



## WEDMORE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

**Held at:** The Council Rooms, Grants Lane, Wedmore, BS28 4EA **on:** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023 **at:** 7:30pm

**Present:** \*Councillor Farley, Councillor Beacom, Councillor Smith, Councillor Loughrey, Councillor Tinney, Councillor Blackshaw,  
**In Attendance:** Mrs Lindsey Baker (Clerk), Councillor Martin, 4 Member of the Public.

#### Public Participation:

4 Members of the Public was present – Presented a report of an incident at the Heath House crossroads following severe safety concerns.

#### 23.10.1. TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE *(AND RECORD APPROVAL IF APPROPRIATE) LGA1972 S85 (1)*

Councillor Loughrey, Councillor Sampson, Councillor Banwell, Councillor Rant (Sabbatical), Councillor Hunt

#### 23.10.2. REPORTS FROM SOMERSET COUNCIL COUNCILLORS (BY INVITATION)

Nothing to report.

#### 23.10.3. TO RECORD ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nothing to report.

#### 23.10.4. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023

Councillor Farley addressed the Parish Council and confirmed everyone had read the minutes from the previous meetings.

It was accepted as an accurate record and the minutes signed.

#### 23.10.5. TO RECEIVE THE CLERKS REPORT AND RESOLVE ANY SUITABLE ACTION REQUIRED.

Councillor Farley asked if all the councillors present, had had the opportunity to read the clerks report, it was confirmed they had.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**Councillor Smith** – Raised some queries regarding correspondence: Community Speed Watch, he will respond advising the Parish Council would be on board with exploring this suggestion further.

Brook Maintenance: Should we consider re-inventing the Brook walks (taking control of the maintenance)

**ACTION: Clerk will write to the EA and the LLPA, to see what the situation is with being able to be proactive with the maintenance.**

#### 23.10.6. MATTERS ARISING AND QUESTIONS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS – *NOTE: FOR INFORMATION ONLY AS RESOLUTIONS CANNOT BE AGREED AT THIS AGENDA ITEM*

**Councillor Blackshaw** - A Member of the Public has been in touch about the bench on the Cheddar Road and cutting the hedge to make the aspect available again. Councillor Blackshaw will speak to the landowner about cutting the hedge.

**Councillor Reeson** – Update on the toilet, plans will be circulated once available.

**Councillor Beacom** – A Member of the Public has been in contact about if the Parish Council would champion an E-petition to remove HGV traffic from Wedmore. The Parish Council agree that this is not something we can take forward.

**Councillor Farley** – Attended the Playground training, the Clerk and Councillor Farley have carried out the operational inspection. Councillors are needed to carry out the regular 'weekly' checks. Councillor Farley will follow this up.

Councillor Smith – Any update on the Coombe Batch development proposal. Councillor Beacom and Farley confirmed that Somerset have confirmed the case officer is not currently working and so it is unlikely to go forward at the next meeting.

#### 23.10.7. TO RESOLVE TO ACCEPT AN APPLICATION FOR CO-OPTION OF A NEW COUNCILLOR FROM MR PHILLIP WEALE

Councillor Farley asked members if they would reach a decision to co-opt Mr Weale. The co-option application was proposed for acceptance by Councillor Beacom and Seconded by Councillor Blackshaw all members present agree unanimously.

**ACTION – The Clerk will write to advise Mr Weale of the outcome of the resolution and invite him to attend the next Parish Council meeting scheduled for Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023, to sign the Acceptance of Office Declaration.**

### 23.10.8. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(A) *AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 01<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER – 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 (TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM CLLRS BEACOM AND SMITH)*

Councillors Beacom and Smith agreed they had carried out the monthly checks and they were accepted as an accurate record to date.

(B) *INVOICES PAID SINCE THE LAST MEETING – AS SHOWN ON THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT*

It was agreed that the invoices paid were authorised.

(C) *TO APPROVE PAYMENTS TO BE MADE - INCLUDING THOSE LISTED ON ATTACHED DOCUMENT*

It was resolved to approve payment of all invoices until the next meeting.

**ACTION: Clerk to pay any outstanding invoices**

### 23.10.9. TO RESOLVE TO CONTINUE FOR A FURTHER 6 MONTHS WITH THE LLOYDS FIXED TERM INVESTMENT OF £100,000.00

Councillor Beacom confirmed that the initial 6-month investment period will be coming up for review shortly. Councillors agree that the investment should be continued for a further 6 months. Councillor Smith suggested looking at a rolling investment for further monies, given the good interest rates available. Councillor Beacom agreed she would explore further options.

**RESOLVED:** The Parish Council will continue with a further 6-month investment of £100,000.00 with Lloyds Bank.

### 23.10.10. TO RESOLVE TO RENEW MEMBERSHIPS WITH BOTH THE SOMERSET ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (SALC) AND THE SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Councillor Reeson, seconded by Councillor Blackshaw

### 23.10.11. TO DISCUSS AND RESOLVE A GRANT APPLICATION PRESENTED BY WEDMORE MEN'S SHED IN RELATION TO RELOCATING THE MEN SHED.

A Member of the Public attends to present the grant application on behalf of the Men's Shed. He gives some background and updates on the Men Shed, including the vision for the future of the group.

Questions from Councillors in relation to the grant submission were raised and answered by the Member of the Public.

A discussion ensued between the members.

**RESOLVED: The Members agree in principle to grant £2,500.00 to the Men Shed at such time as and agreed quote or purchase order is presented to the Clerk.** The resolution is proposed by Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Beacom all members agree unanimously.

**ACTION: The Clerk will write to the Men Shed group with the resolution as above.**

### 23.10.12. TO DISCUSS AND RESOLVE A GRANT APPLICATION PRESENTED BY WEDMORE BY LAMPLIGHT IN RELATION TO THE EVENT TAKING PLACE IN DECEMBER 2023.

A Member of the Public attends to present the grant application on behalf of Wedmore by Lamplight. He gives some background and updates from the event last year; he also spoke of the vision for the future of the event.

Questions from Councillors in relation to the grant submission were raised and answered by the Member of the Public.

A discussion ensued between the members.

**RESOLVED: The Members agree to grant £1,250.00 to the committee for Wedmore by Lamplight for the facilitation of the event.** The resolution is proposed by Councillor Reeson and seconded by Councillor Beacom all members agree unanimously.

**ACTION: The Clerk will write to the Lamplight Committee with the resolution as above.**

### 23.10.13. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED DOCTOR SURGERY PROJECT AND RESOLVE NEXT STEPS FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL.

Councillor Smith gave an update on the current situation of the proposal at the time of the meeting.

**RESOLVED: The Parish Council agrees that the £100,000.00 will be ringfenced for the Doctors Surgery project until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, at which point if The Wedmore and Axbridge Health Fund are not able to accept the proposed funds for the project proposed, the money will be reallocated to other projects.** The resolution is proposed by Councillor Blackshaw and seconded by Councillor Farley all members agree unanimously.

**ACTION: The Clerk will draft a letter and circulate for member input prior to sending.**

### 23.10.14. TO RESOLVE A PROPOSAL TO EXTEND THE 30MPH LIMIT ON THE B3131 – LATCHAM AND THE SID SIGNAGE ACCORDINGLY.

Councillor Smith gave an update on his recent communication with concerned Parishioners about the speed people are travelling along the B3131.

A discussion ensued between the members.

**RESOLUTION: Councillor Smith will contact Somerset Highways to request an extension of the 30mph limit in Latcham.**

### 23.10.15. TO DISCUSS THE HEATH HOUSE CROSS ROAD JUNCTION AND RESOLVE NEXT STEPS FOR ENSURING IMPROVED SAFETY.

Discussion ensued.

**RESOLUTION:** The Parish Council will pursue Somerset Council for change at this junction!

Wedmore Parish Council

Signed:

Date:

**ACTION: Councillor Smith will approach Somerset Highways about a site visit in the first instance, and explore the current sat nav set up for the junction.**

**23.10.16. TO DISCUSS THE WEDMORE VILLAGE FARM APPLICATION AHEAD OF THE SUBMISSION TO SALC.**

Councillor Farley spoke about the project so far.

A discussion ensued.

**RESOLUTION: The Parish Council are happy that the application will be submitted once the agreed amendments have been made.**

**23.10.17. TO DISCUSS AND RESOLVE THE CHRISTMAS LIGHT SOLUTION FOR THIS YEAR INCLUDING THE SUBMISSION FOR PERMISSION TO FIX THE DECORATIONS ACROSS THE STREET.**

Councillor Reeson advised that the application be sent to Somerset.

A pull test needs to be arranged.

**ACTION: The Clerk will submit the relevant application**

**ACTION: Councillor Reeson will seek a quotation for the pull test.**

**23.10.18. COMMITTEE REPORTS – For information**

A formal meeting needs to be arranged for the Finance Committee – Date TBC

Theale Village Hall – Councillor Reeson has been unable to attend the last 2 meetings.

**23.10.19. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

**All business conducted the meeting was closed at 21:05 pm**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023**