

Musbury Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5th February 2024 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 Morag Hughes, Cllr Nigel Starey Cllr Iain Chubb, Mrs S Coombe (Clerk) & 14 Parishioners

52/23 APOLOGIES – Apologies were received from Cllr Hall.

53/23 MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on Monday 18th December 2023 were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chair.

54/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – There were no declarations of interest.

55/23 LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY ISSUES

- a. **Co-option** – 2 Musbury residents have been Co-opted to the Parish Council. The Chair welcomed Cllr's Hughes & Starey, both will assume joint responsibility for Musbury Footpaths as P3 Councillors. Register of Interest & Declaration of Office have been signed & witnessed. There is 1 vacant seat for co-option to the Parish Council.
- b. **Spending Review** – The clerk shared the spending review up to the end of the 3rd Quarter for financial year 2023/2024.

56/23 ACCOUNTS

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

Musbury Village Hall	Hall Hire – 18/12/23	£20.00
I Churchill	Grass Cutting	£1033.00
S Coombe	Clerks Salary – January	£305.80
HMRC	PAYE – January	£76.40
S Coombe	Clerks Salary – February	£305.80
HMRC	PAYE – February	£76.40

- b. **Monthly Treasurers Accounts** – The Clerk presented the December 2023 & January 2024 Treasurer's Statements. These were reviewed by the Chair and Councillors, reconciled with the corresponding bank statements and duly approved.

57/23 PLANNING - 24/0094/TCA Cherry Tree House, Church Hill, Musbury, Axminster, EX13 8BA – To fell dead larch and remove stump. – This application has now been withdrawn. The Tree Officer has advised that the felled tree be replaced with a new tree.

58/23 HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC SPACES

- a. **Allotments** – The clerk reported that there are several half & full plots available in the Allotment Gardens and there is currently no waiting list. Several have been cleared by Allen but are already weeding over again & will only get worse in the Spring. **Action: Clerk to advertise locally & to the wider community.**

The Chair reported that the Jubilee Oak Tree that was thought had died was snapped in half during the recent gales & has therefore been removed. There will be no further replacements from EDDC. There is a more mature Oak in the corner of the Allotments that is in need of some tree work & tidying. **Action: Chair to look into getting the work done.**

- b. **Playing Fields** – Colin & Ben are liaising re timber for the picnic bench. We've received a donation from Pecorama & am awaiting a cash donation from Josh at Axminster Carpets instead of a rug. The PC have already agreed the purchase of replacement seats and chains, the group agreed a like for like replacement is the best way forward. The Toddler rocker & Swings need to be repriced as the 30 day quote has lapsed. There is a total of £2,358. This year there will be ongoing maintenance as well as the above work. Once this has been actioned the regeneration project will be complete.
- c. **Footpaths** –The P3 Grant paperwork has been received & needs completing. The chair & P3 councillors to liaise.

The Parish Council have received an email from a resident re safety issues on Church Path. The concerns have been passed to PROW Warden.

There has also been an email with regards the unmetalled road green lane between Bottom Lane and Lower Doatshayne Lane

59/23 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS – Cllr Chubb reported that East Devon currently doesn't have a Chief Executive, at present. Simon Davey, Director of Finance is covering the position assisted by the monitoring Officer, Melanie Wellman.

The LGA peer review will take place this forthcoming week to assess how effectively the council deliver their services & measure their ability to deliver on the plans & vision for the future.

Ian Halls campaign for all councillors to have a DBS Check was passed at Cabinet as something that should go ahead. However, the Council would need to find the money to pay for it.

River Cottage have installed a temporary wind turbine in partnership with Octopus Energy Generation. The turbine is considered a temporary structure, in line with the National Planning Permissions Framework. It will generate 100% clean electricity for River Cottage while it is up & is part of a campaign by the Octopus Development Team to build more permanent wind turbines across England. The turbine will be up for most of February & will be taken down by March 12th at the latest.

60/23 POLICE MATTERS – Cllr Craker updated residents with regards to the data extracted from the VAS System.

61/23 MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD BY PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Perryman brought up about the Potholes throughout the village. He has reported them all through the correct channels but nothing as yet has been done.

Cllr Perryman has had complaints from residents regarding the state of disrepair of Mountfield House & asked what plans if any are in the pipeline for the near future. **Action: Clerk to email for update.**

The Chair reported that Church Hill will be closed for gully repair works between the 14th & 16th February 2024.

The Chair discussed the flooding issues on Whitford Road, & the subsequent flooding again since the last meeting. He will discuss further with Cllr Hall & Dave Ashford to find ways to alleviate the problems.

Church Hill Noticeboard is in need of repair. **Action – Steve Hearne has agreed to take a look.**

There has been a report of fouling in the bus shelter. **Action – Thanks to Cherry Sargent for sorting the immediate problem. Steve Hearne is planning to paint the shelters this year.**

There was reports of various hazards throughout the village with regards roads, hedges & ditches eroding away. **Action – Clerk to report to Cllr Hall.**

There was a request from a resident to pay for ongoing regular maintenance to the Footpaths of Musbury. **Action – The Chair agreed to look into this.**

62/23 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM PARISHIONERS – Nothing for discussion.

There being no further matters for discussion the meeting was closed at 8.25pm.

The proposed date for the next meeting: Monday 18TH March 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Committee Room.

..... 18th March 2024
Chairman Date

..... 18th March 2024
Clerk Date

DRAFT