

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council, which took place on Monday 8 February 2016 at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT Cllrs Bishop (Chair), Cripps, England, Finlay, Lillywhite, Wakely, Messrs A Dance & C Raikes (District Councillors) and 2 parishioners.

APOLOGIES Cllrs Brunt, Holmes, Tevendale, Mr C Le Hardy (County Councillor).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, Mary Clark, expressed the desire to retire from this voluntary position. The Parish Councillors are very grateful for all she has done and it is hoped that someone in the village will come forward to take on this role. The PCSO will be invited to the next meeting to discuss the best way of communicating information to the village.

She also spoke of the parking problems in the village. This continues to cause concern, not only at road junctions but also in narrow places, and it must be remembered that access has to be kept clear at all times for emergency vehicles. Notices will be placed on cars which are parked inconsiderately.

The speed of traffic was also discussed and it was felt that a sign is needed to indicate where the 20 mph speed limit near the School ends.

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

MATTERS ARISING

Highways The Parish Councillors were disappointed with the drainage work carried out on Shepton Hill, which has not solved the problem of water running down the road. Cllr Finlay will advise parishioners via the Website and Facebook page that the parish holds a store of equipment needed in emergency, such as sandbags.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

DC REPORT

Adam Dance said it will be necessary for both the District and County Councils to raise their Precept for the coming year and the Somerset Rivers Authority is now a precepting body as well.

Crispin Raikes said that discussions are still taking place about taking over Westlands Sport and Leisure facilities.

CC REPORT

The County Councillor's Report had been circulated.

SOUTH SOMERSET TOGETHER ASSEMBLY

Cllr Bishop will attend the assembly on 17 March to discuss welfare reform.

PLANNING

Permission had been granted for creation of new opening and installation of external door to west elevation at Manor Barn, Littlefields Lane.

ACCOUNTS

A cheque was drawn for Nigel Chapman in the sum of £240 for clearing the Allotments.

HIGHWAYS

Cllrs Bishop, Cripps and Lillywhite will attend a presentation on proposed improvements to the A303.

Notification was received of a closure of Littlefields Lane for Openreach to carry out work for broadband connection and Cllr Lillywhite will obtain further details.

FOOTPATHS

Dog fouling continues to be a problem and dog walkers are reminded to clear up after their pets and to dispose of the bags in the bins provided or in their own refuse bins.

ALLOTMENTS

The Parish Council is very grateful for Nigel Chapman's help with clearing the vacant allotment area and quotes are being obtained for fencing.

The Parish Council wondered if the Recreation Committee would consider a parking area for users of the Field and the Allotments and Cllr Finlay said he would suggest it to them.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

