

ST PAUL MALMESBURY WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28th August 2024 at 19:00 in Crudwell Village Hall

Present: Cllr Hatherell (Chair), Briggs, Clogg, Hopkins, Ingham, Jones, Maslin, Merriman, Payne and Stephens

Public: None present

48 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Budgen and Smith (WC-Sherston Division)

49 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

None

50 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME IN RESPECT OF ITEMS OF BUSINESS INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA

Cllr Hopkins queried whether there were minutes for the ECM on 9th August and that he had not seen the submission on the Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report submitted by the developers of Lime Down Solar Park. Cllr Clogg reported the minutes would be done. The submission had been circulated to those present at the meeting.

51 TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON THE 24th JULY 2024

The minutes of the meeting on the 24th July were adopted as a true record and signed accordingly.

52 TO RECEIVE REPORT #08.1 ON PLANNING UPDATES AND REVIEW NEW APPLICATIONS

Cllr Hatherell presented Report #08.1 and the council considered the following planning applications. Full comments submitted by the council can be viewed online at Wiltshire Council under the relevant application reference.

Site	Reference	Comments
Malmesbury Service Station, Crudwell Road (A429), SN16 9JL	PL/2024/07099	Objection
Burnt Heath Farm, Common Road, Corston, SN16 0HL	PL/2024/07509	Unable to review as no details on the WC website
Eilmar House, Arches Lane, SN16 0EJ	PL/2024/07624	No objection

Although not within the council's boundary, it was agreed to object to planning application PL/2024/06897, land off Sherston Road, Malmesbury.

Application PL/2023/05301 -The Bungalow, Milbourne, has gone to Planning Appeal.

Action: Clerk

53 FINANCIAL REPORTS

The RFO presented the accounts for the year to date. The bank statement dated 31st July 2024 was noted and showed balances of £29,878.23 and £94,974.58 and matched the reconciliation statement. Cllr Hatherell signed the original bank statements as correct and evidence of verification.

The RFO presented the payments schedule. The schedule was approved and Cllr Hatherell signed the list of payments for authorisation as per supporting evidence; Cllr Clogg first authoriser, Cllr Jones second authoriser.

Payment No.	Payee Details	Reason	Amount (£)
1	Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust	Donation to support Stay Safe Online	£500.00
2	Start Traffic Ltd	2 x galvanized poles 89mm x 5000mm for SIDs	£216.45
3	NAL Limited	2 x 900mm retention sockets	£610.31
4	PKF Littlejohn LLP	Limited assurance review 2023-24	£378.00
5	Hathaway Gardenscapes Ltd	Waste collection August 2024	£302.40
6	Hathaway Gardenscapes Ltd	Grass cutting August 2024	£180.00
7	R E Budgen	Jubilee clips for SID installation	£10.99
		TOTAL	£2198.15

Action: Cllrs Clogg, Jones & Clerk

The RFO reported that the 2023-24 financial end of year External Audit report was completely clean; everything was in accordance with proper practices, with no matters giving cause for concern and relevant legislation and regulatory requirements having been met. The council expressed its thanks to the RFO for an excellent piece of work. The information will be placed on the website. The notice of conclusion of audit will be displayed on noticeboards for 2 weeks.

Action: Clerk and noticeboard monitors

- 54 TO RECEIVE A VERBAL REPORT TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF UP TO £300 TO PURCHASE 2 GRIT BINS TO BE LOCATED ALONG FOXLEY ROAD - REPORT #03.3 OF THE MARCH 2023 MEETING REFERS.

Cllr Hatherell reported that WC had agreed to the siting of the proposed grit bins along Foxley Road and it was unanimously resolved to purchase 2 yellow bins at an anticipated cost of £220.68. Cllr Hopkins agreed to accept delivery of these.

- 55 TO RECEIVE A VERBAL REPORT TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF UP TO £600 TO PURCHASE A BENCH TO REPLACE AN EXISTING ONE AND TO RELOCATE IT NEAR THE BUS STOP ON MILBOURNE LANE

Cllr Briggs reported that the curved bench near the telephone box in Milbourne was dangerous and should be replaced, with the new one positioned on the grass area at the entrance to Milbourne Park, near the bus stop. He had received a quote prior to the meeting to remove the grass, add a layer of hardcore and sand and lay 2' x 2' slabs and to fix the bench. It was unanimously resolved to purchase a bench and to have a base fitted at a cost of up to £1000

Action: Cllr Briggs and Clerk

- 56 TO RECEIVE A VERBAL REPORT TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF UP TO £600 TO PURCHASE TWO 6FT WOODEN BENCHES TO REPLACE THE EXISTING DILAPIDATED BENCHES IN THE CORSTON NATURE RESERVE

Cllr Hatherell reported that the two simple benches in Corston LNR are in very poor condition and require replacing. Councillors believed better quality benches should be purchased, but this will be discussed with the manager of the volunteers of the LNR. This expenditure will put the cost centre over budget, but it was agreed the clerk and chair of finance committee will fund the purchase from general reserves or S106.

Action: Clerk

- 57 TO CONSIDER A DONATION TO THE SIGNPOST IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE INCLUSION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Cllr Hatherell proposed a donation of £50 to the Signpost and to monitor how the inclusion of the minutes is received by residents. This was agreed.

Action: Clerk

- 58 TO CONSIDER A SUBMISSION INTO THE WC GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS CONSULTATION

The council supported the idea of identifying sites and agreed to make a submission to this effect.

59 TO CONSIDER A SUBMISSION INTO THE GOVERNMENT'S REVISED NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK (NPPF) CONSULTATION

Cllr Hopkins outlined how the draft policy will affect Wiltshire. The changes propose the abolition of the four-year Housing Land Supply introduced by the previous Government, reverting back to a five-year Housing Land Supply, which may affect WC's ability to refuse inappropriate speculative housing applications. If the changes progress in the form that they are proposed, it would mean a significant increase in the number of homes that have to be built, with an 81% increase in housing targets in Wiltshire. The majority of councillors believed the council should respond to the consultation and Cllrs Hatherell and Budgen will draft this.

60 TO RECEIVE VERBAL REPORTS ON HIGHWAYS, PLAYING FIELDS, FOOTPATHS, PATIENTS PARTICIPATION GROUP, PERSONNEL COMMITTEE, FINANCE COMMITTEE, PROJECTS WORKING PARTY & WEBSITE WORKING PARTY

Highways

Cllr Hatherell reported that the Parish Steward had cleared the pavement by the bridge and bus stop by town bridge, cut back the grass at Truckle Bridge, cut back brambles by the bridge at Cowbridge on the path from Swindon Road to Priory roundabout. The Highways Engineer will arrange for a tractor to clean the railings at the bridge. Cllr Hatherell will notify WC of 5 priority gullies to be cleared between 16-20 September and complete the grit bin audit.

Playing Fields

Cllr Hatherell has checked the play equipment at Chippenham Road playing field and the grass has been well cut. The main gate post has been damaged, and this has been reported to Wessex Water to rectify. He has also checked the play equipment at Rodbourne Road. The newly seeded grass has been strimmed and will be mown next time. A site meeting has been scheduled to agree a programme of works with the company due to install new play equipment in September.

Footpaths

Cllr Hopkins stated a resident had reported issues with footpaths 22 and 24 and he will notify the Countryside Access Officer. Cllr Stephens reported that the metal gate near the weir has failed again and he will contact the supplier. Resurfacing of the 41m path is due to start on September 2nd and the fence has been moved in readiness.

Patients Participation Group

Cllr Ingham reported that the AGM was on 7th August. One new GP trainee has joined the practice and one of the practice GPs is training to be an additional GP trainer. The GPs at the practice will not be following the current collective action that some other GPs and surgeries may be taking. 2,500 patients have signed up to the new patches system and the surgery is at present investigating offering this facility all day rather than the present restricted times from 6.00-11.00am. The surgery is active in trying to recruit more patients to use this facility as it takes the pressure off the reception staff at the 8.00am rush. The surgery will be offering the flu and covid injections during the month of October. Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) injections will be offered to pregnant women who are 28 weeks and over and a cohort of elderly patients from the ages 75 – 79. The Malmesbury Pharmacy, which is privately owned, opened on Monday 12th August. The NHS app does not show a full list of medications until two weeks prior to the due date. There is a dedicated phone line available to those patients who do not have access to technology for requesting repeat prescriptions. The plastic security screen at the reception desk has been removed. There is a charge for the paperwork that is needed for the issue of gun licenses.

Personnel Committee – no report

Finance Committee

Cllr Briggs reported that draft revised financial regulations based on the NALC model will be circulated to all councillors well in advance of the September meeting and he requested any questions/concerns be sent to the clerk in readiness. The draft can be compared with the existing financial regulations on the website and the NALC original will also be circulated.

Projects Working Party

Cllr Hatherell reported that 3 councillors installed a new SID at Cowbridge Cottages at the weekend. Two sets of posts and sockets for additional SIDs are due to be fitted shortly. Although Cllr Hatherell reported the damaged bus shelter at Charlton Road as unsafe in February, and has regularly followed this up, the matter has not been dealt with. He has removed the roof as a precaution.

Website Working Party – no report

The meeting closed at 20:13

The next meeting will be held at 19:00 on Wednesday 25th September 2024 at Crudwell Village Hall

..... Chair Dated