West Huntspill Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at 7:30 pm on 14th August 2023 at The Balliol Hall, Church Road, West Huntspill.**

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| **i)** | | **Members present:** Cllr J Wakefield, Cllr M Saunders, Cllr R Keen& Cllr J Wilks  The Clerk – Mrs Alex Harris | **Action** |
| **ii)** | | **Members of public present:** 1 member present (Caroline) |  |
| **iii)** | | **Somerset Councillors present**: None |  |
| **1.** | | **Apologies for absence**: Cllr A Clapp, Cllr A Higgs, Cllr R Shaw, Cllr S Arjhua & Cllr M Healey |  |
| **2** | | **Dispensation requests**: None |  |
| **3.** | | **Minutes and Clerks Report**  Cllr J Wilks proposed the Minutes were a true record of the meeting on the 14/8/23. Cllr M Saunders seconded this, and the Council **resolved** this was a true record. Cllr Wilks and Cllr Saunders approved the Clerks report, and the Council **resolved** this was accepted. |  |
| **4.** | | **Matters Arising:**  Fly tipping at the Seawall – reported to Clean Surroundings |  |
| **5.** | | **Report from Cllr M Healey (Somerset Council)**  Email received on behalf of Cllr M Healey and Cllr Aujla and circulated to Council. |  |
| **6.** | | **Planning**  **52/23/0004 12 Old Pawlett Road**  Erection of double garage  **The Council had no observations.**  **52/23/00005 64 Main Road**  Application for Non-Material Amendment to planning permission 52/23/00005 (Outline applications with all matter reserved, for the erection of 4no.dwellings with associated accesses off the highway.) To amend description allowing for the development to be up to 4no.dwellings.  **The Council had no observations.**  **Brue farm update:**   * Cllr Wilks has been in discussion with Ms Dawn De Vries regarding the re-profiling of the ditch on the Brue Farm side. Landscaping has been destroyed and the trees not removed. * The site will need screening from A38. * The PC is not being kept up to date with discussions and alterations to the site. * The PC still have not received confirmation of a covenant of the area of land reserved for educational purpose. |  |
| **7.** | | **War Memorial Playing Field**  Plaque – Wording for a new plaque needs to be agreed. The Clerk will take a photo of the original plaque and then it will be for discussion at Septembers meeting. |  |
| **8.** | | **Ilex Park**  SPFA have inspected the park and raised a few issues. The report will be forwarded to Cllr Wakefield and Cllr Saunders to review, and an action plan created.  More sand is needed to bring the play areas up to safety standard The Clerk will contact Parsons Landscaping who originally installed this 15 years ago. Cllr Saunders advised approximately 5 tonnes of play sand will be required. |  |
| **9**. | | **Common, footpaths & village map area**  Map area – Suggested a new village map be drawn incorporating areas of interest in the village. This could be a village competition. More thought is needed to be discussed at September’s meeting.  Possibly contact village historian John Lamb and the Church for information of facts to be used within the map.  Stony Path is becoming narrower due to vegetation, needs more to be taken back further rather than trimming. Clerk to discuss with Mr Chick.  Alstone Gardens – the house next to the footpath has now been sold. Cllr Wilks will have a chat to new residents and ask if they can take the hedge back or remove so the footpath is walkable.  Triangular Frame on Common- Contact Cllr Higgs for update. | Clerk |
| **10.** | | **Projects**  Bank holiday weekend festival – has now been cancelled.  Clean Sweep planned for 30/9/23 between 10-12pm. To be advertised on website and Facebook.  Carols on the Common to go ahead again this year. Cllr Wakefield will contact King Alfred Concert Band.  Possibility of recreating West Huntspill Harvest Home in the future. | Clerk |
| **11.** | | **CIL Funds**  Alstone Defib has been delivered and awaiting electrical installation.  Solar Speed Signs – Somerset Highways have advised they have launched a project to aid any erection and legality of these devices prior to installation. The cost is £500. The Clerk will contact Highways direct for further information as this cost seems excessive.  The Council resolved to purchase a 20ft storage container to be sited at the War Memorial to store PC equipment and records etc. Breeze blocks will be required and Councillors on site to aid this installation. A date will be organised shortly.  Planters x 2– Cllr Saunders will look at possible making two from sleepers first and then review. These will aim to be placed at the start and finish of the village boundary.  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 – Cllr Saunders  2 x metal benches (Post Office and White Cottage) still need to be refurbished. The Clerk to contact Cllr Higgs.  Land at Old Pawlett Road opposite the builder’s merchant RBL. The Clerk to contact Chris at RBL to see if they would maintain or sponsor this area of ground to make it look more attractive. | MS  AH  Clerk |
| **12.** | | **Area Report:**  **Ringstone/Withy Road –** Solid White lines have still not been repainted.  30mph sign on Withy Road has slid down the pole and not visible.  **Church Road** – A metal sink pipe near Grange Road has been damaged and needs reporting to Wessex Water.  **Main Road** – The Milestone on the A38 near the Old Gun shop needs a coat of paint.  **Alstone** – Phone Box now has books and is working well as a book exchange.  Alstone paddock has now been sold – possibly to a developer**.** | 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 - £590 INV 0293  Mr Steve Chick – Footpaths £285.00 – INV 0294  King Alfred Concert Band (Coronation) £150.00  SPFA – Ilex Park Inspection £85.00  Balliol Hall rent and tokens £39.00.  The Council **resolved** the banking statement, and all payments were a true record and approved.  CIL Funds received - £12,536.50.  AGAR – The Annual return has been completed with a minor error form previous year regarding reporting. In compliance with audit regulation this has now been displayed on the Parish website. | Clerk |
| **14.** | | **Matters of report: None** |  |
| **15.** | **Date & time of next meeting:**  11th September 2023 – 7pm – Balliol Hall | |  |
| **16.** | The meeting closed at: 19.55 | |  |