF DWELLING ADJACENT TO HILLSIDE FARM

The Parish Councillors were advised of a potential planning application by Andrew and Sharon Humphreys to erect a dwelling on land they have purchased adjacent to Hillside Farm, which would use the footprint of the existing buildings and would be of a design which would be in keeping with the village. The applicants are seeking the support of the village and would hope to make some improvements to the drainage system.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Blue Walshe expressed concern about the condition of the pavement near the shops and this will be reported to the Highway Authority.

Cllr Rowswell asked Blue to enquire whether contact had been made with the District Council about fencing off the play area at the Recreation Field.

A very enjoyable Italian Evening had been organised by the Lethbridge Trust.

#### CODE OF CONDUCT

The new Code of Conduct will be circulated with a view to adoption at the next meeting.

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

#### MATTERS ARISING

Grit Bin Following the enquiry about refilling the grit bin, the Clerk was advised that it was topped up in November and the Highway Authority will need to be informed when it is nearly empty. The Parish Council will provide a shovel so that anyone can grit the road if they feel it is necessary.

Dog Waste Bag Dispenser It was confirmed that this has been installed at the Recreation Field.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

DC REPORT

Mr Thompson spoke of the work carried out by the Street Scene Department and the Highway Authority in dealing with recent flooding issues and said it was a good example of both authorities working together.

The District Council will be considering a report on the Local Plan at their meeting on 17 January.

CC REPORT

Mr Maxwell said that Porlock has a very good Emergency Flood Plan and the Clerk will make enquiries about it as the Parish Council will be considering compiling one.

Funding is now available for traffic calming measures at Watergore.

PLANNING

There were no objections to an application to erect ground and first floor extension to Stanley House, Middle Street.

The proposed planning application adjacent to Hillside Farm was considered and it will be discussed more fully at the next meeting when it is hoped that more Councillors will be present.

ACCOUNTS

Cheques were drawn for:

D Clarke – Clerk’s expenses	£135.02
JRB Enterprise Ltd – Dog waste bag dispenser	133.80

LENGTHSMAN

The Parish Council is grateful to the Lengthsman for the extra work carried out clearing leaves.

A request was made for vegetation to be removed from around the culvert at Silver Springs to allow the water to get away.

HIGHWAYS

The District Council Street Scene Department and County Council Highway Authority will be thanked for all the work they carried out to clear the roads after the recent flooding.

The Parish Council is still holding two of the old village name signs and suggestions for these included a Silent Auction and giving one to a village organisation for fund raising.

FOOTPATHS

Cllr Cripps will arrange for a map of the footpaths to be displayed in the village shop.

ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Cripps reported that two of the vacant allotments had been allocated and there are two and a half remaining.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

As the Agenda for the next meeting will be long, it was decided to start half an hour earlier than usual.

