

Lydeard St Lawrence and Tolland Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 16th May 2022 at Lydeard St Lawrence Village Hall at 7.20pm.

Councillors in attendance: Cllrs Jonathan Marshall, Deborah Telling, Don Hobson, Mary Harding and Maeve Vickery

Also in attendance: Mark Peters, Charles Cox, SCC Cllrs Mike Rigby and Andy Sully, SWT Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew, Lorna Thorne, Parish Clerk and 2 members of the public

Questions from members of the Public: None

22/41 **Appointment of Parish Council Chairman**

Cllr Vickery proposed that Jonathan Marshall be re-appointed as Chairman to the Parish Council. This was seconded by Cllr Telling. With no other proposals Cllr Marshall was appointed as Chairman.

Cllr Marshall then informed the Council this would be his last term in the office, and after the next elections they would be looking for a new Chairman.

The Chairman then proposed that Debbie Telling to be re-appointed as Vice-Chairman to the Parish Council, this was seconded by Cllr Vickery. With no other proposals Cllr Telling was appointed Vice-Chairman.

22/42 **Declaration of Acceptance** forms

Cllrs all signed their Acceptance of Office forms and their Register of Interests forms.

22/43 **Approve the adoption of The New Council Code of Conduct**

Cllrs agreed to adopt the new Council Code of Conduct for the new Council.

Proposed by Cllr Marshall and seconded by Cllr Telling.

22/44 **Apologies** were received from Tony Weir

22/45 **Declarations of interest** –

Cllr Harding declared a personal interest in item 12.2 on Agenda, Tolland Jubilee.

22/46 **The Minutes** of the meeting held on 4th April 2022 were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

22/47 **Matters Arising**

- *Cllr Telling reported that Binford's Lane had overhanging tree cause obstruction in the road and that the gullies along the lane were full of silt and run-off mud, which need clearing to allow rainwater to drain away and avoid flooding.* Cllr Marshall has reported the issue and Highways have responded to investigate the issues.

22/48 **Appointment of Parish Council Committees**

The Parish Council proposed to continue the Planning Sub-Committee. It was agreed that it should consist of 3 Cllrs, proposed to be on the committee by Cllr Marshall were Cllrs Telling, Hobson and Weir (after he is co-opted 22/49). This was seconded by Cllr Vickery.

22/49 **Co-option of new Councillors - Candidates**

With the full council being four seats short at the recent Elections, an advert for candidates to come forward was placed in the newsletter and on the Notice boards. Three candidates came forward and Cllr Marshall proposed that Mark Peters, Tony Weir and Charlie Cox be co-opted onto the Council to fill three of the four remaining seats. This was seconded by Cllr Vickery and all agreed.

With one remaining seat still to fill, it was suggested that the current Cllrs will try and find suitable candidates to fill the vacancy along with a further advert in the newsletter.

Cllrs also agreed that Cllr Marshall should become a Cllr for the Tolland Ward.

22/50 Planning - Applications received for comment from Somerset West and Taunton Council:

Planning applications have been sent to the planning committee for comment and displayed on the Parish Council's website.

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22/22/0006/AGN - Proposal: Application for prior notification for the proposed excavations to form a below ground agricultural dirty water storage lagoon on land to the west of Whitmoor Lane and to the south of Will Lane, Lydeard St Lawrence 22/22/0007/CQ, 22/22/0008/CQ and 22/22/0009/CQ, Prior approval for proposed change of use from agricultural building to dwelling house (Class C3) and associated building operations at Barn A, B & C, Pyleigh House Farm, Pyleigh, LSL.

22/51 Financial

22/51.1 The Accounts Statement was noted by the Council.

22/51.2 Accounts Audit and Financial year Report

The Parish Council Accounts for 2021/22 show a healthy balance.

The Parish Council had £14,756.02 in the Community Benefit Fund (CBF) and requests of funds from local organisations have been made.

£350 was spent of repainting the Book Exchange in Tolland and £225 was paid towards Tolland Church tree works. This fund now stands at £14181.02

During this financial year the Parish Council have spent £671 of the CIL money to support the Outreach Post Office service to the Lydeard St Lawrence Village Hall. It has received £2421.17 of new CIL funds this year and the total in the CIL fund is now £3432.17. The Parish Council has also purchased a salt bin for Common Down, Chapel Leigh along with some salt at a cost of £187.32.

The annual grants from SW&TC were forwarded to the Churches and Cricket Club for the playing field and the Parish Council made Grants of £500 to the Village Hall Committee and Playing field. The Grant given to the Cricket club was overpaid by £15, due to an error in writing the agenda and cheque. Cllrs agreed to donate the overpayment to the cricket club. The Footpaths grants from SW&TC of £300 was added to the fund which now stands at £2900.

At the end of the year the ring-fenced budget for the Play Area fund stood at £5000, with another £500 due to be added in April 2022.

The Council have £4206.97 in unrestricted reserves.

All other Parish Council's expenses were in line with the Parish Council's budget for Clerks Salary, Insurance, SALC affiliation fee, hall hire, newsletter and website.

22/51.3 Cllrs agreed to Certify the Council as Exempt from full Audit on the – AGAR 2021/22 Form. Proposed Cllr Vickery Seconded Cllr Telling,

22/51.4 Cllrs agreed to approve the 2021/22 Audit Report Governance Statement Proposed Cllr Telling, Seconded Cllr Vickery

22/51.5 Cllrs agreed to approve the Accounting Statement 2021/22 Proposed Cllr Telling, Seconded Cllr Vickery

22/51.6 The CIL Report was noted by the Council

22/51.7 Cllrs agreed to Pay Zurich Insurance renewal of £226.69 Proposed Cllr Hobson, Seconded Cllr Vickery

22/51.8 Received Precept of £4393 from SW&T and was noted by the Council.

22/52 Queens Platinum Jubilee

12.1 Lydeard St Lawrence Event

Cllr Telling reported that a team were in place to organise an event, but would not be holding a hog roast, instead it will be a BYO picnic and games will be played at the Playing field. A request to financially assist the event was made and Cllrs agreed that the Parish Council would help with non-consumable items, any receipts to be given at the next meeting to be considered for reimbursement.

12.2 Tolland Event and request for financial assistance.

Tolland Village have also requested financial assistance for their Jubilee event and Cllrs agreed that the parish Council would help with non-consumable items, any receipts to be given at the next meeting to be considered for reimbursement.

22/53 Playing Field Play Equipment

Now that the new councillors are in place, the issues with the old play equipment can be looked into properly. Cllr Marshall agreed to investigate any possible grants available and liaise with the Cricket Club to see where they stand moving forward.

22/54 Crime Report Newsletter and Blog was noted by the Council

22/39 Correspondence and items for information

The following items were noted by the Council:

Recycling Newsletter

Weekly Updates from SWT & SCC and workstream

SWT Newsletters

Community Risk Management Plan for Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue

Wessex Flood Warden Newsletter - Spring 2021

22/40 Any other Business

- Cllr Hobson reported that the damaged drain on Nethercott Lane has been repaired.
- Cllr Harding requested clarification on the development taking place at Handy Cross, it was confirmed that planning permission had been granted in Dec 2009, and that if works has started within 3 years, it was within its planning conditions. Planning enforcement has been notified of the development progress.
- Cllr Cox enquired about the footpath signs along the footpath from Knights Farm to Coursley, which have been removed. Cllr Marshall replied that he had noted that the missing signs had already been reported by someone to the Somerset County Council Rights of Way website.
- The waste bin has been removed from the playing field to stop dog mess bags being placed in it.
- Cllr Harding requested an update on the finger post restoration project in Tolland; it is happening but slowly, as only three people have completed the training course.

With no other business the meeting was closed at 8.05pm

The Date of Next Meeting is on Monday 14th June 2022.