

- 26/27 - 26 **PRESENT** - Cllrs Barnett (in the Chair), Hall, Pople, Thompson and Salter.
- 26/27 - 27 **ALSO PRESENT** - 9 members of the public and SClr Munt.
- 26/27 - 28 **Election of Chairman for the coming year and signing of Chairman's declaration of acceptance of office** - Cllr Salter proposed Cllr Barnett. Seconded by Cllr Pople. Carried. Cllr Barnett signed his declaration of acceptance of office in the post of Chairman.
- 26/27 - 29 **Election of Vice Chairman** - Cllr Pople proposed Cllr Salter. Seconded by Cllr Hall. Carried.
- 26/27 - 30 **Minutes of previous meeting** - were confirmed and signed.
- 26/27 - 31 **Appointment of representatives if required** - Cllr Pople was again appointed as our representative on the play area committee.
- 26/27 - 32 **Review Statement of Internal Control** - this had been circulated to all councillors and was re-affirmed.
- 26/27 - 33 **Review Risk Management** - this had been circulated to all councillors and was re-affirmed.
- 26/27 - 34 **Any matters arising from the Parish Meeting** - none.
- 26/27 - 35 **Updates arising from previous parish council meetings and not listed** - none.
- 26/27 - 36 **Somerset Councillors' reports** - SClr Munt had reported to the Parish Meeting. SClr Martin had provided a written report which will be attached in the minute book.
- 26/27 - 37 **Local Community Networks (LCN)** - next meeting 20:30. **AGM** 02/07/26/18.30-2030
- 26/27 - 38 **Highways Working Group (HWG)** - Cllr Barnett reported that the Chair of this has stepped down and asked Cllr Barnett to take his place. Cllr Barnett would take the Chair for the time being.
- 26/27 - 39 **Highways:-**
- a. Road near Nydon Bridge - the road is still in an extremely poor state. It cannot be reported by email as we used to do but has to be reported online. This is impractical with so much of the surface in such a poor state! Cllr Barnett would take this to the next HWG meeting.
  - b. Any other highways updates - The landowner has still not cut back the overgrowth which impedes safe walking to school from King William Road and Manor Road. The Clerk will again chase this up.
  - c. Any Highways Problems arising - it was reported that workmen had been seen attending to some drains but not the adjacent one which is blocked! It was not on their list to do.
- 26/27 - 40 **Rights of Way/footpaths** - Cllr Thompson will start strimming shortly. Some stiles are proving very difficult for dog owners with large dogs which cannot be lifted over. He advised that a sort of flap, similar to a cat flap, can be incorporated. Cllr Barnett would look into this.
- 26/27 - 41 **Play Area report** - given at the Parish Meeting.
- 26/27 - 42 **King William Inne** - the Clerk would pass on any information she receives regarding the possibility of obtaining grants from any source.
- 26/27 - 43 **Planning:-**
- a. 14/25/00005 - Replacement dwelling and garage - 8 Lippetts Way - no update.
  - b. 14/25/00006 - erect 2 self build dwellings & new vehicular access - land West 8 Lippetts Way - no update.
  - c. 14/26/00002 - Certificate of lawfulness - 25 Manor Road - granted.
  - d. 14/26/00003 - conversion of garage and erection of extension at 7 Steel Lane - no objection.

Chairman ..... Date .....

- e. Consideration of joining SCRAPP (Somerset Communities Raging Against Poor Planning) - following consideration it was agreed that as a body the Parish Council should not become involved at present. Being part of this group could prejudice responses from the Council to planning applications.
- f. Any other planning matters for information - none.

26/27 - 44 **Parish Plot** - nothing to report.

26/27 - 45 **CVA Defibrillator - and to consider a request from the CVA that some CIL money be allowed to be used to purchase a bleed kit to accompany the defibrillator.** Following consideration it was agreed that CIL funds should be used for this up to £250 ex VAT. Agreed the Parish Council be billed for this and any VAT reclaimed. It is understood that any loss or use of the contents would be made good by the Police so it should be a one off expense.

26/27 - 46 **Finance**

- a. Cheques for signature - were approved as follows:- Chq.742 Clerk (salary & expenses) £473.18; Chq.743 St Peter's Church (Churchyard maintenance) £500.00 (it was further agreed that this should be increased to £700.00 and a further cheque for the additional £200.00 would be signed next month; Chq.744 Catcott School (use of Hall for meetings) £200.00; Chq.745 R Young (internal audit) £20.00; Chq.746 CPRE (subscription) £40.00 (agreed this should be increased to £80.00 and an additional cheque would be signed at the next meeting); Chq.747 Axe Brue Internal Drainage Board (drainage rates on Parish Plot) £34.18; Chq.748 Gwilliams of Edington (repair of hedge cutter) £100.85.
- b. Internal Audit - this is now complete with no matters to draw to the attention of members.
- c. Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) - This was completed as follows:-
- i. Certificate of Exemption was agreed and signed by the Clerk and then the Chairman;
  - ii. Annual Governance Statement - was agreed and signed by the Clerk and then the Chairman;
  - iii. Accounting Statements for 2025/26 - were agreed. They had previously been signed by the Clerk and were now signed by the Chairman. The accounts were approved.
- d. Any other financial matters - Use of CIL funds for bleed kit - had been covered under minute 26/27-45.

26/27 - 47 **Items for information, circulation, distribution** - The Clerk reported on a response from the Environment Agency following information sent to them regarding a large pile of rubble adjacent to a drainage ditch. The Clerk was instructed to write to the landowner regarding a damaged wall adjacent to the highway. The Clerk was asked to try and arrange for the roads to be swept prior to Open Gardens on 28/06/26. She would also ask for the grass in the play area to be cut.

26/27 - 48 **Items for future meeting(s)** - NALC new financial regulations; NALC new Standing Orders; Various policies required for website; Somerset National Park.

26/27 - 49 **Urgent correspondence** - none.

26/27 - 50 **Date of next meeting** - Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at 7pm in Catcott School Hall

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

Chairman ..... Date .....