

## Lydeard St Lawrence and Tolland Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at Lydeard St Lawrence Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Councillors in attendance: Cllrs Jonathan Marshall, (Chairman) Deborah Telling, (Vice-Chair), Don Hobson, Mary Harding, David Oxley and Mark Peters.

Also in attendance Lorna Thorne, Parish Clerk and one member of the public, Jo Fuller.

Questions from members of the Public - Jo Fuller requested that Lydeard St Lawrence and Tolland Parish Council submit its comments so their planning application 11/23/0012 could be processed. As this planning was outside of the Parish, Councillors had not felt it necessary to comment, but the Clerk will forward the decision of No Objections to the Planning Officer.

No County Councillors present to make a report and none received.

- 24.01. **Apologies** from Cllr Guy Sturgess
- 24.02. **Declarations of interest** – None
- 24.03. The **Minutes** of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 were agreed and signed as an accurate record.
- 24.04. **Matters Arising** – Cllr Telling reported that the Salt Bin in Westleigh has been filled.
- 24.05. **Planning - Applications received for comment from Somerset Council:**  
*Planning applications have been sent to Councillors for comment.*  
No planning applications received.
- 24.06. **Funding Request for Defibrillator Box for outside of Primary School**  
No further information received from the school, Cllr Marshall has investigated. and feels the outdoor cabinet suggested by the school is the most suitable at a cost of £500 + vat = £600. It is still unsure who will be responsible for the maintenance, so Cllr Marshall will speak to the school to find out. Cllrs agreed that if the school were responsible, they would be able to financially support the box installation.
- 24.07. **Budget & Precept**  
The budget has been reviewed by Cllrs and agreed by all.  
The tax base has risen to 226.65, from 221.14.  
To keep the Band D equivalent the same as before at 20.25 we would be asking for £4589.66 for the forthcoming year. Cllr agreed to keep the Precept the same for Band D equivalent properties, as £4589 would keep to the budget.  
Cllrs agreed to the budget and precept request.  
Proposed by Cllr Peters and seconded by Cllr Harding and all agreed. 7-0-0
- 24.08. **Financial**
  - 08.1 The Accounts Statement was noted by the Council.

24.09. **Crime Report Newsletter and Blog from New PCSO Brianna Whelan**  
was noted by the Council.

24.010. **Correspondence and items for information**  
The following items were noted by the Council:  
Recycling Newsletter  
Road Closures

24.011. **Any other Business**

- Now that there is no newsletter it was felt the Council was not fulfilling its obligation to make the minutes of the meetings available to Parish residents. The legal obligations are to display them on the Council's website which is still done by Liz along with the agendas and all other required documents.

To make the minutes more accessible it was felt that paper copies could be posted on the notice boards in both villages, Cllr Marshall and Cllr Telling agreed to place them on the notice boards. It was also suggested that the website link could be posted on local social media groups. The Clerk agreed to look at these groups.

- The last Post Office request to assist with financial support has been received from the village hall but was too late for this Agenda, to be added to the March Agenda.
- It was noted that an article about Biodiversity in the SALC Newsletter suggested that Town and Parish Councils should consider how they could promote more biodiversity. It was felt as a Parish Council we did not have suitable assets for such a policy.

With no other business the meeting was closed at 8.00pm

The Date of the Next Meeting is on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024