

Lydeard St Lawrence and Tolland Parish Council

Minutes of the virtual meeting held by Zoom on 8th June 2020 at 7.30pm.

Councillors in virtual attendance: Jonathan Marshall (Chairman), Deborah Telling (Vice Chair), Don Hobson, Mark Peters, Maeve Vickery, Andrew Venner and Tony Weir.

Also in attendance: Lorna Thorne, Parish Clerk and SWT Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew.

20/30 **Apologies** were received from Cllr Mary Harding.

20/31 **Declarations of interest**

None received

20/31 The **Minutes** of the meetings held on 9th March and 23rd March 2020 were agreed as an accurate record and will be signed at the first face to face meeting of the Parish Council

20/32 **Matters Arising**

None

20/33 **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

20/34 **Financial**

34.1 The Accounts Statement was noted by the Council

34.2 Accounts Audit and Financial year Report

The Parish Council Accounts for 2019/20 show a healthy balance.

£385.98 was spent from the Community Benefit Fund (CBF) on the Tolland village entrance signs. This fund now stands at £16,806. During this financial year the Parish Council have not spent any of the CIL money. Another £1,210.59 has been added, this leaves the total in the CIL fund £2,252.

The Footpaths grants from SW&TC of £300 was added to the fund which now stands at £2,300. 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. An additional Grant was given to Tolland to help with the cost of churchyard grass cutting and maintenance of £250.

At the end of the year the ring-fenced budget for the Play Area fund stood at £4000, with another £500 due to be added in April 2020.

The Council have £4,358.12 in unrestricted reserves.

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

34.3 Cllrs approved the Certificate of Exemption as the income and expenditure did not exceed £25,000

34.4 Cllrs agreed to approve the 2019/2020 Audit Report Governance Statement
Proposed Cllr Hobson Seconded Cllr Peters

34.5 Cllrs agreed to approve the Accounting Statement 2019/20
Proposed Cllr Hobson Seconded Cllr Peters

34.6 Cllrs agreed to Pay Mary Abel £40 for Auditing Accounts and thank her for her work on auditing the accounts.

Proposed by Cllr Vickery Seconded by Cllr Hobson

34.7 Cllrs agreed to increase the Clerk's salary in line with the minimum wage increase in April to £1814 per year (from £1708) and to make payment for ¼ payments of the salary of 453.50 and Expenses of £4.60

Proposed by Cllr Vickery Seconded by Cllr Hobson

34.8 Cllrs agreed to Pay Zurich Insurance £226.69

Proposed by Cllr Vickery Seconded by Cllr Venner

34.9 Cllrs agreed to pay SW&T for Elections 2019 as original cheque was destroyed, clerk to pay by card and then be repaid by the cheque.

Cllr Marshall noted that a review on electronic banking may be needed as this situation may become more regular. To be added to the next Agenda.

Payment Proposed by Cllr Hobson Seconded by Cllr Venner

All cheques will be posted to two Councillors and then returned to the Clerk for distribution.

20/35 Draft Cycling and Walking Manifesto for Somerset: request for comments and support from local councils

Cllr Marshall requested comments to be sent to him by email before 11th June, so that he could send a response on behalf of the Parish Council.

20/36 Crime Report

The Crime report was noted by the Council

20/37 Correspondence and items for information

The following items were noted by the Council:

Recycling Newsletter

Temporary road closures

20/38 Any other Business

SWT Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew gave his report. He spoke about the current Covid-19 pandemic and what the Council have been doing to support residents and business. He added that not all businesses had applied for the Business Support Grant and anyone who is entitled should apply. He also explained the waste collections suspension at the start of the pandemic and that it has now been reinstated

Cllr Weir reported that pot hole repairs had not been completed to a very good standard and he felt that the areas had been made worse. Cllr Weir will report the issues.

Cllr Telling reported that the road along Quickbeam Lane near Dyers Barn was flooded and has been since early winter, Cllr Telling and Cllr Marshall will both report to Highways.

With no other business the meeting was closed at 8.00pm

The Proposed date of the next meeting is on Monday 20th July subject to Covid-19 guidelines.