

Musbury Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 30th October 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Committee Room where the following business was conducted.

Present: Cllr Colin Corbett (Chair), Cllr Matt Craker (Vice) Cllr Peter Perryman, Cllr Andrew Moulding, Cllr Ian Hall, Mrs S Coombe (Clerk) & 7 Parishioners

31/23 APOLOGIES - Apologies were received from Cllr Chubb.

32/23 MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on Monday 11th September 2023 were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chair.

33/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - There were no declarations of interest.

34/23 LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY ISSUES

- a. Co-option - The clerk reiterated to parishioners the need to recruit new councillors as we should have 7 members. Councillors reported there are 2 people interested in becoming Councillors.
Action: Follow up at the next meeting.
- b. Budget - Councillors reviewed and agreed the proposed budget for 2024/25. After discussion it was agreed to raise the precept bid for financial year 2024/25 by £1000 to £10,000.00.
- c. Spending Review - The clerk shared the spending review to the end of September (6 months). Currently on budget for this financial year.
- d. Donation Request - Axe Valley & West Dorset Ring & Ride Service Ltd have emailed requesting a donation. Councillors also discussed a donation to TRIP Community Transport. It was agreed by all councillors to donate £100.00 to both Axe Valley Ring & Ride & TRIP Community Transport.

35/23 ACCOUNTS

- a. The following transactions were presented for approval, they were duly approved, proposed by Cllr Craker & seconded by Cllr Moulding.

Musbury Village Hall	Village Hall Hire	£20.00
SNC Southwest	PF - Resurface(2 nd Payment)	£9237.00
SWW	Allotment Water Supply	£121.65
J King	Allotment Refund	£25.00
S Coombe	Clerks Salary - October	£285.00
HMRC	PAYE - October	£71.20
S Coombe	Clerks Salary - November	£285.00
HMRC	PAYE - November	£71.20

- b. Monthly Treasurers Accounts - The Clerk presented September & October 2023 Treasurer's Statements. These were reviewed by the Chair and Councillors, reconciled with the corresponding bank statements and duly approved.

36/23 HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC SPACES

- a. Allotments - There is still uncertainty about the Jubilee tree that was planted & whether the current one is indeed a replacement!! **Action: Clerk to query with EDDC.**

Allotment Plots 9 & 21 have new tenants. The current tenant of Plot 7a is moving to a Whole Plot & is taking on 22A. This means there will be 4 vacant half plots, 2, 3A, 4A & 7A. The current tenant on 26 is relinquishing his tenancy so this will also be vacant. There is no current waiting list. The chair has had an email regarding a neighbouring property to the Allotments having a pest problem which they believe to be coming from the Allotments. **Action: Chair & Allen to investigate pest problem. Allen to read the water meter & turn off the water supply.**

- b. Playing Fields - The Chair thanked Councillor Moulding for officiating at the opening of the Play Park. The resurfacing work has been paid for & the clerk will organise to reclaim the VAT proportion from HMRC. There have been 2 more donations received for the Playing Field Fund so we need to speak to Annie to find out future plans.
- c. Footpaths - The steps, bench & hill up to the top field have now been strimmed & looking tidy. The grant of £920.00 is being paid from EDDC on 1st November 2023 for work to be carried out on Footpaths 17, 20 & 36.
- d. Christmas Tree - There is £122.81 in the Christmas Tree Fund which will be enough to purchase this year's tree. The tree will be put up on Saturday 9th December 2023 with carols around the tree on 10th December 2023 where they hope to ask for donations to put to the cost of next year's tree.

37/23 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Halls monthly report for October is predominantly about Highways. There was a query at the last meeting about the Airband infrastructure & additional poles. Officers at County who are dealing with the broadband delivery are looking into this but unfortunately no response has yet been received but he hopes to be able to report back by the next meeting.

Cllr Hall is now Chair of the One Eastern Devon Partnership Forum & has committed to remain in the role until the May 2025 Elections. The Forum work with the Education System, Police, Fire, NHS, Social Care & the Voluntary Sector to name just a few. Concentrating on working together, they have their 3rd meeting on 19th November where they will focus on 4 priorities, these are Climate, Transport & Air Pollution, Housing & Mental Health. All the areas of authority have unanimously agreed to look more into mental health from childhood through to old age & dementia care. One of the partners, a Superintendent from the police will be asked to lead at the next meeting because a huge number of responses from the police aren't always about crime but are often to do with health & in particular mental health.

Cllr Craker thanked Cllr Hall for meeting with him on Friday afternoon re issues of Combyne Road surface & other problems within the village re the Highway & Drains. Since their meeting there have been more problems after the heavy rain at the weekend. **Action: Cllr Hall to put forward a request from the Parish Council for rectification works to do what matters. Clerk to send Cllr Craker the Musbury Drainage System Report from 2016 for further investigations.**

38/23 POLICE MATTERS - Cllr Hall & Craker had the quarterly meeting with the Inspector & Sergeant & from a village point of view there are no known crime trends to speak of. Both officers are very proactive & Cllr Craker is confident that should there be any specific issues they would respond accordingly. It was reported that the 101 service now has an option for callback.

39/23 MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD BY PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN

- a. Sandbags - The Chair reported that there are sandbags at Musbury Farm if anyone needs them.
- b. Grit Bins - The snow warden received an email re Grit Bins that need topping up. He has responded & they will be filled in due course.

40/23 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM PARISHIONERS -

- a. Troughs outside Baxters Farmhouse - A member of the public commented about the removal of the troughs from the Highway outside the Farmhouse.
- b. Christmas Window Trail - Anyone who wishes to take part, light up a window from the 1st December through to Christmas Day so people can go round the village & see all the windows lit up at the same time.
- c. Minutes - Cllr Moulding asked the clerk if the minutes could be placed on the noticeboard for parishioners.

There being no further matters for discussion the meeting was closed at 8.40pm.

The proposed date for the next meeting: Monday 18th December 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Committee Room.

..... 18th December 2023
Chairman Date

..... 18th December 2023
Clerk Date

DRAFT