

- 24/25 /195 **PRESENT** - Cllrs Barnett (in the Chair), Pople, Salter, Thompson and Hall.
- 24/25 /196 **ALSO PRESENT** - 11 members of the public.
- 24/25 /197 **IN ATTENDANCE** - The Clerk to the Council.
- 24/25 /198 **APOLOGIES** - none received. The Clerk would contact both Somerset Councillors asking them to submit a written report for our meetings if they are neither are attending.
- 24/25 /199 **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 /200 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** - The page numbers were amended to 13 and 14 and the minutes then signed as a correct record of the meeting,.
- 24/25 /201 **UPDATES ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND NOT LISTED** - none.
- 24/25 /202 **SOMERSET COUNCILLORS' REPORTS** - neither Somerset Councillor was in attendance. The Council would like an update on the Somerset Electoral Review.
- 24/25 /203 **LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORKS (LCNs) AND ENHANCED HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE (EHM)** - A printout of Kiers' slides was available.
- 24/25 /204 **RURAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING** - The Clerk had been contacted by County asking if there were any areas where affordable housing might be possible. She had let them know of the possibility of some on the Manor Farm site if and when that goes ahead.
- 24/25 /205 **DEVOLUTION** - to be removed from the agenda.
- 24/25 /206 **HIGHWAYS:-**
- a. Bridge refurbishment - This had taken place today and Cllr Salter reported that they had done an excellent job including making the stonework more water resistant for the future. The invoice was less than the sum estimated.
 - b. Outstanding highways issues - the defects along King William Road had been reported but it was not known if anything had happened there yet.
 - c. Enhanced Highway Maintenance (EHM) - a meeting had taken place between a representative from Kier and Councillors Barnett, Thompson and Hall earlier today. A clear map of the actual drains had been requested.
 - d. Road Access Point Drainage - Lippetts Way - there is a water problem on Lippetts Way on the Shapwick side on the South side of the road. The Clerk was instructed to write to a landowner requesting this to be looked at and any necessary action taken.
 - e. Mini bus parking at School and 30mph repeater signs - Cllr Barnett met with a representative from the School. The Clerk would request speed checks along the stretch of road including outside the school between the hours of 8.30-9.15am and 3.00-3.45pm.
 - f. Problems arising
 - i. Langlands Lane - some of the potholes along the lane are getting really bad. The road needs to be checked to the end of the length for which Highways are responsible.
 - ii. Parking areas on the Nydon by the Nature Reserve - it was noted that these are in poor repair but this is not the responsibility of the Parish Council but probably that of Somerset Wildlife Trust.
 - iii. Yellow lines - The Clerk is to chase up the yellow lining requested at the War Memorial and up to Gamma House.

- 24/25 /207 **FLOODING** - Cllr Thompson would apply for grant aid from Somerset River Authority to cover work in a couple of areas. The Clerk would request jetting of three culverts which are choked by the end of Little Leaze Lane. These were not jetted recently when some other drains were.
- 24/25 /208 **RIGHTS OF WAY/FOOTPATHS** - Cllr Thompson reported that two finger posts had rotted. It was agreed that he could replace them with metal ones and was given permission for the expenditure.
- 24/25 /209 **PLAY AREA REPORT** - Cllr Pople said she had nothing to report.
- 24/25 /210 **PLANNING:-** no new applications and no updates but the Clerk had received notification of the Somerset Local Plan Engagement. Cllrs Barnett and Hall would attend the Bridgwater meeting.
- 24/25 /211 **PARISH PLOT** - ditch clearance. Cllr Barnett said he would check on this tomorrow.
- 24/25 /212 **POLDEN ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK (PEN)** - correspondence regarding bus services had been received from both PEN and the Somerset Bus Partnership. It was felt that there is a reasonably good service in our locality. No action to take.
- 24/25 /213 **THE POUND** - no update.
- 24/25 /214 **DOG WASTE BIN AT THE POUND** - this has been installed but needs altering to permit the lid to be fully opened. Cllr Thompson would try inserting a space bar.
- 24/25 /215 **WEBSITE** - it was agreed that the Clerk should choose colours initially and they could be changed if wanted. It was also agreed to use the current War Memorial picture for the time being.
- 24/25 /216 **FINANCE**
- a. Accounts check - the Clerk provided up to date accounts which were approved.
 - b. Cheques for signature - were approved as follows:- chq.687 A Thompson (travel expenses) £9.70; chq.688 Clerk (pay & expenses) £439.75; chq.689 Stepping Out (grass cutting) £192.50; chq.690 St Claire (electricity for Christmas tree lights) £60.00; chq.691 T Lockyer (bridge repairs) £960.00.
 - c. Precept setting - the Clerk provided sheets to help with this. Following discussion it was agreed to set the precept at £11,000 to allow for some unexpected expenditure resulting from Somerset Council cutbacks.
 - d. Any other financial matters - both the wayleave payment and the RPA payment had been received. A quote for next year's grass cutting had been received and was accepted.
- 24/25 /217 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, CIRCULATION, DISTRIBUTION** - C&CD. CVA reported that £203 had been raised at Christmas for charity. The CVA AGM is on 10th February at 7.30 in Catcott School Hall.
- 24/25 /218 **ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING(S)** - none mentioned.
- 24/25 /219 **URGENT CORRESPONDENCE** - none.
- 24/25 /220 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Tuesday 11th February 2025 in Catcott School Hall at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.