

CHEDDON FITZPAINE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.00pm on Monday 14th June 2021

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

www.cfpc.co.uk

Present: Parish Cllrs Webber, Woollacott, Isaacs, Batsch & West, **SCC Cllrs** Fothergill & Fraschini, **SWT D Cllrs** Cavill, Darch & Pritchard, WM Cllr Hall, WM Assistant Clerk Mrs T Cavill, NP Delivery Group Chairman K Tutill, Clerk Mrs S Millard-Jones. Approximately 8 members of the public.

06/01 To receive apologies for absence: Cllr Lee Baker

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

06/03 To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th May 2021: It was **resolved** to approve the Minutes.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: Lynda Sudlow from Airband provided a presentation for all councillors and members of the public. This can be seen on the Cheddon Fitzpaine Parish Council website.

06/04 Reports: SCC/SWT

Cllr Fothergill provided the following report;

Coronavirus infection rates: have increased substantially from 3.4 ten days ago to 14.1 in South Somerset and 12.2 SW&T. Currently recording 19 cases.

Road map out of lockdown: Restrictions remain the same with a maximum limit on gatherings of 30 people outside. Tables of 6 at restaurants and mixing of two households. Working from home is still advised.

Somerset Coronavirus Support Helpline: A single phone number continues to be available for anyone in Somerset who needs Coronavirus-related support. 0300 790 6275, is open seven days a week from 8am to 6pm.

Vaccination programme roll-out: Somerset has one of the highest vaccination rates in the country with the latest figures showing 324,147 having received at least their first vaccination or 77.5% of the 16+ population. 246,983 (53.3%) have received their second dose. Take up rates of both doses is very high: 80+ (95.8%), 75-79 (100%), 70-74 (97.7%), 65-69 (86.2%), 60-64 (73.0%), 55-59 (50.4%) and 50-54 (47.4).

One Somerset: An announcement on the future of local government in Somerset is expected from the Government in late June/ early July. For more information visit: www.onesomerset.org.uk

Extra investment into Public Health: Somerset County Council is allocating an additional £10m to embed public health across all areas of council services. The major investment will include £2m to support Somerset communities – helping address anxiety and those with mild mental health issues. £2m expanding Somerset's expert health protection programme including controlling outbreaks, managing testing, providing localised contact tracing, and supporting businesses and communities. Some funding will be invested in research and work to improve local understanding of Covid and the changing needs of the Somerset. A further £500,000 will be made available for town and parish councils to help them reconnect with their communities by safely reopening facilities like halls, rooms and other sites with good prevention control measures in place.

Summer activities for Years 11: Somerset students heading from Year 11 into Year 12 will have access to a wide range of free exciting educational opportunities this summer. There is a mixture of virtual and face-to-face events and activities to choose from taking place across the county including Kilve Court, Charterhouse, and other key venues across Somerset. These will include team-building exercises and physical activities such as climbing and low-ropes, as well as wellbeing and 'ready to study' sessions. Registration is now live via: www.somersetworks.vfairs.com

Donate a toothbrush: National Smile Month (which runs to 17th June) is the world's largest and longest-running campaign to promote better oral health. It aims to promote key tips and advice, helping keep everyone's smile healthy. This year Somerset County Council is encouraging people to think about adding a toothbrush and toothpaste when they donate food to their local Foodbanks. Poor oral health is largely

preventable and good habits of brushing twice a day should be taught from when a baby's first tooth shows through.

New School for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities: Construction has finished on Polden Bower School, a brand new £23m Somerset County Council-funded state-of-the-art school in Bridgwater which is clearly visible from the M5. The project is part of a wider SCC's programme to boost provision for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) in the county and caters for 160 students aged 4-16 with complex needs. Primary aged children are due to start on site in June, with older children following in July so that they get the accustomed to their new environment before the start of the new school year in September 2021.

Winter Gritting Summary: In the 2020/21 winter season SCC's fleet of 23 gritters were needed on 66 occasions when freezing temperatures were forecast, treating around 900 miles of road each time to help prevent ice forming. This included additional gritting to ensure safe passage to vaccination and testing sites. The team covered 70,200 miles, a significant increase from previous years when they covered 44,000 miles in 2019/20 and 32,800 miles in 2018/19. The lowest road temperature was recorded at -6.1 degrees in the Mendip Hills on 10th February 2020.

Thanks was given from the Parish Councillors for the implementation of the one-way system through Cheddon village and asked whether the Western Relief Road was on target to be finished on time. It was suggested that due to struggling with resources that the deadline may slip slightly, but that the one way system through Cheddon village will remain in place until finished.

Cllr Frascini provided the following report;

The opening of the new playpark in Northwalls Grange appears to have been done in haste. The finish is poor and there are concerns regarding the safety of some equipment. He is aware of a need for a barrier on the access from the road to the park for child safety and is looking into this request.

It was noted that the Clerk had been in contact on several occasions in order to ascertain the reasons for the poor finish but had not yet had a response.

Cllr Pritchard provided the following report.

It was noted that there was a damaged sign on a footpath near Cheddon lawns, and that it would be reported following the meeting. It was also suggested that the Pollinator Policy could be circulated to residents. It was agreed that this could be done via the newsletter. The local poll result suggests that over 72,000 residents voted for Two Councils for Somerset, this is currently with Westminster for decision. The Homefinder Policy is under consultation and will be shared with all councillors for comment.

Cllr Cavill provided the following report.

The Coal Orchard development is close to completion, with some properties already being marketed. Due to the town centre being unparished, there are plans for a town council, this will mean that in time boundaries are likely to change, although this won't be until at least 2023. A meeting had taken place earlier in the day with Dawn Adey and Marcus Kraviss regarding the purchase or lease of the country park. It is expected that the previous quoted price will be the same, and it is expected that a lease is an option that SWT will want to keep phosphate mitigation for the land. It is expected that a lease will be between 100-125 years. There is another meeting scheduled in two weeks' time with an interest to move things forward.

06/05 Climate Change

Cllr Darch asked the Parish Council to consider the formation of 'Cluster Groups' with other Parish Councils. This is to be considered under item 7 – Local Government Re-organisation. She advised everyone of the benefits of working together on projects and not re-inventing the wheel on ways to work to positively effect Climate Change.

06/06 Joint Projects with West Monkton: Maidenbrook Country Park & Somerset Wood:

The forest school and labyrinth have been approved. Awaiting a response regarding clearance to access the Country Park (CP). It will be Armed Forces Day on the 26th of June and there will be a dedication area. Currently in the process of cutting the grass amongst the trees. There will be a presentation to Rebecca Pow on the 18th of June. There continue to be ongoing discussions on the safe route to school plans through the CP. Plans for a cycleway through the CP are with the Design Team.

Neighbourhood Plan Review: All Parish Councillors have received the amended Neighbourhood Plan, and some have commented. The next stage is that approval is required for it to progress to the next stage – formal submission. It was **resolved** to approve the main document to progress to the next stage. Thanks was given to Cllr Batsch for his time working through the document.

Somerset Climate Emergency Community Fund 2020-21 Bid: The agreement has been signed now that planning permission has been granted.

06/07 Local Government Re-organisation: West Monkton Parish Council Chair had written a letter to the Cheddon Fitzpaine Parish Chair to consider forming a Cluster to form a Local Community Network. Parish Councillors were open to this approach, but believe that some additional assistance may be required, as it is unknown at this stage what is expected. It would be a good idea, to find a local resident with a passion for the subject.

06/08 Cheddon Ward: Priorswood Community Centre has re-opened. Hestercombe Farm had been in contact with the Clerk regarding access to the fields off Maidenbrook Lane. After some consultation with other residents in Cheddon Village, it was felt that it would be too disruptive for the farmers to use Maidenbrook Lane. After careful consideration, the work has been done with minimum disruption to residents. There has been an issue with rubbish being dumped over Cheddon lawn property gates – this has been flagged with SCC. Extensive conversation with Traffic Management has taken place – Kate Brown - surrounding the location of the flashing 20 outside of Cheddon school, there are some issues with this due to the rear gate that is now in use because of the one-way system required for Covid, so this may be delayed. Traffic Management are aware and are considering the refurbishment of the road markings and are committed to attending to the hedgerows to provide better visibility for the existing signage. It is hoped that flashing 20 signs should be up this year and Traffic Management will continue to chase the contractor SSE.

06/09 Maidenbrook Ward: No report

Maidenbrook: The issue relating to the gabions is with the legal team and in the process of a site meeting with Andrew Webber – Vistry. Claire Thackray at SWT Council, who logged the request at Firmstep for the clearance of vegetation to the rear of your property in the Attenuation area (owned by Bovis and maintained by District).

Light's ownership is sorted and with Taylor Wimpey. The detail around the Gabions has come to a grinding halt – they're taking legal advice and SWT are awaiting an update from Andrew Webber.

Northwalls Grange: The play area was opened and then it was closed! The Clerk has been in contact with James Kidner and Paul Curtin, with very little response. There is already an overflowing bin that has been reported to the developers.

Regarding the road works, the comments were as follows; 'We understand from speaking to some residents that the timescales being portrayed to them via letter drops from the Contractor isn't necessarily being adhered to. We have expressed our dissatisfaction to the Contractor and were due to raise this with them at a meeting on Tuesday – to which they sent no representatives. We are therefore currently lacking reliable information to pass on to you. We were advised previously that the area of block paving on Batt Drive would be completed this week, we are unsure whether that will be achieved. As you may have noticed from the speed at which these works have progressed generally, we are having difficulties with our groundwork's contractor. They have not provided us with a realistic programme by which the estate roads on the whole site will be complete at this point, but Paul and I are meeting with them weekly to ensure progress is being made'. There is no timescale agreed at present for the handing over to the Commercial Department. The snagging meeting has taken place and has fed into the landscaping works due to be completed. Once those landscaping works are completed the formal handover to Pinnacle (management company) will take place.

Nerrols Grange: 10 homes now occupied, with a further 6 by the end of June.

Touts Local Centre, Nerrols: No update

Nerrols Farm/Farmhouse: Reed & Holland Architects have won the contract for work and are making a start on designs.

Canal: No update

06/10 Highways: There has been extensive email traffic regarding the problems with the additional vehicles passing through Cheddon Village. Additional signage has been placed on the route through Greenway to

further highlight that the speed limit in the area is 30mph this action was taken on by the contractor associated with the construction of the relief road.

WRR: A3259: Work continues, and it looks as though it may be delayed by a few weeks.

Nerrols School/Summerleaze Crescent: There were 100 applicants for the 30 spaces available for children looking to start in September 2021. Currently there is only one class per year group until the oldest children hit year 6. This may change depending on the newbuilds and occupancy. The astro space has planning permission to be hired out, but only for junior sports, this has not happened mainly due to Covid, but it is hoped that this will be able to happen the future. Children are taking part in the Beat the Street challenge – SASP – 12 schools in Taunton are taking part, the activity is to encourage children to find various boxes (37) staggered across Taunton, it is about physical activity and exploring their community.

Triangle of land at entrance to Waterleaze on LHS: Residents are growing seeds with the intention of planting out when ready. They are also keeping the nettles trimmed back.

CMC Roundabout ownership/sponsorship: A complaint was raised due to the cutting back of the wildflowers on the roundabout. This was done in error and in future 2 strips will be cut around the outside of the roundabout and the middle will be left wild.

Road Closures: Emergency One Way Order: Maidenbrook Lane, Taunton (traffic to travel in a Southwards direction). Maidenbrook Lane, Taunton, 17th May 2021 - 6th June 2021, it is now expected to continue until 27th June 2021.

Temporary Road Closure: tto438323TD - BT - Lyngford Lane, Taunton 18th June for 5 days.

Gotton Lane, Gotton, Goosenford for a distance of 600 metres. 1st July 2021 and will remain in force for eighteen months. The works are expected to commence on 9th July 2021 until 9th July 2021 between the hours of (09:30- 15:30) for a total of 6 hours.

06/11 Planning Applications:

08/21/0015 - Variation of Condition No. 02 (approved plans) of application 08/19/0027 at Unit L2, Crown Industrial Estate, Venture Way, Taunton – *no comments*.

08/21/0002 - Variation of Condition No. 04 (landscaping) of application 08/17/0037 at Brook View, Tudor Park, Cheddon Fitzpaine. *An appeal has been lodged with the Secretary of State.*

06/12 Planning Decisions:

08/21/0011 A Display of 22 No. various non-illuminated signs for housing development marketing signage at Nerrols Grange, Nerrols Drive, Taunton (retention of works already undertaken) – **Conditional Approval**.

08/21/0010: Erection of a greenhouse and pergola in the garden to the rear of Yew Tree Barn, Upper Cheddon Road, Cheddon Fitzpaine – **Conditional Approval**

06/13 Reports: Church, Cheddon School, Memorial Hall, Footpaths:

Reverend Tracey Hallet had emailed the Clerk wishing to pass on her gratitude for all of their best wishes and kind messages and that she is recovering well. There is a singing for fun group for everyone / anyone who wants to join in alternate Sunday's at 2pm at Cheddon church. There will be a meeting outside Cheddon church on 27th June for a second gathering to see who is interested. Little seedlings toddler group is going well but numbers are quiet now, it is thought that the road closures are making it harder for people to attend.

Students in Years 5 & 6 at Cheddon Primary are off to Charter House for a few days, and the school is in the process of considering what events can happen to mark the departure of the year 6 children.

The memorial hall has decided on a date for the fundraising event, which will take place on Saturday 2nd October.

06/14 Administration: The Clerk had shared a Safeguarding policy with Cllr Batsch for the Memorial Hall. The website has been updated to reflect the review of Standing Orders, Code of Conduct & Financial Regs at the May 2021 Parish Council meeting. Updated FOI document to include new Clerk details and placed on website. New insurance cover has started, and the Liability certificate has been placed onto the website.

Somerset Web Services: 252 sessions v 267 in the previous month. Page views down 15% session. Session duration increased by 63% to the average being 1m40s from 1m 02 secs.

Parish Clerk: Will be attending CILCA training all day on the 16th of June.

Newsletter: New distributor for Cheddon village – Nicki Reece. Huge thanks to everyone involved.

Meetings: The Clerk attended the WM PC meeting on Tuesday 9th June along with the meeting regarding the purchase or lease of the Country Park with SWT

06/15 Audit:

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

The Internal Audit Actions was noted. Further updates will be provided at the next meeting. Cllrs requested that the audit actions were numbered for ease of reference.

It was **resolved** to note & approve annual review of payments made by BACS. (Fin Regs 6.9)

It was **resolved** to approve & adopt Risk Assessment & Management 2021-22. This document will be placed on the website.

It was **resolved** to review & adopt current NALC Disciplinary, Grievance, Equality & Diversity, Sickness & Absence Policies. There were no changes made.

It was **resolved** to approve Annual Governance Statement for Audit 2020-21. It was noted that the Parish Council doesn't have an Anti-Fraud Policy in place and an explanation must be included when submitting the AGAR to explain that a policy will be adopted at the next Parish Council meeting.

It was **resolved** to approve the Accounting Statement for Audit 2020-21.

The Confirmation of Public Rights period was noted. The Clerk explained that the inspection period for the public to inspect the books will be (30 days) Monday 21st June – Friday 30th July. To put on website & noticeboards.

The amended Freedom of Information Act document was noted.

The Review of Effectiveness of the Internal Audit was noted.

06/16 Finance:

NatWest: It was **resolved** to open a new bank account for Climate Emergency Fund. The Clerk will work with all signatories to open.

NS&I: Forms have been sent to NSI to add the new Clerk onto the account.

Bank Reconciliation to 31st May 2021

Main Account £46,163.86

CIL Account £2,862.72

Election Account £3,123.31

Payments for Authorisation:

| To whom | Description | Net | VAT | Total | Pay Date |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|----------|
| S Millard-Jones | June Salary | £930.37 | £ | £930.37 | 30/06/21 |
| S Millard-Jones | Homeworking & Mileage | £38.63 | £2.32 | £40.95 | 30/06/21 |
| HMRC | PAYE & NI | £22.69 | £ | £22.69 | 30/06/21 |
| NEST | Pension | £31.57 | £ | £31.57 | 07/06/21 |
| Pioneer Window Cleaning | Bus Shelter Clean | £10.00 | £ | £10.00 | 16/06/21 |
| Pioneer Window Cleaning | Bus Shelter Clean | £10.00 | £ | £10.00 | 16/06/21 |
| Jill Larcombe | Internal Audit Inv 441 | £150.00 | £ | £150.00 | 16/06/21 |
| Character graphics | Inv 32183 June Newsletter | £74.00 | £ | £74.00 | 16/06/21 |
| | | £1267.26 | £2.32 | £1269.58 | |

Debit Card/Direct Debit: To note:

| To whom | Description | Net | VAT | Total | Pay Date |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|-------|--------|----------|
| Somerset Web Services | Hosting Inv 108181 | £22.00 | £4.40 | £26.40 | 25/06/21 |
| Somerset Web Services | Email addresses Inv 10847 | £32.20 | £6.44 | £38.64 | 02/06/21 |
| Microsoft | Monthly Subscription Inv 19/05/21 | £9.40 | £1.88 | £11.28 | 24/5/21 |

| | | | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|-------|-------|---------|----------|
| Zurich insurance | Annual Subscription | | | £342.98 | 26/5/21 |
| Amazon | Dividers | £2.45 | £0.49 | £2.94 | 01/06/21 |

Receipts: To note:

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| | | |
| | | |
| | TOTAL | £ |

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

06/17 Matters raised by Councillors: None

06/18 Correspondence: The Clerk had circulated all correspondence ahead of the meeting.

Next Parish Council meeting:

MONDAY 12th July 2021 at 7.00pm at Cheddon Fitzpaine Memorial Hall for all Parish Councillors and Clerk. The meeting will be accessible to members of the public and District Councillors via Teams.

Meeting closed: 21.15pm

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Chair