

MUDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Julie Ferguson. Chilthorne Knapp, Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil, BA22 8QZ

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Minutes of Mudford Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 29 April at 18:30hrs

Present:

Stephen Bartlett (Chairman), 7 members of the public

01. To receive the apologies for absence

None.

02. To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting held.

03. Chairman of the Parish Council's report

Covid 19 has been the focus for everything we think and do for the past year and it will continue to do so for several years to come.

This has meant our meetings have been remote which although business can continue, we do not get the full picture and the detailed discussion on some subject areas.

Site visits and meetings on planning have been difficult by not allowing full interaction and visuals. We hope to hold our first in person meeting next month.

FOMAG have held off the development in Up Mudford for another year but nothing seems to be clear on the next steps. SSDC planning dept is still in disarray, understaffed and trying to catch up. I must thank Queen Thorne PC our neighbours for their continued support morally and financially.

We now have a proposal for development on Sock Hill Farm land which again falls on the North escarpment facing across the vale to Glastonbury, Sparkford etc.

We have now taken over the responsibility for the Telephone box in Mudford which we plan to restore with volunteer support and install a defibrillator, my thanks to Councillor Lanigan for steering the project.

The village Hall has been closed for Covid which has had an effect on the structure and the finances, we will continue to support the Hall and will do all we can to get it back up and used, aiding any repairs where we can.

The playing field and all its equipment is one of Mudford's biggest assets, but it takes a lot of maintenance and work to keep it up to standard

Mudford with support from Trent, Chilton and Ashington have replaced the footbridge linking Hinton with Mudford after a gap of 8 yrs, the landowners have repaired the weir but the Highways at Taunton still struggle to help or support this bridge, even though they are struggling with finances and have two other bridges close by they have not repaired. A structural survey is underway to cover the safety of the bridge and users. This fp saves a very dangerous walk on the A359 with no roadside safety.

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Concern is rising for the time the A303 is closed for the dual carriageway between Sparkford and Podimore. The road is already suffering in condition due to the high volume and risk from speeding traffic. Speedwatch has been started under the guidance of councillor Sargent with volunteers for training.

Policing across rural England is an issue and we would like to see a greater police presence to reassure and to be able to listen to our needs and issues.

My thanks to Tony and Mike for keeping us updated on County and district matters and for representing our views .

Tony Cavalier for the outstanding work he has done and continues to do for FOMAG and the Primrose Lane development.

Phil Sargent for keeping our cemetery in good order and finally to you the council who give up your time for the parish and Julie our Clerk for holding all of this and us together

04. Village groups report

A report was heard from a member of the village hall committee, with the flat roof repairs being planned in May although ongoing problems with the floor would unfortunately likely prevent the hall from being able to welcome back its groups until the reason for the damage had been investigated and the floor and underlying structure repaired. Councillor Bartlett agreed to have a look to aid the opening of the hall, once Government restrictions allowed.

05. County Councillors report

Not present.

06. District Councillors report

Not present.

07. Public open session

There was nothing further to report at this time.

18:50 – Meeting closed