

WEDMORE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of **WEDMORE PARISH COUNCIL** held at
The Council Rooms, Grants Lane, Wedmore, on Wednesday 18th May 2022 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Councillors: Mrs I Beacom, Mrs J Farley,
Mrs B James-Lloyd, J Candy, Mr S Thorogood, Mr A Smith, Mr A Reeson, Mr J Loughrey

In Attendance:

Mrs L Baker (Clerk) Cllr P Costello, Mr P Tinney

*CORRESPONDENCE - FOR INFORMATION All correspondence will be recorded, a list circulated to members at the meeting and will be available if members wish to discuss or read any particular item. Any member wishing to view a particular correspondence item may also contact the clerk following the meeting. Items of correspondence that the chairman intends to discuss are in **BOLD**.*

22.05.1 ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR THE YEAR 2022/2023

Cllr Costello asked for nominations for Chairman. Cllr Beacom proposed that Cllr James Lloyd stand this was unanimously agreed and Cllr James-Lloyd accepted.

20.05.2 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR FOR THE YEAR 2022 / 2023

Cllr Costello asked for any nominations for Vice Chair. Again, Cllr Beacom proposed this time that Cllr Farley should take the role, again it was agreed unanimously.

Cllr Costello gave her congratulations and then wished the new Council well before leaving the meeting.

20.05.3 TO CONFIRM DELEGATION ARRANGEMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND SUB -COMMITTEES AND EMPLOYEES

22.05.4 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON APRIL 20TH 2022

Confirmed and signed by Cllr James-Lloyd

22.05.5 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING MEETING HELD ON 4TH MAY 2022

Confirmed and signed by Cllr James-Lloyd

22.05.6 TO CO-OPT MR PETER TINNEY TO THE COUNCIL

Cllr Reeson proposed that Mr Tinney be Co-opted onto the Parish Council, Cllr Farley seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

22.05.7 TO CONFIRM TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEES

Cllr Lloyd referred to the Standing Orders that had been available for reference, it was agreed that they were acceptable, and the council adopted and confirmed. Proposed by Cllr James-Lloyd, seconded by Cllr Farley agreed unanimously.

22.05.8 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE UNDERMENTIONED COMMITTEES

Councillors nominated themselves as Chair, each were accepted

CEMETERY - Chairman Cllr Andy Reeson, Cllr Isobel Beacom, Cllr Jacky Farley, Cllr Barbara James-Lloyd

FACILITIES, ALLOTMENTS AND FOOTPATHS - Chairman Cllr Judy Candy, Cllr Shaun Thorogood, Cllr Jacky Farley, Cllr Andy Reeson

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSE - Chairman Cllr Barbara James-Lloyd, Cllr Jacky Farley, Cllr Isobel Beacom, Cllr Alistair Smith

HIGHWAYS, CARPARK AND BROOK - Chairman Cllr Alistair Smith, Cllr Jacky Farley, Cllr Judy Candy, Cllr Isobel Beacom

HOUSING - Cllr Jacky Farley, Cllr Judy Candy, Cllr Isobel Beacom

PLANNING - Chairman Cllr Isobel Beacom, Cllr Judy Candy, Cllr Barbara James-Lloyd, Cllr James Loughrey

22.05.9 TO APPOINT REPRESENTITIVES ON THE UNDERMENTIONED BODIES

Cllr Reason requested that other bodies and organisations were included, it was decided that Wedmore Harvest home be added with a permanent representative as Cllr Reeson already holds a position on the committee. It was decided that the Council will invite members from any other bodies that wish to speak on a subject at the time to which the committee deem relevant.

IOW NEWS – Cllr Isobel Beacom, Cllr Peter Tinney, Lindsey Baker (Clerk)

PLAY AREAS - Cllr Jacky Farley

SALC - Lindsey Baker (Clerk)

VILLAGE HALLS - Wedmore: Cllr Alistair Smith, Blackford: Cllr Peter Tinney, Theale: Cllr Shaun Thorogood

WPFMC - Cllr Barbara James-Lloyd, Cllr James Loughrey

TWINNING ASSOCIATION – Cllr Andy Reeson, Cllr Judy Candy

GREEN WEDMORE - TBC

WEDMORE HARVEST HOME – Cllr Andy Reeson,

22.5.10 TO REVIEW AND ADOPT APPROPRIATE STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Again, the documents had been circulated prior to the meeting for review, a letter was read by The Clerk from the Internal Auditor, Highlighting the legislation around providing funding for Churches – it was agreed this has been duly followed. It was proposed to adopt the appropriate standing orders and financial regulations by Cllr Farley and seconded by Cllr Beacom, the Council agreed unanimously.

22.5.11 TO REVIEW ARRANGEMENTS (INCLUDING LEGAL AGREEMENTS) WITH OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES, NOT FOR PROFIT BODIES AND BUSINESSES

The councillors questioned what this meant, The Clerk explained it was regarding any leases or contracts held with any person or business. It was agreed that further work needs to be done to ensure all of these are up to date and accessible. Proposed by Cllr Farley and seconded by Cllr Beacom

22.5.12 TO REVIEW REPRESENTATION ON WORK WITH EXTERNAL BODIES AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR REPORTING BACK

Proposed by Cllr Beacom, Seconded by Cllr Candy

22.5.13 TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH A VIEW TO THE COUNCIL BECOMING ELIGIBLE TO EXERCISE THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE IN THE FUTURE

This item was again clarified by the Clerk, as the way in which the Council conducts itself properly. She also stated that the view is that she will undertake training to ensure she becomes qualified, allowing the Council to the exercise the general power of competence in the future. It was agreed that this is the proper course of action and will be reviewed.

22.5.14 TO REVIEW INVENTORY OF LAND AND OTHER ASSETS INCLUDING BUILDINGS AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT

This document had raised some questions during the review period prior to the meeting, it is desperate need of updating with the acknowledgement that more items will be added with the adoption of the Cross Farm play area equipment. Cllr Farley proposed that the council agree to adopt the current document as it is now and review within 6 months to ensure it is carried out. It is understood that this will continue to be a working document as things are acquired and retired. Cllr Farley Proposed and Cllr Thorogood Seconded.

22.5.15 TO CONFIRM THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR INSURANCE COVER IN RESPECT OF ALL INSURABLE RISKS

It was noted that depending on the update to the asset register the insurance policy may need to be amended, the clerk clarified that having spoken to the broker this is possible. Cllr Reeson Proposed and Cllr Thorogood Seconded

22.5.16 TO REVIEW THE COUNCILS AND / OR STAFF SUBSCRIPTIONS TO OTHER BODIES

The clerk was able to provide details of some annual subscriptions but advised there could possibly be others that have yet to come to light. It was thought that a better record needs to be kept and reviewed. The following subscriptions were acknowledged SLCC £185 annually, National Allotment Society £67 per year, Somerset Playing Fields Association £15.00 per year, ICO (data protection fee)

£35.00 per year, Bullguard internet security (aug22 renewal) £49.99, netwise £460 per year, SALC, NALC, Scribe accounting services, Zen computer shop (servicing and training)

22.5.17 TO REVIEW THE COUNCIL'S POLICY FOR DEALING WITH THE PRESS / MEDIA

Cllr James-Lloyd explained that this policy had been agreed upon and added to the website the end of 2021, Cllr Farley proposed, and Cllr Thorogood seconded that this policy be adopted.

22.5.18 TO REVIEW THE COUNCIL'S EMPLOYMENT AND PROCEDURES

Cllr James-Lloyd explained that this policy had been agreed upon and added to the website the end of 2021, Cllr Reeson proposed, and Cllr Smith seconded the council unanimously agreed.

22.5.19 TO REVIEW THE COUNCIL'S EXPENDITURE INCURRED UNDER SECTION 137 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 OR THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

The Clerk presented a document that had spending of S.137 money listed as Christmas Tree purchase for the Village of Wedmore, the purchase of a Remembrance wreath and also a payment with regards to the service of a defibrillator at the end of 2020. There was a discussion around a similar payment was not made in 2021. No one was aware who was responsible for the regular servicing of the defib machine, and it was decided that Sophie York be contacted to establish if she was aware. All agreed this is an important item to keep regularly serviced and as such ownership needed to be clarified. The Council agreed unanimously that

22.5.20 TO DETERMINE THE TIME AND PLACE OF ORDINARY MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL UP TO AND INCLUDING THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

Cllr Smith proposed, and Cllr Candy seconded that the 3rd Wednesday of each month continues to be the best time.

22.5.21 TO AGREE THE CHAIRMAN AND THE CLERK CAN SIGN THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2021 / 2022

This was agreed unanimously, and Cllr Lloyd and The Clerk signed the document.

22.5.22 IDENTIFICATION OF SUCH BUSINESS WHICH BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES IS, IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIRMAN, URGENT AND REQUIRED TO BE TRANSACTED

NIL

22.5.23 ISSUES AND QUESTIONS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS – NOTE: FOR INFORMATION ONLY AS RESOLUTIONS CAN NOT BE AGREED AT THIS AGENDA

- Cllr Smith presented an update on the Closure of the Worthington Woods entrance to the Carpark, after extensive works taking place over the past few weeks the developer is hopeful that the works should be completed over the next fortnight and the entrance will be opened as soon as possible.
- Cllr Thorogood asked if the 'Have your Say' event would be rescheduled, it was agreed that the event is important and will be added to a future agenda for further discussion.
- Cllr Tinney asked if it was known who owns the Lascott Hill wooded area, the verges seem to have a lot of debris and there was concern for the safety of passers by due to falling branches. Further information is required.
- Cllr Farley requested that in the IoW news column we request for parishioners to take responsibility of trimming garden hedges that line the highways, some are becoming quite hazardous in places.
- Cllr Beacom updated on the purchase of the benches in celebration of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, the initial cost has risen slightly as the actual quoted price did not include the commemorative plaque – a discount has been negotiated and the Council were satisfied. Cllr Beacom is hopeful they will arrive intime for the celebrations although we await the delivery date confirmation.

22.5.24 MATTERS ARISING – Note: For information only as Resolutions cannot be agreed at this agenda item.

Cllr James-Lloyd offered congratulations to Cllr Matt Martin on becoming elected during the recent Somerset County Council elections, representing the King Alfred Division for the Liberal Democrats, it is hoped that he will regularly attend meetings.

Cllr James-Lloyd also welcomed Mr T Prideaux to speak, he declined.

22.05.25 COMMITTEE REPORTS – FOR INFORMATION

- Cemetery – Drainage by the top entrance is now complete
- Facilities and Allotments & Footpaths – Letters for allotment holders with regards to an inspection will be going out shortly, Cllr Candy has a meeting arranged.
- Finance and General Purposes – Next meeting set for Wednesday 1st June 2022
- Housing - Nil
- Highways, Car Park & Brook, no meeting has been held recently, It is hoped that the 'Have Your Say' event be rescheduled to discuss the progress on the SID's project, Cheddar road project is ongoing as it has been raised that the 30 mile an hour repeater sign is possibly not sited in the right place. Cllr Smith continues to work alongside the residents. Cllr Thorogood Cllr Smith for his commitment to this project, and Cllr Smith raised thanks to Mr John Woodwood for his support on the project.
- Planning – Next meeting set for 1st June – 8pm

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES

- IOW News – The Clerk attended the latest meeting and was asked to make the following observations, a change in printer has resulted in a change of spines meaning the books are heavier than before, also a new distributor is required for the Mudgely route.
- Play Areas – 3 quotes have been received for the new equipment at Cross Farm, a meeting is scheduled for Monday with the hope of further update.
- SALC – Everything has been forwarded with relation to training. Cllr Reeson requested that the membership details are re-circulated.
- Wedmore Playing Fields Management – Next meeting scheduled for Monday 23rd May 2022
- Village Halls – Wedmore, is performing well with a good number of bookings. The Arts Festival was very well attended, The facilities upgraded during lockdown have proved to be well received. Blackford is not quite back up to the bookings that were prevalent pre Covid. But it was noted that special thanks go to the caretaker. Theale has a new chairman Lisa Chiddeton, the Council should receive details soon reference the new lease. There was also mention of an impromptu Green Man on Friday 20th May 2022.
- Twinning – Are heading to France. Cllr Reeson will also keep us up to date twinning as he and his family are hosts.
- Green Wedmore – The clerk had attended a meeting with Steve Mewes and David Cox with the idea of getting to know Green Wedmore and the relationship they have with the Parish Council; it was very insightful. There has been a request to be added to the email list for the newsletter. Cllr Smith raised the importance of reviewing the lease.

20.04.24 MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING -

(a) Chairman – Scout Hut Lease, recruiting drive for Co-option of new Councillors

(b) Clerk – IT drop-in sessions (date TBC) Zen Computer shop service, Sanitary Bins in the public conveniences, Allotment package add on for scribe.

(c) Members – Rescheduling of the 'Have your Say' event, Thermal imaging camera (July's Agenda)

22.05.28 ALL COUNCILLORS TO SIGN THE ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE REGISTER

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS DECLARED CLOSED AT 8.35 PM