West Huntspill Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at 7:30 pm on 12th June 2023 at The Balliol Hall, Church Road, West Huntspill.**

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| **i)** | | **Members present:** Cllr J Wakefield, Cllr M Saunders, Cllr R Shaw, Cllr A Higgs, Cllr A Clapp & Cllr J Wilks  The Clerk – Mrs Alex Harris | **Action** |
| **ii)** | | **Members of public present:** Dave Counsell (Huntspill Cricket Club) |  |
| **iii)** | | **Somerset Councillors present**: Cllr M Healey |  |
| **1.** | | **Apologies for absence**: Cllr R Keen |  |
| **2** | | **Dispensation requests**: None |  |
| **3.** | | **Minutes and Clerks Report**  Cllr A Shaw proposed the Minutes were a true record of the meeting on the 15/5/23. Cllr M Saunders seconded this, and the Council **resolved** this was a true record. Cllr Saunders and Cllr Higgs approved the Clerks report, and the Council **resolved** this was accepted. |  |
| **4.** | | **Matters Arising: None** |  |
| **5.** | | **Report from Cllr M Healey (Somerset Council)**  Email received on behalf of Cllr M Healey and Cllr Aujla  Cllr Healey was also in attendance and reported the following:   * Full Council executive resolved the cheaper bus travel for the county would continue for the foreseeable future. * Terms and conditions for on call fire fighters are being discussed. * More redundancies to come within Somerset Council * Suggested formation of our own cluster group (E. Huntspill, W. Huntspill, Mark, Pawlett etc) * No Somerset Council grants available at present |  |
| **6.** | | **Pavilion – New Road & Huntspill Cricket Club**  Dave Counsell informed the following:   * £1000 was raised towards Cancer UK following the recent charity cricket matches. * Looking for grant funding via ECB towards a possible bore hole to supply water to the cricket pitch. Depending on water quality this may also be able to be used for the shoers etc. A survey is being conducted at present to see if this is a possibility. * Plaque has been suggested for the recently refurbished pavilion. Wording needs to be agreed. |  |
| **7.** | | **Planning**  **52/23/00003 – Mr Nuttall – 37 Main Road**  Side repair to utility access bridge  **The council had no observations.**  **Brue farm update:**   * In discussion with Somerset Council regarding the recently removed hedgerows – need to be replaced. * Technicians have been looking at the rhyne that runs alongside development as this will need re-profiling for safety. * Screening to development needed 8-10ft tall. * On planning application documented 5 trees to be removed and 10 trees to be replanted. |  |
| **8.** | | **Ilex Park**  SPFA are inspecting the park end of June/early July.  Footpath that runs alongside park (Doggy walk/Brent Rhyne) has been cut back.  Clerk to contact Parsons Landscaping for a quote of 5 tonnes of play sand to bring areas up to safe levels. |  |
| **9**. | | **Common, footpaths & village map area**  The Mulberry Tree near the church needs trimming (PCC)  Horse Chestnut Tree on Common also needs attention for the lower branches.  A38 to Stoney path needs attention – overgrown.  Bridleway (Sheppard’s Lane) also needs attention as overgrowth.  Alstone Gardens footpath needs cutting.  Fir trees on Common that boundary Cherry Tree Farm need attention. Cllr Higgs will speak to new owner as not owned by council as not native trees. | Clerk |
| **10.** | | **Projects**  Bank Holliday weekend festival - August   * Erect own marquee * No children’s games by WI * 4 x bands between 2pm & 9pm * A further band will play in Crossways after 9pm * Burger/ice cream van needed. * Family friendly event * Inform local police of event. * Possible rock choir * Do we need music licence? * Local resident funding £1000 towards * The Council will not run the event just facilitate it. * Advise neighbours. | Clerk |
| **11.** | | **CIL Funds**  Alstone Defib has been delivered and awaiting electrical installation.  The privately owned defib at the White cottage needs a new battery. The trustee of the defib has requested help to fund as the local group who originally funded the defib no longer exists. Agreed to fund battery but discuss with trustee to transfer asset to Parish Council for future protection.  Solar Speed Signs – several options. Need to discuss permissions with Highways and contact Evosign for more information.  The Council will complete a site visit to discuss possible installation sites. They will meet on Friday 16th of June at 4pm on the Main Road.  Storage container purchase for PC use – approx. cost £3000 for 20ft container. Need railway sleepers or breeze blocks on site first before installation. Cllr Saunders and Cllr Higgs will look.  Planters x 4– discussed option of reclaimed stone troughs. 2 for map area on common and 1 at each end of A38. Consider concrete troughs (£1500/2000 each), or consider planters made from sleepers. Cllr Saunders will look at possible making two first and then review.  Cllr Saunders will contact Mark Pugsley regarding gateway to War Memorial Field. The quote still stands from December 2022.  Agreed to but bag holders for clean sweep.  The bench on the Common need’s refurbishment.  2 x metal benches (Post Office and White Cottage) still need to be refurbished. Cllr Higgs will chase. | MS  AH  Clerk |
| **12.** | | **Area Report:**  **Ringstone/Withy Road –** Potholes have been repaired.  **Church Road** – Cars revving in Grove Road and setting off other car alarms. Poor car parking at blind corner at Grove Road also. Inform local PCSO.  **Main Road** – Huntspill Villa hedge has been trimmed but needs more work.  **New Road** – Road Traffic Order has been submitted around school for No Stopping.  **Alstone** – Phone Box now has shelves – just needs books. | Clerk |
| **13.** | | **Financial items:**   * Statement of Accounts * To agree the following payments:   Mrs Alex Harris £724.67 – Clerks salary  Mrs Alex Harris £45.97 – Telephone, website, and Office 360  Mr Steve Chick - Grass Cutting - £545  Mr Steve Chick – Footpaths £285.00  Huntspill Cricket Club £900 – Grass Cutting 2022/23    The Council **resolved** the banking statement, and all payments were a true record and approved.  CIL Fund as of end of June 23 - £26761.72 | Clerk |
| **14.** | | **Matters of report: None** |  |
| **15.** | **Date & time of next meeting:**  **There is no meeting in July 2023**  14th August 2023 – 7pm – Balliol Hall | |  |
| **16.** | The meeting closed at: 20.45 | |  |