West Huntspill Parish Council Meeting Minutes

**Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at 7:00 pm on 24th May 2021 at the Balliol Hall following Covid-19 regulations. Access available to the meeting for the public via Zoom.**

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| **i)** | | **Members present via Zoom:** Cllr J Wakefield, Cllr R Palmer, Cllr Shaw, Cllr Gunnell-Parker, Cllr M Saunders, Cllr A Higgs, Cllr R Keen & Mrs A Harris (Clerk) | **Action** |
| **ii)** | | **Members of the public: None** |  |
| **iii)** | | **County & District Councillors present via Zoom**: Cllr J Keen |  |
| **1.** | | **Apologies for absence**: None |  |
| **2** | | **Dispensation requests**: None |  |
| **3.** | | **Minutes and Clerks Report**  Cllr Gunnell-Parker proposed the Minutes as a true record this was seconded by Cllr Palmer. The Council were all in agreement.  Cllr Saunders proposed that the Clerks Report was accepted, and Cllr Higgs seconded this. The Council were all in agreement. |  |
| **4.** | | **Matters Arising –None** |  |
| **5.** | | **Election of Chairman**  Cllr A Gunnell-Parker proposed Cllr John Wakefield and this was seconded by Cllr Shaw. The Council were all agreed.  Cllr Wakefield signed the acceptance of Office form in the presence if the Council |  |
| **6** | | **Election of Vice Chairman**  Cllr Palmer nominated Cllr A Gunnell-Parker, this was seconded by Cllr Higgs and the Council were all agreed. |  |
| **7.** | | **Polices**  All policies will be updated over the next month and distributed to Council for approval |  |
| **8.** | | **Committees**  Councillors were allocated to the following groups to represent the Council:  Ilex – JW/MS  SALC – JW/ Clerk  Balliol Hall – AH/JW  SPFA – MS/JW  Coastal Cluster – RK  Drainage – RK |  |
|  | | **Cllr Palmer leaves meeting at 19.19** |  |
| **9.** | | **County Councillor and District Councillor Reports:**  Cllr M Healey report was received by email and distributed to all members.  Cllr J Keen report was received by email and distributed to all members  AGP asked how many people do EDF currently employ? JK Replied 6500  RS asked where exactly is the Northgate site in Bridgwater? JK replied on site of old Splash swimming pool |  |
| **10.** | | **Planning**  **52/21/00008 76 Church Road**  Change of use of land to residential curtilage & the erection of detached double garage.  Decision deferred until next meeting – site visit prior to discussion |  |
| **11.** | | **Neighbourhood Watch**  The group is no longer in operation. Cllr Higgs suggested volunteer community wardens for the village. They would help to disseminate information around village and support people.  Agreed to discuss at next meeting |  |
| **12.** | | **Civic awards**  The Council agreed this should not be an annual event. The award should only be rewarded when someone has been recognised for their achievements.  A nomination form will be available on the website |  |
| **13.** | | **Footpaths, Highways and Maintenance**  Land in Silver Street with the substation has been cut by SDC.  Alstone Gardens footpath – A letter from a solicitor involved in manging the estate of the deceased owner of no.8 Alstone Lane has contacted the Council to inform the hedge will be dealt with shortly.  The Council will discuss this at the next meeting to ensure the issue is resolved.  Huntspill Villa has been sold – the Council will contact the new owners to discuss trimming back the overhanging hedge once they are in residence.  Old Pawlett Road – New Wessex Water substation – trees need pollarding | MS  AH  Alex |
| **14.** | | Common  Mr M Fiddess has quoted to remove or pollard the offending Withy Tree. There is also a 2nd withy tree near Sloway Lane which also needs pollarding.  2 branches on the Ash tree near the pond have been removed. Unsure if tree has Ash dieback. Mr Fiddes will review treat in 1 year.  Hawthorn is growing on the Doble Land. Cllr Saunders will transfer this to the common and start creating a native hedge.  Miss Palmer has informed she is very pleased with the pollarding of the withy tree.  Map area on Common is looking untidy and needs work. Site meeting to discuss this area fir the next meeting (This Sat at 4.30pm)  Japanese Knotweed has been identified again on the Common. Previously treated but has grown back but less then previous years. The Clerk to respond to Ms N Gardener who reported this to the Council.  Electricity box on Common needs a new door – Cllr Higgs is sorting this. Also agreed to get a quote to run power directly to Ken Halls memorial tree. |  |
| **15.** | | **Pavilion**  Alan Clapp is meeting Dave Counsell this week to discuss progress. Cllr Gunnell-Parker will repost back at the next meeting.  S106 money available for disabled ramp and bathroom but still waiting for 3 quotes for work. |  |
| **16.** | | **Cold Calling Zones**  The whole of West Huntspill is a registered NO Cold Calling Zone.  PCSO Piers has given the Clerk new signage and stickers to place around village. |  |
| **17.** | | **Training**  The Clerk will identify any training requirements for the Council.  Cllr Gunnell-Parker has requested chairmanship training. |  |
| **18.** | | **Area Report:**  **Ringstone** – Extension of double yellow lines needed in Ringstone entrance  Pothole outside number 29 in middle of road  Withy road – Depth markers have been found and need reinstalling by Wessex Water  **Church Road** – Extension of double yellow lines needed in Church Road  **Main Road** – Ilex Park signage – find out costs  **Alstone** – None |  |
| **19** | | **Payments**   * + Mrs Alex Harris £598.76 – Clerk   + Mrs Alex Harris £37.99 – Telephone and website   + Mrs Alex Harris £14.39   + HMRC PAYE 20/21 £1647.32   + Freedom of Information £40   + Steve Chick £250.00   + Steve Chick £375.00   + BHIB Insurance £905.68   Payments Received £11908.11 – Precept 1st instalment  **All payments agreed by of Council.**  Financial Report given  ***PK Littlejohn – AGAR discussed and presented. The Council responded to all questions and the AGAR was signed in the presence of the Council by the Chairman and Clerk***. |  |
| **20.** | | **Matters of report:**  Cllr Gunnell-Parker: Laburnham House Hotel - litter and waste |  |
| **21.** | **Date & time of next meeting:**  14th May 2021 at 7pm Balliol Hall | |  |
| **22.** | The meeting closed at 8.17pm | |  |