

# CHEDDON FITZPAINE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.00pm on Monday 9 March 2020

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

[www.cheddonfitzpaine-pc.org.uk](http://www.cheddonfitzpaine-pc.org.uk)

**Present: Parish Cllrs** Webber, Woollacott, Baker, Batsch; West, **SCC Cllr** Fraschini;

**SWTC D Cllr** N Cavill; WM Cllr Hall, & WM Assistant Clerk Mrs T Cavill;

Clerk: Mrs J Pearson.

1. **Apologies for absence:** SCC Cllr Fothergill, Cllrs Isaacs, SWTC D Cllr Pritchard & Tully.
2. **Declarations of personal/prejudicial/disclosable pecuniary interests/amendments to the Register of Interests.** Cllr Woollacott & Baker, (personal) – 08/20/0006
3. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 February 2020, including the In-Camera section on the Country Park:** It was **resolved** to approve both sets of Minutes.

All in agreement.

**Public Question Time:**

#### 4. **Reports:**

**SCC Cllr Fothergill:** reported by SCC Cllr Fraschini

**SCC Budget:** SCC Councillors have approved a £338m budget for its services with robust financial plans in place across the next three years. No cuts to frontline services are planned and the Council has improved its financial resilience by increasing its levels of reserves. The ambitious budget included:

- £1.5m to be spent installing 20mph advisory zones outside around half of all Somerset's schools with the remainder to follow in 2021.
- £133.5m to fund infrastructure projects, including new schools and school expansions, as well as highways and engineering.
- a significant £6.3m investment into social care providers to help fund the increased national minimum wage for care staff, as well as ensuring high quality provision
- £4.5m to introduce a Family Safeguarding model to better protect vulnerable Children in the County.
- £2m to provide better access to bus services for residents living in rural areas including three new Slinky buses, a further nine peak time bus services and faster, more direct services from West Somerset to colleges in Taunton.
- an undertaking to maintain the authority's General Fund reserves, vital to financial stability, at the projected end-of-year figure of £19.69m across 21/22 and 22/23.

The budget plans will see more than £775 million spent on services in the coming year and a 1.99 per cent increase in the County Council's element of the Council Tax. The government allows a further 2 per cent increase for Councils to provide Adult Social Care.

**Climate Change Fund for Towns and Parishes:** A massive £1m climate change fund has been created by SCC –the biggest single investment of its kind in the country. The £1m pot will be available for parish and town councils to bid for green initiatives in their own patch as SCC acts on its decision to sign the national Climate Change Emergency Declaration which aims to make Somerset carbon neutral by 2030 – with a commitment to find significantly more funding in the following years. More details will be published in the next few months with clear guidelines and governance.

**Covid-19:** Every winter our SCC's Public Health and care professionals gear up for a busy winter in preparation for flu and norovirus, and now there's a new virus – Coronavirus (or officially COVID-19). There are no positive COVID-19 cases in the South West, but SCC's health and care services are well prepared with well-rehearsed plans in place to deal with any potential outbreaks. Covid-19 is believed to be spread from person to person through cough droplets. Simple basic hygiene measures (which we should be doing regularly anyway) can help prevent its spread. This includes washing your hands regularly with soap and water and using a tissue when sneezing or coughing and throwing it away – the familiar 'catch it, bin it, kill it'. Without a tissue, then use the

crook of your arm rather than your hand. For the latest information, advice and guidance, check out [www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public)

**One Somerset:** Following his announcement in January, Somerset County Council Leader David Fothergill has now formally written to Robert Jenrick MP, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, kickstarting the case for One Somerset – A Unitary Council for Somerset. This follows an independent report commissioned by SCC and all four District councils which was published earlier this year and outlines clear benefits of switching to unitary. It is expected that around £25 million every year can be made available to reinvest and improve vital services by cutting waste and reducing duplication.

**Brain in Hand:** A digital helping hand is about to be trialled in Somerset to provide tailored support for people with mental health issues or learning disabilities. Brain in Hand is a personalised app that links the user with their carers and support teams. It provides people with their own specific ways to cope, with extra help on tap when needed. The app aims to increase a user's independence by providing them with ways to manage their everyday life and negotiate a path that's safe for them. It can give prompts and reminders and links to verbal responders or people's own circle of support, who can intervene when asked, offering reassurance and the help needed to get back on track.

**Childrens Mental Health:** Somerset County Council is deploying two new teams to boost children's mental health as part of its programme of support for children and schools available in the county. The initiative which has won £400,000 in Government trailblazer funding through the Fit for my Future partnership sees the Teams working in the Taunton and Mendip areas offering direct support to children and young people with mild to moderate mental health issues. The County Council, in partnership with Somerset CCG is now bidding for Government money to fund a wider roll-out of teams in Somerset. A decision is expected by September this year.

**Utility Company prosecutions:** Two utility firms have received significant fines after pleading guilty to roadwork's offences. Somerset County Council brought action against Verizon UK Ltd and Western Power Distribution as part of its commitment to minimising disruption and keeping the public safe. Verizon UK Ltd pleaded guilty to one offence relating to unauthorised roadwork's that led to substantial disruption on Taunton Road, Bridgwater and were fined £30,000 with £1,841 in costs. Western Power Distribution pleaded guilty to one offence relating to works in Kingstone, Ilminster which posed a real risk to the safety of the public and site operatives. They were fined £20,000 and ordered to pay £1,730 in costs.

**Connecting Devon and Somerset:** CDS has launched a fresh procurement to find new contractors to roll-out superfast broadband across the two counties. Working closely with Building Digital UK (BDUK) agency it follows confirmation of the Government's funding extension for the programme– helping to provide a £38 million public investment in the region's broadband.

**SCC Cllr Fraschini:** Reports there are plans for all schools to have 20mph at pick up times.

**Buses:** New services to run from 6.4.2020. No. 2 undertaking a loop from Taunton, Station, Priorswood, Nerrols Drive and back to Taunton. The No. 2A will cease, but a new No. 12 to travel Taunton, Station, Priorswood Road, Hardys Road in West Monkton and return.

**Grants for Health & Well Being re Covid virus:** applications can be made to SCC as above.

**Creech Castle road scheme:** information available at BACH on 18.3.2020 re traffic planning when A38 is closed.

**SWTC D Cllr Cavill:**

**SWT Budget approved:** two council meetings held within one month.

**Re SCC Unity proposal:** Collaborative integration did not work in the past, and questions were asked regarding the costings and other options.

**Strategic Flood alleviation** scheme approved £6m fund.

**Local Plan Issues & Options** consultation: open until 16 March 2020.

**Housing numbers estimate** requires 15,333 houses required to provide the 161 social and affordable per year.

**Rural Local Development Order:** an alternative use of options in rural areas. Landscape Officer drawing up plans with reforestation Taunton by 30%, and including rewilding. Somerset Wood tree numbers not included.

**5. Maidenbrook Country Park (MCP) Cllr Cavill:** The offer for the two Parishes of WM & CF to purchase the land from SWT approved in principle by all parties for the agreed sum. Legal fees would be at Parish expense. This has to be ratified at SWT Full Council before the detail can be worked on. Planning application is being drawn up and requires approval as a condition prior to the land purchase.

**Somerset Wood: WM Cllr Alan Hall reports:**

Landscape zones have been approved for tree planting: Regrettably the wet start to the year has meant tree planting is on hold, although limited maintenance is planned.

**SWTC** requested photos of Somerset Wood for the Local Plan.

**6. Neighbourhood Plan:** Report by WM Assistant Clerk

The NP Review draft policies have been out to the relevant consultees for targeted consultation. Ie to schools, developers, organisations and river authorities. The SWTC Local Plan Issues & Options runs parallel to the Parish NP review; therefore, waiting to see the when the LP outcome will be finalised to ensure no policies are duplicated.

**7. Cheddon Ward: Cllr West reported:**

**Wessex Water** – and recent sewage/drain issues: A meeting took place with WW on 6.3.2020 with positive exchanges of information. The new pump at the pumping station is working well and no tanker lorries have been required since its installation. Maps were shared regarding WW and SCC Highway drains. Clerk to continue with pressure on SCC to clear Maidenbrook Lane flood – (12inches deep x 100 yds!) denying access to Cheddon village from the south.

**FWAG:** A further meeting is set up with FWAG on 11.3.2020 to look at flooding issues within the Parish and implement Slow the Flow schemes.

**Silt trap at Gadds Valley:** Request for this to be cleared by SCC Highways from local resident. Clerk actioned.

**8. POS adoption by SWTC:** No further information:

**Northwalls Development:** Requests for information regarding the installation of playground had stalled until a knowledgeable resident contacted Planning Dept. The installation is subject to a previous planning condition and is anticipated to be completed mid-2020.

**Nerrols/Summerleaze Play areas:** the rubber matting has all received a pressurised wash making the equipment more inviting to use.

**9. Highways:**

**Maidenbrook Lane Flood:** As above: Continued requests made to clear the lane of flood water trapped between hedgerows.

**Small Improvement Scheme:** Installation of pavement alongside Priorswood Road towards Nerrols Drive will be constructed 16-27 March 2020.

**Nerrols School road markings:** Ongoing.

**Bus Service No: 2:** A new service to commence 6.4.2020 looping Taunton, Station, Priorswood, Nerrols Drive and town. The No.2A service will be direct from Taunton, Station, Priorswood Road, Monkton Heathfield and will run in both directions; thereby stopping by the new pavement above.

**Bench seat by Crown Medical Centre Doctors Surgery** on No.2 Bus Route: On hold, as the new bus service routing commencing on 6.4.2020 will not stop at this location!

**Road Closure:** Gotton Lane – 3 March for three days during school hours.

**Advertising at CMC roundabout:** This was promoted by Gibbins Richards advertising the new Sunday Market in town. SWTC confirmed it was acceptable.

**Ditch beside Lizanne House:** SCC Highways consulted: No further action in their opinion.

**Western Relief Road WRR:** The first opening on to the A3259 near Tudor Park has been constructed whilst permitting school children access to the cycleway. Further progress to be made after Hartnells road scheme completed in WM.

**10. Planning Applications: 08/19/0035** Gladman requested a closed meeting with the Parish Council; attended by Cllrs Batsch, West, and Clerk. Gladman notes record the matters discussed.

**08/20/0006** for the erection of 1 No. single storey dwelling with detached garage on land to the west of Brook View, Tudor Park, Maidenbrook. **Object** for the reasons given 24 April 2016 - **08/16/0019**

**11. Planning Decisions:**

**08/19/0039:** Conversion of outbuilding into ancillary accommodation at Maidenbrook Farmhouse, Tudor Park, Priorswood, Taunton - **approved 14.2.2020**

**38/19/0406** Erection of 1 No. dwelling to the side and a single storey extension to the rear of 64 Bossington Drive, Taunton (resubmission of 38/19/0262) – **Refusal 14.2.2020.**

**Awaiting Decision:**

**08/18/0028** Relocation of Conquest Equestrian Centre with the erection of office facilities, flat, cafe, indoor and outdoor arena, stable block, parking facilities and associated works on land at Maidenbrook Lane, Cheddon Fitzpaine

**08/19/0030 LB and 0031** Erection of 2 No. extensions for an auditorium, workshop and cafe with various internal and external alterations at Hestercombe House, Volis Hill, Cheddon Fitzpaine

**08/19/0035 Gladman-** Outline Planning Application with all matters reserved, except for means of access, for the erection of up to 180 dwellings with public open space, landscaping and sustainable drainage system (SuDS) and vehicular access point off Cheddon Road, Taunton (resubmission of 08/17/0040).

**08/19/0041** - Erection of two-storey side extension with habitable accommodation in the roof space at Lizanne House, Cheddon.

**38/19/0129** Erection of a residential development of up to 347 No. dwellings (87 No. affordable) with associated access, infrastructure, open space (formal and informal) and landscaping on land off Lyngford Lane, Taunton.

**12. Reports:**

**Church:** No report

**Pastoral Care Group:** No report.

**Cheddon School:** School car park flooded in recent weather – water table is very high. Request for lengthsman to top up pothole in School Lane. Clerk to action.

**Memorial Hall:** Minor details to be completed regarding the purchase of the land surrounding the Hall from the Crown. The new Hall Manager settling in well, and organising online booking system.

**Nerrols Primary School:** School held an Open Morning on 5 March; approx. 15 people attended to see around the new school.

**PCSOS:** Sam Bushen moving to admin role late March 2020; Tony Wearmouth moving across to West Monkton & Maidenbrook Wards with Steve Chapman. Catherine Richards and Lyndsay Smith continue for Cheddon and Staplegrove areas.

**Hestercombe Community Advisory Group** met on 2.3.2020. Notes on parish website.

**13. Administration:**

**Somerset West and Taunton Council Local Plan consultation** - by 16.3.2020. Clerk to undertake, with ratification by Parish Councillors.

**Parish Council meeting to move to Mondays:** First Monday meeting took place.

**Annual Parish Meeting:** 26 March 2020 – Speakers arranged.

**Priorswood Library** -re-opening 27 March 2020 – Reminder to attend.

**14. Finance:**

**Internal Auditor:** The new internal auditor, and experienced Clerk and accountant, Jill Larcombe, has agreed to take on Cheddon parish accounts. Parish Councillors **resolved** to accept the offer to sign off Cheddon Fitzpaine’s accounts.

**Website:** Somerset Web Services – Report/update: The Direct Debit form has been set up as previously resolved in February. Work goes on building the website behind the scenes.

**NS&I account:** Notification received of reduced savings rate from 0.80% to 0.60% from 1 May 2020.

**Payments for Authorisation:**

<u>Payments March 2020</u>		<b>Amount</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Pay Date</b>
Mrs P J Pearson February expenses	£27.00			
Homeworking February	<u>£18.00</u>			
		£45.00		10.3.2020
Mrs P J Pearson – March Salary	£707.98			
PLUS February overtime hrs –	<u>£110.67</u>			
	£818.65			
LESS: NI	<u>£21.28</u>			
		£797.37		31.3.2020
HMRC: Employer & Employee NI (£23.29 + £24.47)		£45.75		10.3.2020
Inform HMRC RTI (March) £797.37				31.3.2020

**Total: £888.12**

**To Note: Debit Card:**

17.2.2020 HP Cartridges £36.82 Vat £6.14

It was **resolved** to pay the above by cheque/internet banking:  
Proposed: Cllr Baker, seconded: Cllr West

**15. Matters raised by Councillors:**

**16. Correspondence:** circulated:

**Next Parish Council meeting:**

**Note New Date: MONDAY, 20 APRIL 2020 at 7.00pm**

Meeting closed: 9.30 pm



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Chairman, Electronic signature