

# CHEDDON FITZPAINE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.00pm on Thursday 9 January 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, West, Baker & Batsch; **SCC Cllrs** Fothergill & Fraschini; **SWTC D Cllrs** Tully & Cavill; WM Cllr Hall, & WM Assistant Clerk Mrs T Cavill; Rev Tracey Hallett.  
Clerk: Mrs J Pearson.

1. **Apologies for absence:** SWTC D Cllr Pritchard, Cllr Isaacs.
2. **Declarations of personal/prejudicial/disclosable pecuniary interests/amendments to the Register of Interests.** None.
3. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9 December 2019:** It was **resolved** to approve the Minutes including the In-Camera section. All in agreement.

**Public Question Time:**

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

##### **SCC Cllr Fothergill:**

**Last Reminder on School Places:** For those applying for their first school place, the deadline for applications is 15th January - further details can be found at <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/apply-to-start-school/>

**Climate Emergency Strategy Events:** Rescheduled public events to discuss the creation of Somerset's first Climate Emergency Strategy have been confirmed and will be run by the Somerset Climate Action Network (SCAN) on behalf of Somerset's four District Councils and the County Council. The strategy will identify ways for Somerset to work towards being carbon neutral by 2030 and adapt to predicted climate change impacts. The events will be held 10am – 4pm as follows:

- 18 January Taunton Library, TA1 3XZ.
- 8 February Bridgwater House, King Square, Bridgwater, TA6 3AR.
- 15 February Mendip DC Offices, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5BT.
- 22 February Vicarage Street Methodist Church, Yeovil, BA20 1JB.

Open to residents, businesses, groups and anyone with an interest, the drop-ins will be a chance to discuss the initial thoughts of the five councils set out in a 'framework' document.

**National Award and Recognition:** The Somerset team that provides advice, support and training to governors, clerks and trustees in schools, colleges and other education providers has won a top award. SCC's Support Services for Education (SSE) triumphed over big-budget, multi-nationals to win the prestigious Chartered Governance Institute (ICSA) Service Provider of the Year Award. SSE Governance delivers training as well as providing a helpline to governance boards. Topics range from inductions for new head teachers to safeguarding responsibilities.

**Specialist Support for Dementia:** The list of grassroots projects for creative and imaginative grass roots dementia projects is growing with four new projects coming on stream thanks to grant support from SCC.

**Age UK** is launching the first charity-led Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (CST) project with two qualified Somerset practitioners offering the therapy.

**Take Art** is setting up a two-year programme of creative day time activities that provide dance and wordplay sessions to support people with memory loss or dementia and their carer's.

**Ark at Egwood**, based at Merriott, provides land-based activities as the therapeutic use of outside space and animals has been shown to help restore wellbeing, confidence and self-esteem with people of all ages.

The **Find Your Voice Momentum** projects will bring together people living with dementia and their carer's and support them in music and movement group work across 39 ten-week-courses across Somerset.

SCC is looking to invest more than half a million pounds in total to kick-start and extend projects and groups that run day-time activities for people with dementia and provide respite for their unpaid carers. This is on top of its major spend on support for people with dementia which includes around £3.5m in special residential care, £4.5m in nursing care, plus a portion of the £14m it spends every year on homecare.

**Shepton Mallet Library:** Shepton Mallet library is set to keep its town centre location and be developed as a community hub as part of the regeneration of the Market Place. The decision includes an agreement which would allow the building to be open outside of library opening hours to help develop its community role, and to accept significant contributions from the Town and Council and Glastonbury Festival founder Michael Eavis.

**Volunteering in 2020:** Somerset residents looking for a New Year's resolution would be warmly welcomed to join the growing army of volunteers in the county. There are roles to suit almost everyone, from supporting the local library to driving people to appointments or supporting the Duke of Edinburgh Award. All you need is a little bit of spare time; lots of enthusiasm and a 2020 vision to give something back to your community. Opportunities can be found at [www.volunteering.somerset.gov.uk](http://www.volunteering.somerset.gov.uk)

**Robot Technology in the classroom:** Somerset County Council is taking a trail-blazing lead in the use of robot technology to help poorly children back into the classroom. In the biggest initiative of its kind in the country, the council has invested in 50 AV1 robots to support children who can't be in school – whether it's because they are sick or overcoming physical or mental health challenges. The AV1 robots take the place of the child in the classroom, letting them see, hear and contribute to lessons while they are out of school at home or in a hospital bed. Schools and colleges pay a rental fee that covers running costs with any 'profit' being reinvested in more of the robots.

**SCC Cllr Fraschini:**

**Nerrols Drive Highway Road Markings:** SCC Highway Officers met local SCC Cllr Fraschini and admitted an oversight had been made at the time of the Nerrols Primary School planning application. Subsequently, Nerrols Drive safety concerns have been made, and Wigwags (flashy lights) reducing speed from 30-20mph at school time will be installed, as well as new roadside railings. The Bollards in the centre of Nerrols Drive to be updated. The timescale for the works will depend on contractor availability.

**SWTC Cllr Tully:** Purdah ended on election day.

SCC considering **Unitary Authority for Somerset** with consultation with all the District Councils.

**SWTC D Cllr Cavill:** Budget setting went to Scrutiny meeting on 8.1.2020.

Park & Ride service will be maintained.

Budgeting is difficult with the cliff damage situation requiring repair at Watchet.

BID will be supported promoting the Taunton Town Centre.

Consideration of increasing parking charges; the budget gap closing. 1.99% increase on the rates.

**Western Relief Road:** is on schedule to commence early 2020. Clerk asked to check 'safe route to school with Andrew Penna.

**Traffic Calming measures** survey is live for the A3259 – request for residents to take make suggestions.

<https://sites.google.com/view/monkton-heathfield-persimmon>

**MH2 plans** going to SWTC meetings on 22/28 January 2020.

5. **Paul Lonsdale**, Vice Principle Finance Richard Huish Trust: PL explained the background to the RH Trust formed in April 2015, and is a sponsor of the Multi Academy Trust. The Trust has expanded to include West Buckland and North Curry in May 2018, North Town in May 2019, and Nerrols School in Sept 2019. The RH Trust takes international children, and has a common vision and strategy to deliver exceptional education. MAT is not prescriptive; each school has its sovereignty and independent individuality.  
**Rhian Locker**, Head Teacher Nerrols Primary School. The school will hold 420, but currently has 46 pupils with the Reception Class full. The Nursery has 32 children. RL is keen to work with the community and learn of the history of the area; this includes the open spaces within the Country Park. The primary years' can experience everyday events such as being in the kitchen; cutting, peeling, slicing, and inevitably tasting! The hope is to use raised beds to grow vegetables. Information was passed to RL regarding the ability to use Priorswood Library. The new building is working well, with snagging items being resolved. Cllr JW asked a

question regarding prioritising the pupil premium. Rev Tracey Hallett thanked the School for permitting a Toddler group commencing February 2020. Cllr MB would welcome a member of the school community join the Board of Trustees for Cheddon Memorial Hall. It was useful for all Councillors to meet PL and RL who were thanked for attending.

**6. Precautionary Principle for 5G.** A presentation had been made to the Parish Council in October, and held over from December until more Cllrs were present for consideration. A short discussion took place outlining that the issues for and against. It was **resolved** that the Precautionary Principle would not be adopted by Cheddon Fitzpaine Parish Council at this time. None in favour, four against, and one abstention.

**7. Maidenbrook Country Park (MCP) and Somerset Wood:** Alan Hall reports:

The Pre-planning enquiry report suggested an outlook for tree planting to be acceptable, but not for the wider inclusion of the plans of CF & WM PCs. Cllr Tully has arranged for the two Parish Councils to meet the SWTC Leader and Portfolio Holder on 13.1.2020 for a closed meeting to ascertain the logjam in negotiations. SCC Steve Dury invited to represent Somerset Wood on behalf of Cllr Fothergill. WM PC meeting on 14.1.2020 to include In Camera wash-up meeting from meeting on 13.1.2020.

**MCP Logo competition** undertaken in autumn 2019. Judges chose one winner, and three runners up. Book Tokens of £15/£10 respectively were agreed. It was **resolved** for the Clerk to purchase Book Tokens to the value of £45 and for the Chairman to present to winners.

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

Kelvin Tutill Chairman, Tricia Cavill WM Assistant Clerk, and CF Clerk attended meeting with SWTC Ann Rhodes to consider the amendments to the policy wordings and overall guidance on the timeframes for this NP Review. Clerks to undertake the revision to documents during January, to bring to February PC meetings for discussion. Subsequently, consultation with stakeholders to take place, prior to NP being sent to Independent Examiner. The aim is to have this in place by summer 2020 to coincide with the SWTC draft Local Plan; this is to ensure that policies are not duplicated or conflict. Regulation 14 & 15 to proceed from consultation when it will be known if a Referendum is required. It is anticipated this could be concluded in early 2021.

**9. Cheddon Ward:**

**Cheddon School:** Lengthsman has filled two potholes with three tubs of cold tar. A request for a further tub to be used following the tamping down by car movements.

**New Parish notice board** in the Pyrland Fields: item held over until next financial year for purchase.

**10. Maidenbrook Ward:**

**Nerrols Farmhouse:** Stags have confirmed that there is an interested party, but no sale has been agreed to date. Large amounts of flytipping have been reported to DWH, and concern has been forwarded to the Crown to ensure the Listed Building is adequately protected. Flytipping to be removed by DWH.

**Is the future play equipment on Nerrols DDA compliant?** Response received from SWTC

"I believe that the straight answer to this question is 'No'. The children's play area would have to comply with the space standards of SWTC Council.

The very nature of children's play equipment requires climbing, jumping etc. and therefore this does not easily accommodate all disabled users.

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 requires service providers to make 'reasonable adjustments' to the physical features of their premises to overcome barriers to access. Factors to be considered when deciding what is 'reasonable' include whether taking particular steps would be effective in overcoming the difficulties that disabled people face in getting access, the extent to which it is practicable for the service providers to take the steps, financial and other costs of making the adjustment and the amount of disruption caused by taking the steps. It is a concern that complying with the DDA could lead to a significant reduction in play opportunities for all children.

The play area would be accessible by all as it would be placed on flat even ground and any gates would have to be wide enough to accommodate pushchairs, prams etc. and would therefore accommodate wheelchairs also.

The provision of the open space and play areas is a planning condition attached to 08/10/0024 (condition 21).

**Street Naming:** Clerk has submitted suggestions based on a map showing local field names. The idea of using Tree species will be held over for future developments to the north of this site.

**Gabians update:** The repair undertaken by Bovis in December 2019, removes the last obstacle prior to adoption of the POS. Clerk is directed to request Somerset West & Taunton Council begin the process of the adoption of the Public Open Spaces on Waterleaze from the developers Bovis and Taylor Wimpey.

**31/32 Cranes Close:** Bovis is undertaking vegetation clearance on the footpath beside these two properties during January 2020, including roots, bringing in top soil, and turf prior to being included in adoption by SWTC. SWTC Depot have agreed this point in principle.

**Lengthsman** has undertaken significant efforts to keep drains and gulleys open during the prolonged period of rain. Areas reported to SCC that cannot be cleared by lengthsman include: Hestercombe Farm Drive, Rowford beside school ditch under the road, and Maidenbrook Lane in two places. SCC to report back.

**Vegetation clearance:**

**Summerleaze:** Residents and Clerk's persistence in requesting a better standard of tidiness and cleanliness in the public open spaces will pay off with the SWTC arboreal team attending to matters within this estate during January 2020.

**Waterleaze:** work is ongoing clearing autumn debris by SWTC Depot, and it is finally hoped that the new teams of staff will be allowed to keep on top of these regular and annual matters.

#### 11. Highways:

**Nerrols School road markings:** see SCC Cllr Fraschini report at item 4.

**Bus Shelter and seats:** Awaiting response from SCC Highway Development Team to progress this matter re Nerrols S106.

**Bench seat by Crown Medical Centre Doctors Surgery** on No.2 Bus Route: Permission has been obtained from SCC Highways regarding the approval and location of a bench. It was suggested that a concrete plinth be erected, and Clerk to obtain quotes which would be large enough to take a bus shelter if required in future. Both Amphenol and CMC Drs informed and agree with this proposal.

**Western Relief Road WRR:** see Cllr Cavill report above at item 4.

**Flood water:** Highway problems that occurred over the Christmas period have been reported to SCC Highways. It is hoped a report will be sent to Cheddon regarding matters at Hestercombe Farm Drive, outside Rowford school where the pipe is blocked under the road, and two locations in Maidenbrook Lane.

#### 12. Planning Applications:

**Gladman: 08/19/0035 – update:** - 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).

*Gladman requested a private closed consultation meeting with Parish Councillors as part of the community engagement process. A frank exchange of information took place.*

**48/19/0069** Approval of reserved matters following outline application 48/16/0033 for the erection of 105 No. dwellings with landscaping, highways and associated works on land at Hartnells Farm, Monkton Heathfield – *CF PC response to support WM PC regarding the NP comments on this matter.*

**34/19/0035** – Staplegrove spine road application *extension granted to end January 2020.*

**34/19/0036** – Staplegrove development application *extension granted to end January 2020.*

**08/19/0041** Erection of two-storey side extension with habitable accommodation in the roof space at Lizanne House, Cheddon Fitzpaine – *no objections*

**8/20/0001/TEN** Notification for prior approval for the installation of radio equipment housing, air conditioning units, cable gantry and posts with ancillary development thereto at Western Power Distribution Centre, Venture Way, Priorswood Industrial Estate, Taunton – *no objections.*

#### 13. Planning Decisions: Approved:

**08/19/0036** Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) of application 08/17/0030 at Barton Farmstead, Upper Cheddon Road, Cheddon Fitzpaine. Approved 23.12.2019.

**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

**08/19/0039 & 08/19/0040 LB** Conversion of outbuilding into ancillary accommodation at Maidenbrook Farmhouse, Tudor Park, Priorswood, Taunton

**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)

**14. Reports:**

**Church:** Rev Tracey Hallett is six months into her Curacy and enjoying her work. She has set up a Toddler group which meets in her house. There are 16 families at present attending with all faiths and none. From February 2020 the group will meet within Nerrols School with thanks to the Head Teacher for the permission. On a weekly basis there is Take 5 at Cheddon School, Community Breakfast at 4 Garden Close, a walk from the Memorial Hall, and the fourth week is a quiet time. Christmas provided Church time within the Community: a Christingle was held in the Memorial Hall at the request of Northwalls residents, RE experience in Rowford School as a success, the Carol Service was well attended, and a Carol Singing event took place On the Green at Northwalls. The Community is bonding very well, and are informed of the wider parish matters through the Welcome Letter and Newsletter.

**Pastoral Care Group:** No report.

**Cheddon School:** Rev Hallett working with the school on RE matters as above.

**Memorial Hall:** No report.

**Nerrols Primary School:** no report.

**PCSO:** no report.

**Somerset Rivers Authority:** A useful meeting was held at Deane House with the Somerset Rivers Authority, which Clerks, Ann Rhodes, and District Councillors attended on 9.1.2020. An exchange of information regarding the ongoing maintenance of SUDS within the new estates was made, and possible 'slow the flow' areas.

**Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme (QLPS)** has been awarded a £1.8m National Lottery grant by The National Lottery Heritage Fund. With match funding from the National Trust, Friends of Quantock, the Quantock Hills AONB and EDF Energy the award will allow the £2.6m, five-year scheme to begin delivery to enhance the landscape, natural environment.

**15. Administration:**

**To consider: Climate Emergency** – hold over to Feb meeting

**Somerset West and Taunton Council Local Plan consultation** - from 13.1.2020 – 16.3.2020. Response to be considered at next PC meeting.

**Section 137 limit** - £8.32 per elector for 2020/21 – noted.

**To consider moving Parish Council meeting to Mondays** – hall availability. Clerk asked to see if first Mondays are acceptable, and Hall availability.

**Clerk to attend Seminar** regarding managing parish documents. £75 on 22.1.2020. It was **resolved** for Clerk to undertake this training session. All in agreement.

**16. Finance:**

**Precept:** It was confirmed a revised figure of 855 properties from SWTC within the Parish: therefore, Precept **resolved** in December Minutes of £36.33 for Band D Council Tax to stand with the Precept income of £31,062.00.

**Website:** Somerset Web Services – Report/update: Cllr Woollacott and Clerk held meeting to progress the options on the new website. A quote of £1,755 + vat received: It was **resolved** to accept the quote and for the deposit of £300 + vat to be paid. Google G-suite accounts and emails will be set up.

**Pink Spray** to highlight dog poo: bought in response to resident's correspondence: £48.33 – noted.

**Payments for Authorisation:** to approve payments:

<u>Payments January 2020</u>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Pay Date</b>
Somerset Web Services (part payment)	£360.00	£60.00	10.1.2020
Burham Toilet Hire	£ 67.20	£11.20	10.1.2020
Keal's Property Services	£366.00	£61.10	10.1.2020
Mrs P J Pearson December expenses	£35.75		
Homeworking December	<u>£18.00</u>		
	£53.75		10.1.2020
Mrs P J Pearson – January Salary	£707.98		
Survey Monkey inputting (Nov) 25 hrs	<u>£291.75</u>		
	£999.73		
December overtime hrs – <i>none charged</i>			
LESS: Tax £47.00 & NI £52.59=	<u>£99.59</u>		
	£900.14		31.1.2020
HMRC: Employer & Employee NI & Tax	£160.07		10.1.2020
Inform HMRC RTI (January) £900.14			31.1.2020
	<b><u>Total: £1,907.16</u></b>		

**To Note Debit Card:**

13.12.2019 Cassart: Dog poo spray: £48.33

**Credit received:**

11.12.2019 WM PC share of Sharpcat invoice paid: £129.96

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

Proposed: Cllr West Seconded: Cllr Baker

**17. Matters raised by Councillors:**

**18. Correspondence:** circulated:

**Next Parish Council meeting:** 13 February 2020 at 7.00pm

Meeting closed: 9.40 pm

Denise Webber (signature on original)

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Chairman