

CHEDDON FITZPAINE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.00pm on Monday 14 December 2020

Held by Virtual Conference call using <https://mrs-ofb.my.webex.com/meet/cheddon>

www.cheddonfitzpaine-pc.org.uk

Present: Parish Cllrs Woollacott, Isaacs, Baker; **SCC Cllrs** Fothergill (7-8.15pm) & Frascini; **SWT D Cllrs** Pritchard & Cavill; WM Cllr Hall, & WM Assistant Clerk Mrs T Cavill; Clerk: Mrs J Pearson.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Parish Councillors Webber, Batsch, West; D Cllr Tully.
Vice Chairman Cllr Woollacott chaired the meeting. The meeting is quorate.
2. **Declarations of personal/prejudicial/disclosable pecuniary interests:** Parish Cllr Baker (and also District Councillor) has taken no part in discussion on the Country Park either in public, and has been omitted from the In Camera sessions.
3. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9 November 2020**, including the In-Camera Minutes on item 5. It was **resolved** to approve the Minutes.
Public Question Time: No questions.
4. **Reports:**
 - SCC Cllr Fothergill:** *This report written early Dec; current figures now show significant increase in covid cases in hospital and care homes in past two weeks. The advice is to be more vigilant.*
 - Covid-19 Restrictions:** Revised Government regulations mean that Somerset will enter Tier 2 restrictions on from December 2nd. The main requirements of this Tier are:
 - No mixing of households indoors, excl. support bubbles. Max of 6 outdoors.
 - Pubs and bars must close, unless operating as restaurants.
 - Hospitality venues can only serve alcohol with substantial meals.
 - Venues must stop taking orders at 10pm and must close by 11pm.
 - Retail, indoor leisure, accommodation, hairdressers, places of worship will all be able to open
 - Early years settings, schools, colleges and universities will remain openTiers and regulations will be reviewed again on December 16th and full details found at www.gov.uk/guidance/full-list-of-local-restriction-tiers-by-area
Coronavirus infection rates: As at 27th November, the number of confirmed Covid cases in Somerset was 5,110 (up from 2,738 on 1st Nov) and the number of Covid-attributed deaths 228 (208). The rate per 100,000 currently stands at 99.1 for Somerset with Mendip at 138.4, Sedgemoor at 115.3, South Somerset 89.1 and SW&T at 67.7. The current number of total deaths across the County is currently 3% below the 5-year average and the latest R-value for Somerset is between 1.0 and 1.3. ***It is vitally important to remember at all times the Hands-Face-Space message.***
Christmas bubble guidance: Here are the main points to be aware of:
 - You can travel between tiers and UK nations to and from your Christmas bubble between **23 and 27 December**.
 - Once at your destination you should follow rules in that tier.
 - **Three households** can form a Christmas bubble together.
 - You can only be in one and cannot change your Christmas bubble.
 - You can only meet your Christmas bubble in private homes or in your garden, places of worship, or public outdoor spaces.
 - You can continue to meet people who are not in your Christmas bubble outside your home according to the rules in the tier where you are staying.

- If someone is in your Christmas bubble, you can visit each other's homes and stay overnight.

<http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-and-family/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-and-family>

2021 Primary School Places: Applications for Primary School places in 2021 need to be made through Somerset County Council's website: www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions The deadline for submissions is Friday, 15 January 2021.

Christmas shopping online: Somerset's Trading Standards are advising online consumers to only buy from 'reputable' traders. The COVID-19 lockdowns have led to a rise in consumer spending online and 87 per cent of UK consumers are estimated to have purchased a product online. The public spends around £2bn a week on online purchases. A new information video is available to explain how issues and problems can be dealt with <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dA75JeXrcu0>

Domestic Abuse: During the first three months of lockdown, Somerset Integrated Domestic Abuse Service saw over 10,000 people reach out for information and help to their website – an increase of more than 8,000 in the same period during the previous year. Covid-19 has exacerbated the problem for both male and female victims, with lockdown increasing the amount of time they spend at home with their abuser, potentially escalating the threat of domestic abuse and restricting their freedom. Help can be accessed by calling 0800 6949 999 or if someone is in immediate danger by calling 999.

One Somerset: The final supporting submissions for One Somerset will be sent to the Secretary of State, MHCLG by 9th December. It is then expected that he will carry out consultation in Spring 2021 and make a decision in early summer. Further details can be found at www.onesomerset.org.uk.

Export Growth Plan: Somerset County Council are raising awareness of the new opportunities emerging for local companies to export goods and services. The South West is one of three areas chosen in the UK to benefit from the Export Growth Plan funding with a range of support. The Department for International Trade (DIT) is offering one-to-one engagement with businesses where specialists can provide support for companies who want to export goods. This can be accessed by emailing DITSW@mobile.trade.gov.uk

Climate Emergency Strategy: The five councils in Somerset have given the green light to implement the recently launched plan for Somerset to go carbon neutral by 2030. The Somerset-wide Climate Emergency Strategy considers how climate change will impact the County of Somerset and describes some of the key actions to tackle our carbon emissions including developing an energy plan for the County, developing an electric vehicle strategy, improving walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure, improving resilience to climate change impact such as flooding and working with businesses and residents to reduce their own emissions. A copy of the approved strategy can be found at: <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/climate-emergency>.

D Cllr Pritchard:

Woollaway Homes: many residents are moving into Pyrland Fields (within Cheddon parish).

Stronger Somerset case has been approved by Full Council.

Phosphates: District Councils are seeking support and guidance regarding the phosphate issues and the impact on planning applications.

Christmas car parks: Free throughout the District area, except Taunton (free from 3pm on Saturdays).

Zippies/E-Scooters: over 1,000 journeys per week; social media playing a role in promoting this Government scheme. Possible extension further out of town to Monkton Heathfield for business or leisure use.

D Cllr Cavill:

Phosphates: it is reported that Wessex Water constitute 52% and livestock 35% of the problem.

Public Works Loan Board (PWLb): loans have been available to Councils throughout UK; £2billion has been loaned significantly on property out of the area thus exposing too much debt. The government has restricted this 'debt for yield' as off-limits for next two years. The price of borrowing will therefore not be as cheap in future.

Staplegrave – new road: £14.5m loan to developers to build the infrastructure. This will allow project to proceed.

Andrew Penna – SWT Garden Town Planner is leaving SWT to join Persimmon in the new year.

Cheddon Fitzpaine Resident numbers: CF PC 1803, WM PC 4174, total 5,977.

Q/A on above Reports: Cllr Fothergill clarified that the covid vaccine programme is being rolled out; Bath & West Showground & Taunton Racecourse to be used to reach larger numbers of people.

One Somerset: that County devolution would set up community networks, and Parishes would not have to accept a responsibility unless they wanted to accept it. Training and engagement would be offered; and cost incentives to be made.

Climate Emergency Strategy: Since this report was written, SWT have reneged on this proposal.

Cllr Baker clarified the issue of Maggie/Galmington Playfields planning application was turned down. Other sites to be considered within 200yd of hospital. The fields were left in trust, and District Councillors were acting as trustees.

Woollaway project costs have escalated to £70m because of changes in PWLB.

Clerks Report: No report: information circulated as received.

5. **Joint Projects with West Monkton: Open Session:**

a. Maidenbrook Country Park: Alan Hall reports waiting for the response to the Pre-application from SWT Planning Dept; we cannot move forward until this information is obtained. The Parish's Management Group is therefore 'on hold' for now. Letters of support are being obtained from groups interested in the combined project. The Portable Defibrillator is on site; Clerk has added the item to website, and Asset Register.

b. Somerset Wood: SCC have confirmed approx. £6,000 is in the fund to maintain the trees donated from Parishes and volunteers to date. WeeTrees have supplied 1,200 saplings for planting and these are in the tree 'nursery'. The Portaloo has been delivered, and invoices will be paid by SCC (not the Parishes). The first tree planting session has taken place on zones 7 & 8. A press release was issued by the Management Group and appeared in Gazette 10.12.2020 regarding the 'Fallen Soldier' from Cheddon Fitzpaine, and promoting the Somerset Wood project.

Cllr Woollacott sought assurance regarding separating the County plans from District plans, and insurance matters. The tree planting continues under the auspices of the Somerset Wood (SCC) and run by volunteers. The Parish Council insurance covers public liability within the Parish; therefore, automatically covers the Country Park and those within it. No further costs to be paid by CF & WM PC towards undertaking SWT Council costs on the land. D Cllr Cavill reported raising the matter of the Country Park at a Stronger Somerset SWT Full Council meeting as SWT claim to be working with Parishes; this is contrary to WM & CF experience.

Closed session for CP: may be held 'In Camera': resolutions maybe required. No closed session.

Cllr Fothergill left the meeting.

c. Neighbourhood Plan Review: WM Assistant Clerk, Tricia Cavill reported the draft polices have been incorporated into the main NP document (now 170 pages) and forwarded to Ann Rhodes for feedback. Clerks will undertake amendments, and amend the Consultation document to bring it up to date.

NP Map: this design has been concluded; and a grant application form forwarded to SWT Community Chest grant. If an award is made this will reduce the overall costs, and this will be applied proportionately to each parish council. Kelvin Tutill has drafted a cover letter to explain the map and review to be sent to all residents as part of the consultation process. Any revised comments to be included prior to Reg 14.

CIL 123 List: Clerk circulated the draft CF PC 123 list prior to meeting; the updated wording was checked and it was **resolved to** approve. This to be incorporated into the NP revision document, and an annual review to take place.

d. Somerset Climate Emergency Community Fund 2020-21 Bid: Form submitted 11.11.2020 and outcome awaited regarding funds for the Forest School and Pond within the Country Park.

6. **Cheddon Ward:**

Bill Rigby advised that the Memorial Hall has received a post-code issued by PO after 20 years.

Mud on road at Hestercombe Farm road: Clerk arranged a site meeting with landowner and SCC Highways. All road drains checked, some running clear, and other blocked. The Crown previously owned the field and with the lack of maintenance by the Crown this has caused blocked field drains. These now need to be found before any SCC Highway flushing can be carried out. Both parties working to identify drains collaboratively. The landowner has plans to reduce the cattle movements next year.

It was reported that a tree has been removed at Hestercombe by the renovated pond. It is understood HH has a Felling Licence and seeks clearance from the Forestry Commission prior to action.

Sheep panels and fencing reported stolen from Hestercombe Farm.

Maidenbrook stream: excessive sudden growth in weed resulted in large 'lake' flood north of Nerrols Farmhouse rear drive entrance. Efforts undertaken by landowner to release water slowly to reduce impact on Bathpool.

7. Maidenbrook Ward:

Maidenbrook Bovis-Taylor Wimpey Adoption of POS: SWT Engagement Lead Claire Thackray following up with SWT Assets. No information received since June.

Barbers Mead lights; Two light bulbs require replacing (reported in June), but these remain in the ownership of the Developer. Engagement Lead Claire Thackray following up with SWT Assets. It is requested that Cllrs Cavill & Baker follow up with Kate Hicks.

Northwalls Grange-Barratt David Wilson Homes: The contractors Tithegrove are proceeding to complete the road surface on sections of road within the estate. Bruford Drive block paving is underway. SWT are receiving reports regarding the completion of the Playground opposite Stoney Furlong.

Bruford Drive resident reports flooding from Maidenbrook near the Nerrols Farmhouse. Ongoing with all partners involved to seek solution.

Touts Local Centre, Nerrols: The Planning Application 08/20/0035 has been registered. See Planning below.

Canal: CRT-Tarker: dredging work completed December 2020 and large machinery removed from site.

Excess silt has been placed in a temporary lagoon, and will be spread across fields in the Spring when weather conditions permit. The field is private land and notices placed to advise risks.

A floating platform near Swingbridge is damaged.

Cllr Isaacs reports the bank is damaged where river barges were unloading. Clerk to follow up.

Cycleway ownership: SCC have provided Clerks with a map showing the route owned and maintained by SCC; the land underneath remains the property and title of Tarker; Agent James Gibb in Jackson Stops, Exeter. Permission has been received to place a bench adjacent to the Marina, and offer of third bench provided by CRT has been requested.

Nerrols Farm: Attempts to have a broken fence repaired have stalled as the property is tenanted; no further action possible.

Waterleaze: Nuisance car on the estate is legally licenced; concerns raised as it has not moved in months. NFA.

Nerrols Farmhouse: Stags estate agents report the property is sold, and the new owner has installed significant security equipment to protect the listed building. The Crown did not adequately protect the property which has attracted significant vagrancy in the past year.

Viridor: the issue of the flood lights is being followed up to reduce the light pollution at the Recycling Centre.

8. Highways:

WRR: update – Footpath now closed by Agin hills Farmhouse. Work continues by Wessex Water to move water pipe prior to road construction. Clerk to follow up.

A3259 – Tudor Park crossing point: WM PC met with Alyn Jones 23.11.2020 to press for this area to be considered for a crossing point. 40 children cross twice a day to reach Monkton Heathfield School, and numerous adults cross the road to reach the Country Park. The reduction in road traffic from 40-30mph was consulted on early in 2020; Cllr Fraschini to follow up. A solution would be to put a stone path in the lower edge of the Country Park fields to exit at Yallands Hill once the Western Relief Road WRR is completed, as this will be a safer crossing zone in due course.

Nerrols School/Summerleaze Crescent: Yellow lines marked out 1.12.2020. Local residents require additional markings. SCC Cllr Fraschini to follow up.

Triangle of land at entrance to Waterleaze on LHS. JLL to confirm when vegetation is to be cleared.

CMC Roundabout ownership; it is ascertained that the roundabout is owned by SCC Highways, that shrubs were planted to reduce ahead visibility to reduce speed, and the original commuted sums used for maintenance. 20 years on, the commuted sums have expired, and it is thought sponsorship is currently required to maintain. Clerk has requested that District Councillors identify who undertakes this role within the new SWT Council.

Waste bin on A3259 near CP installed 19.12.2020. Well used, though there is still dog poo in the immediate vicinity of the Country Park entrance. New notices have been put up throughout the parish requesting dog owners act responsibly, picking up, and disposing within waste bins.

Road Closures: see <https://one.network/?tm=118375976>; for up-to-date information.

Broomfield 9.11.2020 (emergency work); Mill Cross, Kingston St Mary (30.11.2020 for 5 days):

9. Planning Applications:

08/20/0032 – Amended plans: Conversion and extension of garages into 1 No. dwelling at 92 Cheddon Fitzpaine, Maidenbrook Lane, Cheddon Fitzpaine – *No comment.*

08/20/0035 - Creation of Nerrols Neighbourhood Centre comprising of the erection of a 3-storey building with commercial uses at ground floor (incorporating a convenience store, lounge bar/restaurant, hair and beauty salon, office accommodation and employment space for food production and despatch), 36 No. apartments over the 1st and 2nd floors with installation of electric vehicle charging points and a petrol and diesel forecourt with canopy over, landscaped parking area and community and public open space on land off Nerrols Drive, Taunton. *Following consultations between the Developer and Parish Council, the Councillors support this high-quality proposal.*

08/20/0036 - Change of use from Class B1c, B2 and B8 to Class E, B2, B8 and sui generis with relocation of cycle store at Mercedes-Benz of Taunton LCV, Sovereign Way, Taunton (retention of works already undertaken). *No comment.*

08/20/0037/T - Notification fell four Ash trees within Cheddon Fitzpaine Conservation Area at The Old Rectory, Cheddon Fitzpaine. *No objection; support advice from Tree Officer.*

Lizanne House: 08/19/0041 – *The Appeal has been overturned.*

Enforcement: a matter is being followed up regarding a lack of hedge planting locally.

- 10. Planning Decisions: 08/20/0031** Change of use to builder's merchants (sui generis) for display, sale, storage of building, timber and plumbing supplies, plant and tool hire including display and external storage racking with refurbishment of building, reconfiguration of site and associated works at Keyline, Priorswood Industrial Estate, Venture Way, *Conditional approval 16.11.2020.*

11. Reports:

Church/Pastoral Care Group: No report. Contact Benefice Office for up-to-date information. Zoom meetings continue.

Cheddon School: Interviews taken place via Zoom for a new Reception Teacher.

Memorial Hall: no report.

Nerrols Primary School: no report.

Footpaths:

Police: Monthly updates available for local postcodes: apply online at Avon & Somerset Police.

12. Administration:

Website: The new Parish website went live late November. The old provider has unexpectedly assisted Somerset Web Services with the transfer of information.

Parish Clerk: Advertisement to be placed for new Clerk with interviews late Jan/early February. Clerk to follow up with Cllr Batsch.

GDPR – Data Protection audit trail undertaken for 2019-2020 and brought up to date.

Parish Online mapping: Clerk attended free training, a very useful tool, and recommended for future.

New printer purchased: Clerk's personal printer expired, and Chairman approved purchase to be retained by Clerk.

Newsletter: A volunteer Distributor undertook arrangements on this occasion. New Distributor required.

SWT Community Chest Fund grant applied for towards NP Map. Outcome awaited.

SWT Consultation notification: Climate Positive Planning Interim Policy Statement – by 4 January 2021.
CF PC not required to respond at this time.

Recent Meetings 4.12.2020: SLCC AGM: Clerk attended/**QH AONB:** WM Assistant Clerk attended.

13. Finance:

Precept 2021/22: The working party had considered the figures for 2021-22 and seek £35,426.21. A revised tax base (email received 14.12.2020) of 880.14 properties brings this figure to £40.26 per Band D property. It was **resolved** to approve this Precept figure. All in agreement, Clerk to forward to SWT District.

SLCC 2021 Membership: £144.00. Approved.

CIL Payments: Capital expenditure may be used for the recent purchase of the two waste bins, and part of the portable defibrillator costs. One CIL Receipt of £3579.00 expires in March 2022, and therefore reducing this amount is considered favourable. Total: £1,206.86. It was **resolved** to approve this transfer from the Natwest Business Account to the Current Account. £2,371.14 remains to be spent prior to 31.3.2022.

Payments for Authorisation: to approve payments sheet:

Payments December 2020	Amount	VAT	Pay Date
Somerset Web Services SWS	£1,590.00	£265.00	15.12.2020
SWS – final bill for building website & monthly hosting	£180.00 £26.40	£30.00 £4.40	" "
ParishCouncil.net – (old website – closing)	£100.00		"
Character Graphics – December newsletter	£75.00		"
NP Map Design M.Marlborough	£1,540.00*		tbc by clerk
SWT Bin installation/emptying @A3259	£673.99	£112.33	15.12.2020
Mowgate: hedge cutting for Country Park	£121.80	£20.30	15.12.2020
SLCC 2021 Membership	£144.00		15.12.2020
Pioneer Windows (Dec)	£10.00		15.12.2020
Mrs P J Pearson Nov mileage expenses	£24.30		
Homeworking November	<u>£27.00</u>		
	£51.30		15.12.2020
Mrs P J Pearson November Salary @£12.45p/h £755.30 (holiday: 23-27 Nov = 42hrs standard)			
PLUS: 33.5 hrs overtime	<u>£410.85</u>		
	£1,166.15		
LESS: Nov Employee NI £42.48/Tax £34.00	£76.48		
	£1,089.67		31.12.2020
HMRC: Employer/ee NI £57.13/£42.48/Tax £34.00	£ 133.61		15.12.2020
Inform HMRC RTI (Dec) £1,089.67			31.12.2020
	<u>Total: £ 5,735.77</u>		

Debit Card/Direct Debit: To note:

<i>TBC: Sharp Cat- NP Map postage (previously approved) £1,165.48</i>			<i>tbc</i>
HP colour cartridges	£47.98	VAT £8.00	19.11.2020
HP Deskjet Printer 2724	£49.99	£8.33	21.11.2020
HP Deskjet cartridge	£13.99	£2.33	29.11.2020
-Monthly subscription to Somerset Web Services			
For parish Councillor/Clerk email addresses	£ 38.64	£6.44	16.11.2020
The Works – paper/laminate	£8.00	£1.33	10.12.2020

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

*Grant funding expected before Christmas: prior payment would negate the grant.

Proposed: Cllr Woollacott Seconded: Cllr Isaacs

14. Matters raised by Councillors: None

15. Correspondence: circulated.

Next Parish Council meeting:

MONDAY, 11 January 2020 at 7.00pm by Webex conference call.

<https://mrs-ofb.my.webex.com/meet/cheddon>

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Meeting closed: 9.20 pm



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Vice-Chairman: Cllr J Woollacott