

WEDMORE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of WEDMORE PARISH COUNCIL held at Wedmore Village Hall, on Wednesday 16th June 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors:, Mrs P Costello (Chair), Mrs I Beacom, Mrs J Candy, Mrs G Cousins, Mr D Cox, Mrs J Farley, Mrs J Keen, Mrs B James-Lloyd, Mr D Kirley, Mr A Landers, Mrs E Mulliner, Mr J Newton, Mr A Smith, Mr S Thorogood, Mr P Tinney,

In Attendance: Mr. R Pring (Clerk), Cllr D Huxtable (SCC), Mrs E Gillibrand, Mrs E Wotton

Prior to the meeting the Chair, vice-Chair and recently elected members signed the Acceptance of Office Register. The Chair welcomed everyone to the first face to face meeting for several months.

21.06.1. **TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Cllrs S Worrall

21.06.2. **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS** - Cllr Huxtable had nothing to report but was willing to receive any questions. Cllr Mulliner asked if it was correct that more County funding had been allocated to green projects to support those organisations unsuccessful at the last round of applications. Cllr Huxtable replied that this was correct and that those organisations that had previously applied would not have to re-submit applications. He mentioned a new Highways website for the public to make use of together with extra funding being made available for village halls. Cllr Costello commented on the recently held poll concerning a proposed unitary authority which had decided in favour of the “Stronger Somerset” group. She had been inundated with queries about the missed green bin collections which had been due to a shortage of drivers but now appeared to be back on course. Sedgemoor was discussing the issue with the contractor and Councillors were asking for some form of compensation for green waste subscribers. She had also chaired a Licensing Committee at Sedgemoor.

21.06.3. **TO RECORD ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - Nil.

21.06.4. **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19TH MAY 2021 – RESOLVED: that with one amendment the Chairman be authorised to sign the minutes as a correct record of the previous meeting.**

21.06.5. **MATTERS ARISING** – a. **Review of processes and procedures.** Cllr Kirley said that following the investigation into a complaint against the Clerk, the investigator had highlighted some procedures and processes that needed updating. A small sub-committee had been formed to look at these matters and would report back in due course when their work was complete.

b. The Clerk reported that the Air Ambulance clothing bank was in situ in the village car park.

21.06.6. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Nil.

21.06.7. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

a) **Audit of accounts** - 24th April 2021 – 24th May 2021 - Cllr Keen and Cllr Mulliner reported that all was in order.

b) **Accounts for Payment** – as per the following list

<u>Payment</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
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BACS	Rapide Systems	Washroom cleaner and stationery	£23.40
BACS	Premier Trophies	Replica Henry Butt trophy for Bob Selwood	£42.39
BACS	Wedmore PTA	Grant towards swimming pool etc	£500.00
BACS	OddJob	Unblock drains at public toilets	£63.00
DD	Sedgemoor DC	Clerk's salary	£1756.79
DD	Mainstream	Line rental and phone calls	£64.48
BACS	EDF Energy	Electricity at toilets	£8.68
BACS	Clarity Copiers	Photocopy charges	£8.77
BACS	Cheddar Signs	Dog sign for Worth. Woods and no smoking for toilets	£51.00
BACS	Rapide Systems	Consumables public toilets	£29.28
BACS	Ground Level	Tree cutting Car Park	£108.00
BACS	Ground level	Pruning trees and hedges Blackford Play Area	£768.00
DD	Mainstream	Broadband and line rental	£63.00
DD	Mainstream	Phone calls	£0.42
BACS	W Jackson	Grass cutting , highways and cemetery work	£968.00
BACS	Mrs R Stevens	Clean Council Rooms	£25.00
BACS	R Pring	Clerk's expenses	£17.46
BACS	D Summers-Cook	Clean and lock toilets	£220.00

21.06.08 **TO CONSIDER COSTS FOR THE CREATION OF A DEMARCATION ZONE AT THE CEMETERY CAR PARK**– Cllr Cousins outlined proposals to create a demarcation zone between the grass and the car park at the cemetery involving some kerbing and blue shale. This plan had been ongoing for a couple of years and she would like it to progress without delay. Two quotes had been obtained. She proposed the lower quote submitted by Chambers Services be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Kirly and agreed. - **ACTION Clerk**

21.06.09 **TO CONSIDER A FURTHER UPDTE AND TO AGREE ANY PROPOSALS IN RELATION TO THE COUNCIL PRIORITY LIST** - Cllr Cox had previously circulated a list of priorities for the Council including supporting the proposed medical centre, repairs to Theale village hall and a new website. He proposed the list be formally accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Smith and agreed. **ACTION - DC**

21.06.10 **TO CONSIDER SITING A SHED AT THE ALLOTMENTS FOR PLANT AND SEED EXCHANGE ETC.** - Cllr Candy reported that all plots had now been let but there had been a request to site a small shed on a corner plot where allotment holders could swap seeds, plants and produce. A discussion followed concerning the running costs of the allotments and it was generally agreed that a major increase in rents was needed to offset some of the running costs. Cllr Candy said that the shed would cost in the region of £700. She proposed this be approved in principal. This was seconded by Cllr Thorogood and agreed. **ACTION - JC**

21.06.11 **TO CONSIDER A PAPER CONCERNING HEALTH AND WELLBEING FROM CATHY BUTTERWORTH** - Cathy Butterworth had circulated a paper on the proposed project and Mrs Gillibrand added that the project needed the support of the Council to go ahead. Last time the Council paid for printing directories for every household and also paid for the rental of two halls in the village to stage exhibitions. The members agreed to fully support the project as previous and would consider a grant application in due course.

21.06.12 **ISSUES AND QUESTIONS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS** – Cllr. Cousins reported that following some anti-social behaviour in the village it took six days for a PCSO to visit the complainant. Although the incident had not been reported by “999” she felt this time lag was excessive. Cllr Thorogood asked if an orchard off Worthington Close had a covenant to prevent it being developed. The Chair said she had no idea and suggested an enquiry with the landowner. Cllr Smith noted that when the Highways Dept signed off work to a contractor no time scale for completing the work was included. This was proving very frustrating when we were pressing to get work completed. Cllr Newton reported that the Blackford gateway materials had been delivered to the Highways Dept at Dunball. .

21.04.16 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Item	From Whom	Subject
	ALL CIRCULATED	

21.04.17 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Cemetery – Letter of appreciation concerning the maintenance of the cemetery had been received
- Facilities Allotments & Footpaths – Nil
- Finance & General Purposes – Nil
- Housing – Nil.
- Highways – The sewerage scheme in the car park should be starting soon.
- Planning – Meeting Weds 23rd June in the Council Rooms
- Footpaths and Green Issues – Cllr Mulliner gave details of recent Green Wedmore activities including a bank holiday cycle ride and a reduced rate for locals applying for solar panels.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES

- IOW News – AGM being held next month and Tom Wright would be succeeding John Rook as Treasurer. John has held that post for 10 years and has done a first class job..
- Play Areas – Tree work at Blackford now completed and repairs carried out to equipment at Wedmore
- SALC – Nil
- Wedmore Playing Fields Management – Nil
- Village Halls – All halls were now open and taking bookings for events. Street party being held in Blackford hall car park and a party was being held on 24th July at Theale
- Twinning – Nil

21.04.18 MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING –

- (a). Chairman – Nil
- (b) Clerk – Nil
- (c) Members – Nil

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8.22 pm