

## **Babcary Parish Council**

### **12<sup>th</sup> September 2022 Parish Council Minutes 8pm at The Hut**

**Present:** Mr Simon Hoar, Mrs Glynis Kingston, Mr Philip Sketchly, Mr Steve Street, Mr Graham Hughes, Mrs Melinda Terleske, Mr Kevin Messenger (SSDC), Mr Henry Hobhouse (SSDC), Mr Mike Lewis (SSCC) & Mrs Jasmine Tucker (Parish Clerk).

Black ties or armbands were worn out of respect for her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and a one minute silence was held.

**Apologies:** Mr Damien Pick

- 1) Minutes of the Previous Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022 to be agreed & signed.
- 2) Matters Arising
  - i) Static property in Dilkes Lane, enquiry currently with South Somerset Enforcement Officer (Heather) for action.  
Mr Henry Hobhouse to contact local enforcement officer for further action.  
Simon Hoar requested approach to Neil Waddleton, Service Delivery Team Leader, SSDC. Enforcement officer viewed wrong property – due to see correct premises shortly.
  - ii) 2 temporary traffic monitors to ascertain extent of speeding in and around the village, traffic devices currently on order, awaiting delivery. Simon Hoar to chase.  
Andy Barron from highways has agreed to put up monitors on Church St and Main St in Sept at no charge due to the delay in actioning them.
  - iii) Complaint received re treatment of confidential Planning breach allegation in Baker Street. It was decided that parish council had acted properly and no breach of confidentiality had occurred. Chairman to reply to complainant.
  - iv) Kimi's Retreat, query re land usage, listed as dog exercise field, used for overflow packing at Glastonbury, legality of land usage.  
PASSED TO PLANNING.
  - v) Blocked Ditch / Pipe Under Road – The Dairy House, Foddington Rd, Babcary, TA11 7EJ.  
CAMERA INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN BOOKED TO ASCERTAIN REQUIRED ACTION IN ORDER TO RECTIFY.

#### **Finance**

Capital Reserve Account stands at £20,676.46. Current Account Balance is £50

New signatories all obtained except for Cllr Hughes - Chairman to investigate.

Stationary Costs: Parish clerk Ink Cartridge £28.45, punched pockets £2.50 & binders £3.00 total £33.95. Book of Condolences £62.99 (£33.95 plus £62.99 = £96.94 to Jasmine Tucker).

Verandah costs cheque for £5,549.32 payable to Babcary Playing Field Committee, being half the total net costs of £11,098 to be shared between the two committees.

Verandah French windows to be installed before October meeting!

### 3) Planning Consultations

- i) APPLICATION NO. 22/00465/LBC APPLICANT Olive Farm, Les Rochettes Olive Farm Lane Babcary Somerton Somerset TA11 7EJ. Withdrawn
- ii) Reference 22/00726/FUL Land Adjoining Dove Cottage Formerly Shurlock Row North Street Babcary, awaiting decision.
- iii) Ash View ENF/2022/0014 potential planning breach at Ash view Farm. There is a building at the front of the property that has been erected with what appears to be no planning permissions

### 4) Correspondence

- i) As you will be aware, Buckingham Palace has issued a statement today, (09/11/2022) which confirmed that Her Majesty The Queen died peacefully at Balmoral 08/11/22. As per the protocol, today Friday 9 September 2022 marks D-Day. The National Proclamation will take place on Saturday 10 September. Please do not progress any Local Proclamations until Sunday 11 September as the National Proclamation must take place first.
- ii) Request received to note that speeding is most definitely is a bad as ever on Church Street, (addressed in Maters Arising ii).
- iii) Chairs Award, Chair of Somerset County Council, is holding an annual award ceremony for Service to the Community on Friday 17th February 2023 and invites nominations using the enclosed nomination form. The event will be held at Taunton Rugby Football Club, Hyde Lane, Bathpool, Taunton, TA2 8BU, from 6.00 pm – 10.00 pm. A response was discussed. Clerk to obtain forms and Chairman to action.
- iv) Assistant Highway Manager, John Nicholson, at present there is no sole named persons to cover my 'Parish' areas, but my two AHSM colleagues in the South Somerset Area office will be monitoring the correspondence and enquiries during the period between 1st Sept to 30th Dec, there remains two SCC Superintendents who inspect the network in response to emailed highway concerns and online reports.
- v) Warm Hubs, the cost of living crisis, whilst it is very early days SSDC are starting to look at are Warm Hubs – the opening up of village halls, community centres etc where vulnerable members of the community can come to a warm space, have hot food and company without worrying about heating their home or if they will be able to eat. If you would like to help contact David Crisfield, Specialist Communities, SSDC. The Parish Council ask that everyone keep an eye on their neighbours as usual in case anyone needs help. Plans may be needed for winter power cuts.
- vi) As we approach the winter season, it is time to consider preparedness for ice and snow this winter. I am writing to request your assistance, Grit Bins, locations & salt level. Grit bins thought to be OK but chairman to check
- vii) Council Tax Reduction Scheme, the Council Tax Reduction scheme impacts on the Council Tax base for all the precepting authorities. The existing four district authorities in Somerset all currently run different Council Tax Reduction schemes. Consequently, in preparation for the new single council on 1 April 2023 we need to align to a single

scheme. The consultation exercise seeks view on these proposals. If you would like to submit a response the consultation can be accessed via Somerset Council - Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2023/24 : Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2023/24 Consultation (smartsurvey.co.uk)

- viii) Somerset Day 2023, the second weekend in May next year Somerset Day weekend is an opportunity to celebrate the 'gathering together of all the people of Somerset' responses to my Personal Assistant, Becky Angle – becky.angle@somerset.gov.uk by Friday 30th September with ideas to make Somerset Day special in your community. Mike Best County Hall.
- ix) Catch The Bus! Cuts across the County have prompted militant action! Cost of living crisis is encouraging people to go back to the bus service, use it or loose it! Message somersetbuspartnership@gmail.com for more information.
- x) Letter received re alleged planning breach in Baker Street. Case referred to SSDC planning enforcement. See matters arising
- xi) Somerset's Public Health Update, preparing for winter, flu and covid vaccinations now available for those with lowered immunity, check with your own GP. Know Your Numbers Week, blood pressure monitoring, kits available to take your own blood pressure at home on loan from your library!

#### 5) Any Other Business

- i) Wessex Superfast Broadband to be installed at the Hut – but delayed.
- ii) The Parish Council thanked Mr. Phil Sketchley for his work getting the parish website sorted out and Babcary newsletters onto The Babcary website.
- iii) Yeovil District Hospital Foundation Trust and Somerset Foundation Trust are moving towards a merger in April 2023. This is in line with the direction of travel where most health and welfare provision including GP's , the third sector as well as Acute Hospitals , Mental health provision and Community hospitals will come under the Integrated Care Partnership which replaces the Clinical Commissioners.
- iv) Concerns raised re antisocial Playing Field users, speed of cars going in and out of the facilities
- v) Dry weather has caused land shrinkage, pipes left in The Playing Field after removal of climbing frame protruding out of ground, posing a safety threat.
- vi) Henry Hobhouse drew attention to out of county use of our local care homes, Government changes allowing movement between different areas has meant care homes being taken advantage of for lower costs.
- vii) Defibrillator located in the phone box next to Baker Street/Main Street bus stop, in need of battery change and general cleaning of the phone box (removal of debris in particular arachnids!). Chairman to check.
- viii) Mike Lewis raised concerns on local flooding, responsibility for brooks lying with District Council, whereas Rivers are the responsibility of The Environment Agency, special concerns mentioned due to extreme weather changes and reduced rainwater, impacting on vegetation regrowth.  
Mike Stanton, chair of the Somerset Rivers Authority. Mr Jonathan Hudston is looking after the communications for the SRA, contact details are sra@somerset.gov.uk. Or [JHudston@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:JHudston@somerset.gov.uk). Recommended email Mike Staunton at The Environment Agency, (email address requested from Mike Lewis) Mike.stanton@somerset.gov.uk.

6) **Date & Time of Next Meeting: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022 @ 8.00pm in the Hut.**