

Monday 13th May 2024 Parish Council Minutes 7pm at The Hut (Approved)

AGM with Open Forum for members of the public

Election of Parish Council Chairman and Vice Chairman for the year

Present: Mr Simon Hoar, Mrs Glynis Kingston, Mrs Melinda Terleske, Mr Graham Hughes, Mr Steve Street, Mr Damien Pick, Mr Kevin Messenger (County Councillor), 1 (MP) Mr Paul Cuff (Playing Field Committee Chairman) Mrs Jasmine Tucker (Parish Clerk).

Apologies: Mr Phil Sketchley, Henry Hobhouse (County Councillor).

1) Matters Arising

i) The 'sinkhole' on the Foddington Road continues to show signs of collapse, HH had some contact with John Nicholson (JN), KM offered his apologies for lack of current activity, despite his continued work to gain answers, third parties have been uncontactable.

No new updates given at 08/04/24 meeting. PS or SH to communicate with John Nicholson regarding sinkhole, ditches & local potholes.

Potholes all reported by SH on report link to Somerset Council, Highways have since been out to repair the road surfaces, BUT NOT holes in the culverts ('trashing' kerbs) at the edge of the roads! Major concern when cars pushed to the roadside increasing hazardous terrain for vehicles.

BPC (SH) to report damage on roads attributed to increased volume of heavy traffic from A303 dual carriageway, by passing via Babcary & Foddington.

ii) Ditches and blocked culverts at the entrance to Olive Farm and other properties. John Nicholson away until 20/05/24, study leave, no cover available.

iii) Speeding in the village, how are we going to continue to reduce speeding and the impact on road surfaces? Request for funds to rectify already damaged and now hazardous village road surfaces, SH to speak to JN.

iv) Slowdown, for Horses signage, MT suggested investing in Dead Slow Horse signs for the many horse riders safety in Babcary. PC agreed one extra sign at Spring Gardens, local equestrian premises, to ask drivers to be aware of riders and consider others welfare on the road. Request for signs, SH, no cost involved.

2) Finance

Capital Reserve Account stands at £17,654.79 Current Account balance £50.

Somerset Annual Precept advice 25/04/2024 S0037378 £4656.00
Annual Accounts review (JT), BPC approved.

AGM MEETING TAKING PLACE AT EARLIER TIME OF 19.00

Open floor opportunity for members of the community to raise any issues or concerns.

Simon Hoar, Chairman, Graham Hughes proposed, Steve Street seconded.

Phil Sketchley, Vice Chairman, Simon Hoar proposed, Graham Hughes seconded.

3) Planning Consultation

- i) Planning Application 24/00515/HOU at the Brambles, Main Street for the erection of a Triple Carport. Amended plans have been submitted to reduce the height of the proposed car port, RESPONSE BY 17th May.
NO OBJECTIONS
- ii) Newlands Farm - decision awaited.
- iii) West Farm : Planning Application: 24/00969/S73 at West Farm Foddington Road
Babcary Proposal: Application to vary conditions, Bat/Bird Box and Bee Brick in relation to planning Package Treatment Plant
NO OBJECTIONS

4) Correspondence

- i) Rights of Way, maintaining public rights of way, signage etc, listing where we as a council help out, feedback to Somerset Gov.
- ii) **Playing Field Committee Annual Report**, financially comfortable, Cricket square maintained and proposed by Jeremy Spence (thanks given for his work by the BPC), 100 Club has now been withdrawn due to lack of patronage.
The Babcary Roadrace continues in popularity but now need a new organiser, Gary Tubridy hanging up his hat after many years of organising the Roadrace, BPFC are looking for a new champion, many thanks to Gary for his years of commitment to the Parish.
BPFC are now looking to revamp the children's playing equipment, namely the now missing climbing frame, for those of us who remember it!
Paul Cuff looking into the potential use of solar panels on the Hut, are they worth the outlay?

5) AOB

- i) Children's Play Arrear in Babcary Playing Field requires attention, PFC looking into renovations and potential replacements.
- ii) Kevin Messenger put forward latest Small Enterprise Grant available via Somerset Council, any small enterprises urged to apply.

6) Date and Time of Next Meeting: 8pm Monday 10th of June 2024