

## CHEDDON FITZPAINE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.00pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

In the Committee Room of the Memorial Hall at Cheddon Fitzpaine TA2 8JY

[www.cfpc.co.uk](http://www.cfpc.co.uk)

**Present:** Parish Cllrs Woollacott, Isaacs, Batsch, & Wilson, SCC Cllrs Cavill & Deakin, DC Cllr Tully, and Clerk Mrs S Millard-Jones.

With approximately 4 members of the public.

Cllr Woollacott chaired the meeting.

**06/01 To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr Baker, SCC Cllr Fothergill, WM Assistant Clerk Mrs T Cavill & NP Delivery Group Chairman K Tutill

**06/02 To receive declarations of personal/prejudicial/disclosable pecuniary interests:** None.

**06/03 To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting** held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022. It was **resolved** to approve the Minutes.

#### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:**

Questions received:

**Q:** Does the Parish Council (PC) know what the status is of the Glebe Farm planning application?

**A:** There is no update yet.

#### **06/04 Reports: SCC/SWT**

SCC Cllr Deakin:

The Council is working through the bedding in phase and progress has been made on leadership and structures. New scrutiny committee has been put in place. Free school meal vouchers have been given to families across the district. Locally been working with residents to tackle the anti-social behaviour and there seems to be an improvement. There have been a lot of residents getting in contact regarding grass cutting, this is behind schedule but SCC are working hard to catch up. Cllr Deakin was very impressed with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee events that took place in the Country Park (CP) and would like to support future events. More than happy to be contacted regarding parish matters and wants to be contactable and accessible.

SCC/SWT Cllr Norman Cavill:

The cycleway from the train station to Vivary Park is progressing, which will improve the bridge over Morrisons to provide a cycle way. He went on further to state that he and SCC along with West Monkton Parish Council are committed to further endeavours in the country park.

SCC Cllr Fothergill provided the following report in his absence:

**Local Government Reorganisation:** Following the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) decision to support the move to a single Unitary Council across Somerset the Structural Changes Order were approved by the House of the Lords and passed into law on 17<sup>th</sup> March. The first elections to the new authority together were held on 5th May 2022. Vesting day for the new Unitary Council remains as 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

**Primary School Admissions:** More than 98 per cent of Somerset children were offered a primary school place at one of their top three choices, the County Council's latest school admission figures show. Overall, 98.62 per cent of the 5,296 applicants were offered a place at one of their top three primary school choices. Of the primary school applications received this year, 93.4 per cent (4,946 applications) received their first choice; 4.58 per cent (243 applications) received their second choice and 0.64 per cent (34 applications) their third choice

**Winter gritting:** SCC's fleet of 23 Gritters stood down in May following a busy winter season. The gritters treated over 900 miles of Somerset roads on 59 occasions travelling over 45,000 miles. In total 5,200 tonnes of salt (excluding roadside salt) was used and the lowest temperature recorded was -5.3 degrees on Exmoor on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

**Think Travel:** A new one-stop travel information website has been launched by Somerset County Council to support more local people to access public and community transport. The new website covers public transport, community transport, the Slinky demand responsive transport service and car sharing. To start a search, all residents need to do is enter a journey start point and destination in the planner and Think Travel will find the available options. The aim is to grow this facility and encourage local car sharing networks to evolve. More information can be found at: <https://somerset.thinktravel.info>

**Child Safety:** Over 1,000 Somerset children are hospitalised because of preventable accidents each year – most of them occur in their own homes. Nearly half of these injuries (46%) are because of falls; down the stairs, from high surfaces or windows. Other injuries include burns, scalds, and poisoning through eating inedible things. As part of Child Safety Week (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> June) eligible parents can get free safety equipment through their Health Visitor which can help protect children from some of these accidents.

**Smoking in pregnancy:** Mothers who smoke during pregnancy are being given incentives to “kick the habit” as part of a package of increased support launched by Somerset County Council. Let's Kick It Together, a campaign from the [Mums2Be Smokefree Service](#) and the NHS, aims to reduce smoking before, during and after pregnancy. It provides expectant parents with support and financial incentives to kick the habit, including a personal Stop Smoking Practitioner, free support and treatment when needed, and a new App ([www.myquitroute.com](http://www.myquitroute.com)) in a drive to reduce the percentage of people who smoke during pregnancy in the county.

**Duke of Edinburgh Awards:** More and more young people in Somerset are taking up the opportunity to improve their leadership and communication skills by pursuing a Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award. Following two years of turbulence caused by the coronavirus pandemic, a total of 2,649 students have started an award in one of the 62 centres that work directly with the Somerset County Council DofE team. This includes 533 awards that have been started by disadvantaged pupils, whether at mainstream schools or settings specifically for children with Special Educational Needs (SEN). The DoE Award can be started in the academic year a young person turns 14, and potentially run until their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday. The award is achievable for all and does not discriminate against gender, age, and ability. There are four key sections for all of the awards – Physical, Skill, Volunteering, and the Expedition; at Gold there is also the addition of the Residential section. Anyone wishing to learn more on any of the options can email [DofE@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:DofE@somerset.gov.uk)

**Blood Pressure Machines:** More than two hundred blood pressure monitor kits are available for loan from libraries in the county to raise awareness of high blood pressure. About 1 in 10 don't know they have high blood pressure it. It is a major risk factor for Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) and significantly increases the risk of having a heart attack or stroke, but early detection and treatment can help people live longer, healthier lives. The blood pressure monitor kits include an information leaflet that explains how to check your blood pressure at home and what to do with the results. The monitors can also detect an irregular heartbeat which is another risk for cardio-vascular disease.

**Ukrainian refugees:** Somerset County Council is working with Mendip, Sedgemoor, Somerset West and Taunton and South Somerset District Councils, the Somerset NHS Clinical Commissioning Group, Avon and Somerset Police, and local charities and community groups to help both sponsors and refugees. Those arriving from Ukraine are likely to need access to a range of services – from health and transport to schools and nursery places. It's a fast-moving situation and the initial priority is to identify local sponsors, carry out checks and help Ukrainian people settle safely in Somerset. [www.somerset.gov.uk/Ukraine](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/Ukraine) includes a digital form which should be completed by sponsors who are matched with refugees. This will help local services to carry out the checks sponsors need to safely welcome their guests. The webpage also carries

information on other ways Somerset residents can support Ukraine, with links to local and national charities and helplines. For full information and more details on actions around refugees can be found at [www.somerset.gov.uk/ukraine/refugee-resettlement/](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/ukraine/refugee-resettlement/)

SWT Cllr Tully informed attendees that Biffa have sold their landfill site to a developer but was unable to give any further detail.

#### **06/05 Joint Projects with West Monkton:**

##### **Maidenbrook Country Park & Somerset Wood:**

- a. SWT put out a press release on Christmas Eve stating that there was an agreement between CF & WM PC's and the District Council. A lease document was put together and was much larger than expected/originally agreed. A concern with this document is that the lease potentially puts a stop to any expansion of the CP and Somerset Wood. The CP Working Group (WG) are uncomfortable about some of the other restrictive clauses and feels that it is important to sign the lease and covenant document in order to achieve possession with an intention to address some of the anomalies at a later date.

The WG recommends that the PC should continue and arrange signing of the lease with the aim to have the document signed ahead of the 16th June when the Secretary of State will issue the s24 notice concerning assets.

Cllr Woollacott proposed that the lease should be signed, and Cllr Isaacs seconded. It was **resolved** that the PC would sign the lease and return to West Monkton (WM) PC for signing at their meeting on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June. WM Clerk would then arrange for the document to be returned to the solicitor on next day guaranteed delivery. It was further **resolved** to sign the Deed of Covenant.

It was agreed that both documents should be signed by Cllr Woollacott as Chair and Cllr Isaacs as Vice Chair.

##### **Neighbourhood Plan Review:**

There had been no further update received on the NP, it was hoped that there will be an update at the July meeting.

#### **06/06 Platinum Jubilee**

Firstly, thanks was given to everyone involved that volunteered their time, in particular to WM Community Clerk for arranging the event.

WM Community Clerk had put a survey onto social media asking for feedback on the event, 103 responses have been received so far, 26 residents have expressed an interest in volunteering for future and ongoing community events – some of which were from Cheddar. Most respondents were very positive about the event; however some were disappointed that the food ran out and the quality of the sound system. In terms of future events, the Clerks from WM and CF PC's felt that a ticket system may help and that a meeting amongst all volunteers at the very start of arranging anything may be beneficial.

Out of the 600 people that attended the event on the Saturday only 30 cars were parked - 15 of which were the military wives.

Overall, it is expected that there will be an overspend of around £300 per PC.

#### **06/07 Community Governance Review**

The Community Governance Review (CGR) commences on June 14<sup>th</sup>. Derek Perry has been contacted, but has not yet responded to Cllr Woollacott. Cllr Cavill proffered advice to present Derek Perry with proof that CFPC has an actively involved and thriving community and that residents must be encouraged to comment on the portal. SWT should be sending a postcard to all addresses promoting the CGR and asking residents to complete the survey. Cllr Batsch suggested that some materials should be put together for distribution throughout the parish. All councillors were in agreement.

#### **06/08 Cheddar Ward:**

The Clerk had reported the overgrowth of footpath T5/14. The Clerk had been contacted by a resident about setting up a book exchange and thought it would be a nice idea to acquire an old phone box to provide a home for the books, however, it seems that original phone boxes cannot be removed, and a new structure would be required, the Clerk will continue to ascertain interest in having a book exchange within the Cheddon and Maidenbrook wards. It had been brought to the PC's attention that the phone box sited within Cheddon Village is actually listed and owned by BT still, it was established that there was some interest from the PC to take over the phone box and in the future site a defibrillator within it. The Clerk is to go back to BT and establish whether the telephone box may be adopted by the PC.

#### **06/09 Maidenbrook:**

The Clerk continues to chase the adoption of Waterleaze with Kate Hicks, Claire Thackeray and Chris Hall. A response was received from Claire Thackeray at the end of May who confirmed that there had been no response from Vistry since June 2021 following a site meeting in May 2021. The Clerk has emailed Andrew Webber at Vistry directly for a further update. Andrew was on leave until 6<sup>th</sup> June, there has been no response after a further chase on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June.

The Clerk chased David Wilson Homes and Pinnacle regarding the fallen tree in Bruford Drive and the lack of weed clearance throughout the estate. No response had been received after a further chase on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr Deakin explained that there is a scheduled meeting between a Northwalls resident and Pinnacle. The Clerk will follow this up.

Cllr Batsch asked Cllr Deakin about local anti-social behaviour, and vandalism, especially in the CP portals, forest school, and most recently the graffiti on the memorial stone. Cllr Deakin reminded everyone that all incidents must be reported to the 101 line as well as through the PCSO's.

#### **06/10 Highways:**

Monkton Heathfield Road. The works are expected to commence on 22nd June 2022 and last for 13 nights (18:30 -06:00) to enable Airband Community Internet to carry out cabling and ducting works.

Lyngford Lane, Cheddon Fitzpaine. The works are expected to commence on 27th June 2022 and last for 3 days to enable Airband Community Internet Ltd to carry out new pole works.

Volis Hill, Broomfield These works are for Somerset Highways Surface Dressing Works. 5th July 2022 at 00:00 and is expected to last until 28th July 2022 at 23:59.

Cheddon lawns 4th July 2022 and last for 5 days to enable Airband Community Internet to carry out poling, splicing and overhead works

Creech Castle still looking on schedule for reopening of mid August.

#### **06/11 Planning Applications:**

**08/22/0006** Change of use of part of unit to a vehicle maintenance workshop with container storage and repair facility, storage and distribution centre, vehicle parking, offices, welfare facilities and other uses within Classes B1 (C), B2 and B8 at Unit M7, Crown Industrial Estate, Venture Way, Taunton. No objections

#### **06/12 Planning Decisions:**

**08/21/0016** Conversion of garage and derelict barn to 1 No. holiday let with associated parking at Rowford Cottage, Lyngford Lane, Cheddon Fitzpaine - Refusal

#### **06/13 Reports:**

Cheddon School: SATS tests had proven tough for pupils and they are all counting down to the end of term. Year 6 children will be going on a residential to Charter House. At the start of the next school year, reception will be at full capacity. Two pupils from Cheddon School won awards for second and third places for their artwork at the CP Jubilee celebrations.

#### **06/14 Audit: AGAR. To adopt receipts and payments.**

It was **resolved** to adopt the receipts and payments for 2021-22.

**To receive & approve the annual internal audit report.**

It was **resolved** to receive & approve the annual internal audit report.

**To note the Internal Audit Actions**

Recommendations made by the Internal Auditor were;

- To add a copy of the email from HMRC as evidence of submission of VAT claims where repayment is made in the next financial year.
- The date of commencement of the notice period was incorrect 20-21 and was the same as the date of commencement.

**To approve Annual Governance Statement for Audit 2021-22**

It was **resolved** to approve Annual Governance Statement for Audit 2021-22

**To approve the Accounting Statement for Audit 2021-22**

It was **resolved** to approve the Accounting Statement for Audit 2021-22

**To note the Confirmation of Public Rights period**

Date of announcement Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June and commencing Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June and ending on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July.

**To note the Review of Effectiveness of the Internal Audit**

The Review of Effectiveness document had been circulated ahead of the meeting and was noted.

#### 06/15 Administration:

A new email account had been set up for Cllr Wilson and was in use. Cllr Baker was still to set up his PC email account. The employers liability Certificate for 22/23 had been updated on the website and the Good Councillors guide 2018 had been circulated amongst members.

#### 06/16 Finance:

##### a) Approval of Payments & Receipts (R)

##### Payments

To whom	Description	Net	VAT	Total	Pay Date	Confirmed on bank Statement
S Millard-Jones	June Salary, Homeworking & Mileage, PAYE & NI (-NEST)	£1,081.22	£8.85	£1,090.07	30/06/22	
J Pearson	Falklands expenses	£13.07	£	£13.07	16/06/22	
Zurich	Insurance for CP (Paid in May under DP)	£88.94		£88.94	16/06/22	
WM PC	50/50 share of AH expenses CP	£81.86	£	£81.86	16/06/22	
Stuart Paul	Bugler for Falklands service 50/50	£37.50	£	£37.50	16/06/22	
Jill Larcombe	Internal Audit	£150.00	£	£150.00	16/06/22	

##### Debit Card/Direct Debit: To note:

To whom	Description	Net	VAT	Total	Pay Date	Confirmed on bank Statement
SWS	Email addresses	£32.20	£6.44	£38.64	02/06/22	
NEST	Pension	£35.72	£	£35.72	29/06/22	
Microsoft	Monthly Subscription	£9.40	£1.88	£11.28	19/06/22	
SWS	Hosting Inv	£24.00	£4.80	£28.80	20/06/22	

##### Receipts: To note:

VAT reclaim CP account		£699.36
Clerk payment made in error		£860.09

	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,559.52</b>
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**Country Park**

To whom	Description	Net	VAT	Total	Pay Date	Confirmed on bank Statement
DDS Aquatics	Coir matting & planting	£4,994.55	£998.91	£5,993.46	16/06/22	

It was **resolved to pay** the above by cheque/internet banking

**b) Approval of the bank reconciliation (R)**

Main Account	£51,441.50
CIL Account	£21.44
NSI Account	£3,123.62
CP Account	£6,831.35
Total	£61,387.91

It was **resolved** to approve the bank reconciliation

**c) Donations to Love Musgrove, CAB, ARC, MIND, St Margaret's Hospice & Air Ambulance** had been made under Local Government Act 1972 section 137 (3). To note Love Musgrove (Beacon Centre)

**d) To note that a transfer of £699.36 needs to be made from CP account to main for the VAT reclaim**  
This is due to HMRC only allowing one nominated account number.

**06/17 Correspondence:** All circulated

**06/18 Matters raised by Councillors:**

Cllr Isaacs would like the PC to engage more with the community and get more involved with the local schools. The Clerk to contact Cheddon and Nerrols Primary to see how they can help/be more involved.

West Monkton PC are in the process of launching a Community Fridge which they would like residents of Cheddon to also enjoy. The initiative is about wasting less and should be widely available to all. There are currently three co-ops that have committed to making donations, however the fridge will be open for anyone to make a food donation.

Councillors were minded to support the Clerk being involved in this project in the hope that Cheddon residents could get involved.

**06/19 Items for next agenda:** None

**2022 Dates:** 11<sup>th</sup> July. 8<sup>th</sup> August. 12<sup>th</sup> September. 10<sup>th</sup> October. 14<sup>th</sup> November. 5<sup>th</sup> December.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm

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Chair