

HUIISH CHAMPFLOWER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on :- Tuesday 10th September 2024 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall

Present Stephen Kimsey (SK) (Chair), Mary Abel (MA), Dot Hayward (DH), Sarah Payne (SPa), Steve Powles, Stephen Pugsley, Marc Vyvyan-Jones and Chris Chanter,

Members of the public: - Caroline Pearce and Sharon Varney

Meeting started at 7:33 pm

Action

		Action
1	Apologies Louise Cooke and Frances Nicholson	
2	Minutes of the previous meeting on 12th March 2024. Minutes were agreed as accurate. SPa proposed they were accepted, seconded by MA and signed off by the Chairman	
3	Updates from Somerset Councillors: Highways have not provided a price per task but a price per day, and this is too expensive for parishes. It is being parked for now and the LCN is looking at buying in independent contractors. Grit maps done. Planning department is having problems with staff shortages, so things are taking longer. Looking at processes around affordable housing, this is a national rural problem. The ability to work from home may have an effect. Absentee landowners are an issue, no local contribution, developing a parish plan could possibly help with exploring restrictions on second home ownership. Could the forest on the Cleeve be labelled as a temperate rainforest? This might offer some protection. Within the Exmoor National Park lots of farms are being bought up to plant trees for carbon offsetting, this has the unintended consequence of reducing employment on farms and has a knock-on effect on the local community. The Boundary Commission are reviewing the seats on the council, Porlock to Dulverton is likely to be represented by 1 councillor, there will be consultation on this.	
4	LCN Pilot- SK sent out notes prior to the meeting- Parishes need to take responsibility for clearing around the salt bins, some bins need drainage holes as filling up with water, need to check on shovels (DH), are so many bags needed so close together in Brown Lane. Encouraging younger people into the area. Need to identify potential sites for affordable housing development in the village Footpath damage - an area of fencing near Tuck Mill has been flattened - passed to MVJ	DH All MVJ
5	Matters arising- last year bags were not collected and in Brown Lane the salt leached into the soil and has killed a few trees	
6	Finance As of 9th September there was £1084.39 in the Business Bank Account- £5.68 Interest has been earned since the 1st April Treasurers Account £8350.92 balance Expenditure since 1st April: £586.02 on repairing and replacing 3 Noticeboards	

HUIISH CHAMPFLOWER PARISH COUNCIL

	<p>£74.44 on SALC membership £55 to Exmoor Search and Rescue £394 in Tax £105 to the British Heart Foundation £55 to the Air Ambulance</p> <p>We need to make payments for the Clerks Wages-April to Sept - precise amounts TBA We agreed to contribute £100 for an additional defibrillator at the hall, the majority of the funding has been raised from residents.</p> <p>A thank you letter to be sent to Michael, Chris P and Luke who did the noticeboard repairs at 3 locations in the village. An excellent job. At the end of the last financial year we expected to have to pay for a number of additional services delegated from Somerset Council. To date this has not happened. We should investigate helping with grass cutting at the village hall and insurance cover for the swings. Replacing the missing signposts DH to get a cost estimate. Icy road sign SK to explore options.</p>	<p>SK/ DH</p> <p>DH</p> <p>DH</p> <p>DH SK</p>
7	<p>Planning: Complaint around commercial ad for the menage on the Cleeve, Planning permission on the menage means it should not be used for commercial purposes.</p>	
8	<p>Register of Interests - only SPa interests have changed, she will send an updated form to DH</p>	<p>SPa</p>
9	<p>Emergency Plan We could register the village hall as a place of safety, but probably needs hubs where people have generators and communications. If electricity goes out would 2-way radios be helpful? Having a list of vulnerable people would be good but how do we access this information and keep it current? SK to write something up. In the snow 4-wheel drive vehicles would be useful New residents pack - DH started this a while ago, to bring a list of where we got to for the next meeting.</p>	<p>SK</p> <p>DH</p>
10	<p>Date of next Meeting: 12th November, with an additional meeting on the 10th December</p>	
11	<p>AOB-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Raleghs Cross hedge overgrown and is a hazard to traffic ● Tanners Dip, Water board do not accept responsibility - back to Highways on this one ● Beulah Chapel really needs a stop sign ● Next Business Break Meeting on the 24th Oct in the church 	<p>DH</p>