

Musbury Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 18th October 2021 at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

Cllr Colin Corbett (Chair)

Cllr Caroline Ellis (V-Chair)

Cllr Paul Smith

8 Parishioners

Cllr Janet Albano

Cllr Gary Knight

County Cllr Ian Hall

Cllr Peter Perryman

Cllr Matt Craker

Mrs Jo Boyce (Clerk)

1 **APOLOGIES** – District Cllr Iain Chubb

2 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held Tuesday 6th September 2021 were accepted as a true record and were duly signed by Cllr Colin Corbett.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – There were none

4 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUSINESS and COMMUNITY ISSUES**

4.1 **Spending Review** – The Council discussed current spending and future budgets and provisionally decided to raise the Precept bid at £8500. The Council agreed to maintain the current level of donations to local good causes. **ACTION** Clerk to arrange payment to local good causes.

4.2 **Reading Room** - Council/Trustees resolved to proceed to lift the permanent endowment to close the charity and enable the funds to be used for a community project and thus carry out its original purpose. The reason for it was the Charity is no longer active and the Trustees will use the funds for the playing field. **ACTION** Clerk to proceed with closing the charity and transferring the funds.

5 **ACCOUNTS**

5.1 **Transactions for October** – the following payments were proposed by Cllr Perryman and approved by Cllr Craker.

Clerk Salary & Expenses (Oct)	247.96	G
Clerk PAYE (Oct)	16.20	G
Halcyon Landscapes (Sept)	94.80	G
Village Hall Rental	15:00	G

5.2 **Recent Transactions and Balance** - The Clerk presented the July, August and September 2021 Treasurer's Statements. The accounts had been reviewed by the Chair and all Councillors prior to the meeting and Cllr Ellis has checked the invoices against the statements.

6 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Decisions Awaited

21/1656/MOUT – Land off Doatshayne Lane, Musbury - Outline application for 15x dwellings (some matters reserved).

21/1625/FUL – The Old Reading Room, Axminster Road, Musbury, EX13 8AZ - Change of use from artist studio (suis generis) to hobby room ancillary to main dwelling (C3)

21/2297/FUL – Sellerswood Farm, Musbury, EX13 8SR - Replacement of thatch roof, conversion of roofs pace to habitable use to include three front dormers, extension of existing outbuilding and installation of PV panels on barn.

7 Highways and Public Spaces

7.1 Benches – The Clerk informed the Council that the Day Lewis bench was now in the workshop. The Chair has assessed the Maidenhayne bench and feels it can remain in location at present and he will monitor it. **ACTION** Cllr Corbett to monitor the bench.

7.2 Noticeboards/Signs – Cllr Perryman has obtained a quote from a local company for a replacement noticeboard at the Northfield site for c£600. The Clerk has obtained a quote from Pete Rorstad for remaking the old wooden noticeboard of £150 plus materials and from the Local Clerks Magazine of between £270 - £600. The Council agreed to ask Pete Rorstad to re-make the old noticeboard. **ACTION** The Clerk to arrange this.

Pete Rorstad has outlined some options for the Musbury Castle Sign and the Council have asked Pete Rorstad to remove the sign in order to decide which way forward is most suitable. **ACTION** Clerk to liaise with Pete about this.

7.3 Allotments – The Clerk informed the Council that all current tenants have paid their rent for the year. There is one full and one half plot available which the Clerk is currently arranging to let to those on the waiting list. The Clerk asked if there were any maintenance issues that required attention at the Allotments and more hardcore for the bottom entrance has been requested. **ACTION** Cllr Corbett is to arrange this.

7.4 Trees – Cllr Corbett confirmed that the dead tree has been cut down and the debris has been cleared thanks to the hard work of Paul Chapman and Noel Jacks. Cllr Corbett and Noel Jacks have also staked the leaning tree.

Garage Tree – Cllr Smith is to liaise with Mr Rinaldi and ask him to contact Cllr Hall regarding the potential purchase of the land between his wall and the pavement. **ACTION**

7.5 Playing Field – Cllr Knight informed the Council that the application for funding to purchase new goals had been rejected as there is not an affiliated football team in the village.

Cllr Knight has met with Annie Stark to discuss some ideas for the field, including pathways and more seating options as well as replacing the equipment that has reached the end of its life. **ACTION** Cllr Knight will contact Cllr Hall regarding possible funding streams and will go ahead and purchase the goals. **ACTION** The Clerk will contact EDDC to find out the demographic information relating to Musbury.

8 P3 Footpaths

Cllr Albano reported that all the two in one gates are now in and although there has been an overspend this year, we will recoup the VAT and P3 has underspent in previous years. She stated that as it has been so challenging to find and keep a valid contractor and materials this year, it was felt prudent to push ahead with the improvements now. PROW will be dealing with the steps at The Castle and next year's focus will be on cropping.

Cllr Albano reiterated the need for members of the public to contact Cllr Smith or herself if issues arose so they could be dealt with in a timely manner.

Cllr Albano requested the Council's agreement to purchase some signs to publicise the updated Countryside Code in targeted locations. The Council agreed.

9 Reports from District and County Councillors

Please see separate report from County Cllr Hall.

Baxter’s Farm – Cllr Hall reported that he was feeling incredibly frustrated that the Council were unaware of the recent developments regarding the site as he had specifically asked that the Clerk was copied in to email communications on this matter.

Currently, the Farm may be rented out as a farm to potentially house animals. Concerns were raised about the safety of the site and the need for a thorough Risk Assessment.

No report was sent from District Cllr Chubb as EDDC are not meeting and all activities are delegated to the officers.

10 Police Report – No reports have been received from the police.

11 Matters brought forward

11.1 Remembrance Wreath – The Chair asked if any other councillors would like to lay the wreath at the service but the Council felt it was more appropriate that it was done by the leader of the Council.

12 Questions from Parishioners

12.1 A parishioner requested that the new Grit Bin at the bottom of Mounthill be looked at again as the bin and lid particularly are warped and need to be either pushed back or moved along. **ACTION** The Clerk will send Cllr Hall the location and the Snow Warden’s email address as he is meeting with highways later this week.

The Grit Bin on Blacksmith’s Hill also needs monitoring as there is some damage.

12.2 A parishioner suggested that the village may need an electric charging point in the future and perhaps an expanded garage forecourt may allow that to happen.

With no further business outstanding, the Chair closed the meeting at 9:00pm

Proposed date of next meeting: Monday December 6th 2021 at 7:30pm
Venue: The Village Hall Meeting room

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Chairman

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Date