

**Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held on  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at North Curry Village Hall (Main Hall)**

**Present or comments received:** Mr P Stone (Vice-Chairman), Mr G Cable, Mr M Dennis, Mr B Jeanes, Mr I Fugett, Mr B Jeanes, Mr A Turner, Mrs C Vaughan, Mr M Wilkins.

2 Members of the public. Mr R Lander & Mr A Meehan

**1. PRELIMINARIES**

**To receive and approve apologies for absence.** Mrs C Stodgell (Chairman), Mrs J Leader, Ms C Smith, Miss E Turney, Mrs H Griffiths, Cllr D Fothergill and Cllr S Buller.

**Approve and sign minutes for the previous meeting dated: 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021.** The Chairman requested a line to be added to the minutes after Item 11 Correspondence; The Chairman left the meeting due to personal reasons at 9.45pm, the meeting was taken over by the Vice Chairman. Mr Turner proposed the minutes were a true record of the meeting, this was seconded by Mr Cable, which was carried.

**Declarations of interest:** (Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary interests they have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct): Mr Jeanes declared an interest in item 11 Payment List.

**2. Matters Arising:**

**Policing Matters:** None

**Flooding Matters:** The flood gate on the Lyng side of the Moor Road is still not fixed Mr Meehan confirmed he has recently been in liaison with Highways regarding this matter and would chase again to warn them that the flood season is upon us.

**Fingerpost signs update:** The Clerk updated that the Fingerpost signs will be collected by West County Blacksmiths to be painted and she is waiting a date to be confirmed.

**Bus Shelter update:** Mr Stone explained he had been in touch with Kali from Highways to agree the positioning of the Bus Shelter and the plan sent. It was agreed that some of the large pot holes at the top of Oxen Lane will be repaired. Mr Stone contacted J S Construction for a revised price for the base and addition of the path which are required before the Bus Shelter can be fixed.

**Trees in Church Road update:** Mr Stone explained that he was to perform a Tree Survey on the Limes Trees in Church Road and would update us in the next meeting. The Clerk explained that an order had be placed for the Church Road path to be cleaned of the leaves and sticky sap which was making the path very slippery. A date for the cleaning was to be confirmed.

**Loscombe Meadows footpath odour update:** The odour still appears to be a problem even though we have been informed that the leaking septic tank at Spring Cottage had been fixed. It was agreed for the Clerk to send a further email to the Environment Agency explaining the problem is still apparent and requesting for someone to come and investigate.

**20mph Scheme.** The Vice-Chairman explained we are waiting for Somerset County Council Highways and the Police to meet to agree and sort issues regarding the 20mph Scheme. It was agreed to then tie in the cost of SIDS, (SIDS yet to be agreed) and confirm installation of posts for the units to sit on. To be an Agenda item at the next meeting.

**Airband Community Internet Ltd:** Cllr Buller was to report back on her findings after the meeting with the company, this was deferred to the next meeting in her absence.

**County Cllr. Report** – weekly updates being forwarded by email

**3. Planning Applications for comment by North Curry Parish Council**

**24/21/0040** Erection of an implement storage shed at Broad Lane Farm, Broad Lane, North Curry. Mr Turner explained the application and after a discussion Mr Turner proposed to support the application, this was seconded by Mr Cable, which was carried. (1 abstained) Mr Turner explained Corr: A7128 a letter from SW&T regarding the house development at Birds Farm they have place a TPO order on the whole copse next to the site.

4. **Highways England improvement, A358 update by Mr R Lander.** Mr R Lander, the Parish Council representative for the A358, gave a very comprehensive report on the A358 dualling from the Southfields roundabout at Ilminster to J.25 of the motorway. He explained the proposed completion date for the scheme is 2027. Mr Lander had attended a series of Community Forum briefings with National Highways (formerly Highways England) alongside other Parish Councils affected by the proposals of the new road. He explained that another briefing will take place in the next couple of weeks and he will report back again to the Parish Council. Mr Lander said that National Highways would also give a private briefing at a Parish Council meeting if desired. After a discussion it was agreed to hold a separate meeting with National Highways, the Clerk to speak to the Village Hall to find some free dates in Octobers/November and report back to Mr Lander to arrange.
5. **To discuss the formation of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee committee and proposals.** After discussion it was agreed that to form a committee for all events for the Jubilee was not necessary. If ideas were brought forward and agreed, volunteers should then be found to implement said idea. Mr Jeanes confirmed that the Beacon could go ahead as we had asked permission from Mr Vile but now volunteers were required to put it in place. Several ideas were discussed such as the community quilt, commemorative mugs for children (the Parish Council agreed to help financially for the mugs), picnic and music on the Playing Fields and it was agreed to place these ideas in to the Pink Sheet and ask for any other ideas from the Parishioners, this would then be discussed at next month's meeting and the Clerk to add to the Agenda.
6. **Footpaths matters including, New Bridge update, correspondence letter re crops, Insurance re purchase of hedge cutter and footpath diversion.** The Vice-Chairman explained that the notice is up at New Bridge and the owners of the property next to the river bank were pleased to see the path being opened up along the river bank and not through their garden. The Insurance for the Hedge cutter had been investigated and Zurich had sent questions to be completed for which Vice-Chairman had completed. All agreed that the answers were correct and the Clerk to send off to Zurich. The Vice-Chairman explained at the last meeting it was discuss to send a letter to farmers regarding crops planted on the footpaths. During the discussion is was highlighted that Parishioners should be reminded not to walk through farmers' fields on their crops and maybe the best approached should be an item in the Pink Sheet highlighting the County Code, asking walkers to stick to footpaths, respect the land and keep dogs under control and remove their waste. It was agreed in the future to visit the Landowners who continue to grow crops on the footpaths. The Clerk to place an item in the Pink Sheet.
7. **To discuss Greenway Allotments Survey and its outcomes.** The Clerk reported the general feedback from the Greenway Allotment Surveys 1) form an Allotment Committee 2) The old sheds are not being used and what to do with them and 3) the Allotment contracts to be reviewed. After discussion it was agreed to ask Mr T Goodall if he would like to be the Allotment Representative to give feedback from the holders to the Pariah Council on a regular basis and ask again general feedback from the 3 point mentioned above. The Clerk to send an email.
8. **To discuss and agree and reply to SALC re Parish Council Election survey 2022-23.** Mr Stone explained we had been contacted by SALC informing us the Town and Parish Elections were to be brought forward from 2023 to 2022 due to the creation of the new Unitary. We were asked for feedback on if we would be prepared to move the election date from 2023 to 2022. If we moved to 2022 it would save costs of a standalone election totalling £3,000. After discussion Mr Jeanes proposed to move our election date to 2022, this was seconded by Mr Cable, which was carried.
9. **To discuss Remembrance Day arrangements.** Mr Stone explained that arrangements needed to commence for the Sunday Remembrance Service which will take place 14<sup>th</sup>

November 2021. A list of actions required to be completed by the Clerk and an item placed in the Pink Sheet highlighting the date of the Remembrance Service.

10. **To report on the Carbon Literacy Course.** Mr Jeanes attended Carbon Literacy Course explaining it was a very interesting course and had sent all Councillors a copy of his report. He explained he would come back to the next meeting with what we should do as a Parish Council with more detailed ideas.

11. **Finance: Monthly Bank Report, Payment List:**

**Payment List**

Monthly Payment List - September 2021	Cheque No.	Total	VAT
Clerk-Maria Perry - August 2021	BACS	647.28	0.00
Plusnet (bill not issued as yet)	DD	20.00	0.00
Service Charge	SO	104.75	0.00
IONOS monthly Hi Drive Storage fee	DD	3.00	0.60
Zoom pmt to Maria Perry March 2021	S/O	11.99	2.40
North Curry V.Hall - Hire 11/08 Inv3484	BACS	14.21	0.00
B & K Jeanes - Grass cutting May 2021 Inv 21027	BACS	60.00	0.00
B & K Jeanes - Grass cutting August 2021 Inv 21076	BACS	60.00	0.00

The Clerk read out the Payment list explaining the invoice for Grass Cutting to Mr Jeanes in May 2021 had been missed and not paid in error. She listed three more invoices that we had received late to be added to the Payment List, Stable Electricity Charges £36.00, Stable Water Charges £6.13 and Water 2 Business water charges £15.05. Mr Cable proposed to approval the Payment list including the additional three invoices, this was seconded by Mr Turner, which was carried.

**Monthly Bank Report:** The monthly bank report was presented by the Clerk, Mr Jeanes proposed this to be a true record, and this was seconded by Mr Turner, which was carried.

12. **To discuss Covid Recovery Grants available.** The Vice-Chairman explained he had looked in to the grant and unfortunately we had lost the opportunity to apply as the grant had been utilised.
- **To discuss Zurich Insurance cover.** Mr Jeanes highlighted that the Zurich Cover is up for renewal as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and we will have to pay the renewal fee. A Discussion was had about the Asset register and all agreed that the clerk sent it to all Councillors to ensure all items are listed.
13. **To discuss Facebook and Parish Church Magazine.** Mr Wilkins enquired that if there was a PDF version of the Magazine could it be posted on North Curry Parish Council's Facebook. After a discussion suggestions were made if various articles were posted only and not the whole magazine. It was agreed to contact Rob Ellis who edits the Parish Church Magazine to obtain his views and comments regarding this matter and report back at the next meeting.
14. **Correspondence. A7126-A7131 covered.**  
**Corr A7126:** Mrs Vaughan raised the issue of the mobile flood sign that we have requested the Clerk explained that she has updated Highways to say a mobile sign is required as they emailed saying one was already in situ. Mrs Vaughan asked if we could buy a sign if no luck with Highways she had seen one at a cost of £38. The Vice-Chairman proposed to agree to buy the sign if one not received by Highways, this was seconded by Mr Wilkins, which was carried.
15. **Committee /Delegate reports – (Please send written reports prior to the meeting and these will be included on the minutes.)**  
**Footpaths (PS)** Covered above.  
**Allotments (JL)** Covered above.

**Stable (BJ)** Firstly, a while ago Richard Lander endeavoured to get quotes to resolve the ongoing occasional puddle in the car park. Two options with slightly different specs had been obtained; one for £6,950 and the other £8,010, both excluding VAT. We considered these to be excessive so they have been declined; Richard is now to contact Rob Case. The Parish Council don't consider the matter to be overly urgent but we do think that it should be done before too long as there could, in times of very extreme rainfall, be a risk of the building flooding.

Secondly, the cleaner, somewhere between her home and the school, lost her keys to the Coffee Shop and to the internal door to the corridor. These have yet to turn up but we still hope that it might. If they don't appear by early next week we agreed that the outside door lock should be changed and new keys should be provided to the Coffee Shop. PAT testing will be done on Monday and Richard Lander attended a Community Safety Course mainly for Village Halls but some points were raised regarding boxes placed near to boilers and checks need to be made in the Stable to ensure fire standards are met.

**White St. (PS)** Youth football doing very well it is very well supported.

**Wildlife Group (PS)** Moth Evenings have been held and lots of pictures available if anyone wants to view them.

**Facebook (MW)** For the period – 11<sup>th</sup> August – 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Page Followers – 268, previously 259, Page Likes – 221, previously 214

15 posts this period (Maurice on vacation from 13<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Aug), with 1,571 people reached at an average of 105 per post and 195 engagements.

#### 16. **Publicity Inputs.**

Jubilee Suggestions.

Footpaths walkers sticking to path, keeping dogs under control, landowners not to plant crops on the footpaths, Countryside Code, pick up dog waste.

Remembrance Service.

#### 17. **Matters for Discussion.**

Mrs Vaughan asked if any more news on the planning for the Carp Lake at Helland nothing has been received so far. Mr Fugett asked if we have heard anything about fixing the pot holes in Board Land, the Clerk to chase.

**There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.35pm**