

CATCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 12th April 2011 in Catcott School Hall at 7.30pm

- 11/12/1 **PRESENT:** Cllrs Fraser (in the Chair), Mackay, Gould, Merry and Burden
- 11/12/2 **ALSO PRESENT:** 13 members of the public & DCllr Kingham
- 11/12/3 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** received from CCllr Huxtable
- 11/12/4 **IN ATTENDANCE:** Clerk to the Council
- 11/12/5 **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** were approved for signature.
- 11/12/6 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:** Cllr Burden declared an interest in the Parish Plot as she works for the Environment Agency but did not believe this would cause any conflict. Therefore a personal interest only.
- 11/12/7 **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** -DCllr Kingham reported on the proposed parking at the new Tesco site. There would be provision for 600 spaces under the new store and existing parking places would remain. Recycling Centre times and charges were discussed as was the closure of the toilet facilities at Bridgwater Bus Station!
- 11/12/8 **HIGHWAYS:** Verge maintenance - letter concerning cut backs was read. Clerk to write regarding the necessity to ensure that the junction of Scotts Lane with A39 presents a Health and Safety problem which has been accepted. This junction needs particular attention which it should continue to receive.
- 11/12/9 **PLANNING** -
- 14/11/00001/LE - Extension to rear of garage to form workshop at Ryecroft, Lippetts Way - granted
 - 14/11/00002/LE - Conversion of barn to dwelling at Langlands Farm, Langland Lane - Supported. This represents an improvement on the current situation and complies with the VDS.
 - Appeal - APP/V3310/A/11/2146554/WF - 14/10/00011 - Erection of bungalow on land to South of 33 King William Road - no update at 12/04/11
 - Updates on contraventions and any new ones - none
 - 14/11/00003/STH - erection of extension and garage at 2 Vine Orchard - (noted that description is inaccurate as regards the garage). Whilst the Council generally supported this application there are reservations about the sewerage situation in an area where this infrastructure is already under strain. This should be scrutinised.
- 11/12/10 **RIGHTS OF WAY, FOOTPATHS** - there are problems in some areas with badger holes. There is concern that if these get overgrown and not kept clear then walkers could be endangered. Responsibility for this lies with the landowners.
- 11/12/11 **NOTICEBOARDS REPAIRS** - Cllr Mackay had again looked at the School noticeboard and was doubtful that it was repairable. He will give it further consideration.
- 11/12/12 **VILLAGE MAINTENANCE** - A self employed Catcott resident had offered to take on responsibility for this on a self employed basis. There were a couple of one off issues which had arisen due to a misunderstanding. It was agreed that he should be offered the job for a trial period of 3 months at £10 per hour rate. It was agreed that the total for any year should not exceed a sum which the Clerk would establish after consulting the last two year's records. It was noted that he should carry adequate insurance.
- 11/12/13 **PARISH PLOT - FUTURE OF MANAGEMENT & HLS FUNDING** - SWT (Mark Steer) had contacted the Clerk at the beginning of the month to say that the matter would be going to one of their meeting in May and that a draft contract would be drawn up. There were growing concerns in the Council regarding the possible legal costs and the fact that time had gone on considerably since SWT first mentioned the urgency with which they wished to pursue this. It was agreed that the work is not onerous in ensuring it is carried out. Porter Plant have all the details but do need to be contacted by phone rather than written to. Flailing normally takes place from late September to November. It was noted that the high figures in the Clerk's original estimate of costs covered a back log of work that had not been carried out and required considerably additional cost as a result. Cllr Mackay proposed that the Council continue the management of the plot as at present for the remaining 7 years of the current HLS period. Seconded by Cllr Fraser. Carried.
- 11/12/14 **FINANCE**
- Cheques for signature were approved as follows:- Chq.141 Lower Brue Drainage Board (Drainage rates on Parish Plot) £16.19; Chq.142 SALC (subscription) £118.35; Chq.143 Community Council for Somerset (subscription) £35.00. The Clerk's salary and expenses would be paid as soon as the new PAYE/NI arrangements were complete. Mr Tilbury has offered to help with this.

Chairman

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- b. **ANNUAL RETURN AND STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE** - these, together with the accounts had been circulated to all councillors. Both sections of the return were completed.
- c. **INTERNAL & EXTERNAL AUDITS** - Clerk would now make arrangement for the internal audit to be carried out. The audit notice is up n the noticeboard.
- d. **ANY OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS** - Purchase of additional grit bin - Clerk suggested waiting till nearer the time and, in the meantime arranging for approval of siting. Data Protection - acknowledgement of renewal had been received. SALC Financial Update - had been copied to all councillors.
- 11/12/15 **SALC, NALC, COMMUNITY COUNCIL, CPRE** - SALC training details put for circulation. Tuesday, 21st June there is a session at Edington Village Hall from 7-10pm.
- 11/12/16 **SDC, SCC** - items on Waste Planning Consultation and Broadband speeds had been forwarded to councillors.
- 11/12/17 **ROYAL WEDDING** - Catcott is not now planning an event. The meeting was told that Edington had extended an invitation to join them.
- 11/12/18 **VILLAGE CLEANUP** - Due to take place on 14th May. Refreshments were discussed and it was agreed that rather than the Council paying for these the offer of two councillors to fund them would be accepted.
- 11/12/19 **COMMEMORATIVE BUS SEAT** - The Clerk and Cllr Gould had met with two representatives from the bus company. They were no happier with the siting suggested by Liam Gill than the Council had been. They would endeavour to get agreement for a more appropriate site. Council to await feedback.
- 11/12/20 **PARISH AND DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS** - to be held on 5th May. Referendum on voting system to take place at same time. Four councillors had been elected unopposed. One vacancy remains to be filled by co-opting an additional member, proposed by one of the four elected, at the May meeting of the Council. No advertising of the vacancy is required in this instance.
- 11/12/21 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, CIRCULATION, DISTRIBUTION** - LCR' 24/7 (SW Ambulance Service Newsletter).
- 11/12/22 **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING** - Speedwatch
- 11/12/23 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Tuesday, 10th May 2011. This will be the Annual meeting of the Parish Council which will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting which will start at 7pm

Chairman Date