

- 24/25 /135 **PRESENT** - Cllrs Barnett (in the Chair), Pople, Salter, Thompson and Hall.
- 24/25 /136 **ALSO PRESENT** - 8 members of the public and SCllr Munt.
- 24/25 /137 **IN ATTENDANCE** - The Clerk to the Council.
- 24/25 /138 **APOLOGIES** - none received.
- 24/25 /139 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND CONSIDERATION OF ANY DISPENSATIONS REQUIRED** - Cllr Pople declared an interest in the Play Area as she is the Council's representative on the committee. Cllr Thompson declared an interest in the CVA as his wife is treasurer and he is the publicity officer.
- 24/25 /140 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** - were confirmed and signed.
- 24/25 /141 **UPDATES ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND NOT LISTED** - none.
- 24/25 /142 **SOMERSET COUNCILLORS' REPORTS** - Cllr Munt reported on governance and finance. He said that both adult and child social services still have concerns that need addressing. He has been in touch with Mr Gill regarding Little Leaze Lane and he will try to contact the refuse people.
- 24/25 /143 **LCNS AND ANY ACTIONS REQUIRED** - Cllr Barnett reported that not many parishes attended. A Health and Wellbeing group was being set up. There had also been a special Highways meeting but nobody from Highways turned up.
- 24/25 /144 **HIGHWAYS:-**
- a. Bridge refurbishment - Cllr Salter had received only one verbal quote and this would be followed by a written one. Other quotes requested had not been forthcoming in spite of being chased up. It was proposed that if a written quote not exceeding £1,200 was received before the next meeting then the work could proceed as it was felt it should be done prior to hard winter weather. Cllr Thompson proposed this. Seconded by Cllr Hall. Passed.
  - b. Outstanding highways issues - none not otherwise covered.
  - c. Enhanced Highway Maintenance (EHM) - Cllr Thompson had a name and email address for the lead and would pass this on to everyone.
  - d. Minibus parking at School and 30mph repeater signs - It was felt that little could be done about speeding during school collection time although it seemed that it would be difficult for anybody to speed then as the road is normally so congested. Cllr Barnett had suggested to the School that they look at arranging for the minibuses to use the car park and see each other in and out as necessary. We await any follow up on that.
  - e. Problems arising - Puriton Hill roadworks are causing problems but there is nothing anybody can do about that. The Clerk would write again to the landowner regarding the dead tree in Old School Lane.
- 24/25 /145 **FLOODING** - The Clerk had either spoken to, emailed or written to several landowners whose property had ditches around it asking them to ensure the ditches are cleared. She had also put something in the Polden Post and on the Council website.
- 24/25 /146 **RIGHTS OF WAY/FOOTPATHS** - Cllr Thompson reported that the dead trees on the footpath surrounding the school playing field had now been felled.
- 24/25 /147 **PLAY AREA REPORT** - Cllr Pople reported that the Christmas Fayre had gone very well and thanked everyone who had participated in any way.
- 24/25 /148 **PLANNING:-**
- a. Any updates on previous applications
    - i. Planning application number: 14/24/00005/AGE - Approval of reserved matters for the details of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale, for 14/21/00004 (Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Permission 14/20/00003 (Outline planning permission, with all matters reserved, for the erection of 2no. dwellings) to amend the approved site plan - refused.
    - b. 14/24/00007 - The Four Seasons, Chilton Polden Hill - Removal of Condition 4, and Variation of Conditions 1 & 5 of Planning Permission Application No.14/20/00017 (Creation of a 1.5m high landscape bund and associated landscaping works, erections of walls to vehicular access, amended floorplans, and installation of

four roof-lights to north side of the barn conversion.) to amend the plans listed in schedule A, to revise the landscaping scheme and to amend the timing of the planting scheme implementation - The parish council agreed they had no comments to make - no update.

- c. 14/24/00006 - Woodcote Barn, Little Leaze Lane - Installation of windows and door, partial change of roof covering material from concrete double roman tiles to a metal sheet roof, erection of single story extension to North elevation on site of existing (to be demolished) to create boiler/plant room and the retrospective construction of a walled garden - Following discussion it was agreed to support the application - granted.
- d. Somerset Local Plan and Boundary Review - Local Plan to be considered after an adjournment. Boundary review to be considered at the next meeting.
- e. Any other planning matters - none.

24/25 /149 **PARISH PLOT** - ditch clearance had not yet taken place but is likely to do so soon.

24/25 /150 **POLDEN ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK (PEN)** - no update.

24/25 /151 **THE POUND** - Cllr Salter has fixed the bench in the Pound to the ground.

24/25 /152 **WAR MEMORIAL AND REMEMBRANCE SERVICE** - The Chairman had attended and laid the Council's wreath.

24/25 /153 **PROVISION, SITING AND EMPTYING OF DOG WASTE BINS** - The Clerk reported that she is expecting the delivery of the additional bin any day now and will deliver it to one of the councillors.

24/25 /154 **BUS SHELTER REFURBISHMENT** - A good job has been done and the CVA were thanked. It was agreed that a small plaque could be added to commemorate the refurbishment and the date.

24/25 /155 **SALC AGM AND SOMERSET CONFERENCE** - Cllrs Barnett, Hall and the Clerk are due to attend this all day conference tomorrow.

24/25 /156 **FINANCE**

- a. Accounts check - Accounts had been sent to councillors. They were approved.
- b. Clerk's salary increase in line with her contract and standing orders - The nationally agreed increase was approved and it would be back dated.
- c. Cheques for signature - were approved as follows:- Chq.679 SLCC (½ share of subscription) £75.00; Chq.680 Clerk (back dated pay rise) £87.99; Chq.681 Clerk (salary and expenses) £448.20; Chq.683 Hockerill engraving (plaque) £20.00. The Clerk drew attention to cheque 682 made out to Somerset Council for emptying of dog waste bins. The invoice was for the period October 2024 to March 2025. It was agreed that she should request a new invoice without any payment in advance.
- d. Precept setting - to be considered next month.
- e. Any other financial matters - A thank you letter for the grant towards the noticeboard had been received from Catcott School was read to the meeting. It was agreed that requests for funding from outside bodies and charities should not be considered.

24/25 /157 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, CIRCULATION, DISTRIBUTION** - CPRE; C&CD.

24/25 /158 **ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING(S)** - Nov - Salary rise for 2024-2025; Nov - precept.

24/25 /159 **URGENT CORRESPONDENCE** - none.

24/25 /160 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024 in Catcott School Hall at 7pm (to be followed by festive refreshments).

The meeting was adjourned at 7.55pm. To reconvene at 7.00pm on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November in the School Hall to discuss any outstanding financial matters and the Local Plan consultation.