

MUDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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

Tel: 07783 475200

E-mail: clerk@mudfordparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.mudfordpc.co.uk

Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of Mudford Parish Council held on Thursday 29 April at 19:00hrs

Present – Councillors

Stephen Bartlett, Phil Sargent, Phil Edgeworth, Nick Lanigan, Mark Rowlands, John Snell

In attendance:

Julie Ferguson - Parish Clerk, 1 member of the public, Mike Lewis – County Councillor, Tony Capozzoli – District Councillor

21/01 To elect a Chair and sign the acceptance of office form

RESOLVED: Councillor Bartlett was proposed, seconded and elected as Chair which he duly accepted and signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

21/02 To receive any Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given. None.

21/03 Declarations of interests.

Councillor Rowlands declared an interest in item 9d.

21/04 To elect officers and sign acceptance of office forms

It was decided to defer individual officer roles to a future meeting.

RESOLVED: Councillor Sargent was proposed, seconded and elected as Vice Chair which he duly accepted and all councillors signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

21/05 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.

21/06 Public Open Session to include County and District Councillors reports

Councillor Lewis reported that Covid was still the main focus, the unitary authority debate was ongoing and being decided later in the year. Councillor Capozzoli reported that planning was still being affected by the phosphate issue and planning officers were difficult to contact. Councillor Bartlett explained that Ashington Wood was being affected by Ash dieback & trees were being felled under license.

Councillor Sargent asked the PC to consider the updated quote for the cemetery footpath which had been budgeted for and circulated via email.

21/07 Planning Decisions Report. None.

21/08 Planning Applications. None.

21/09 Parish Council Matters – To agree a PC response to a public consultation in respect of development proposals for land north of Mudford Road, Yeovil.

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Councillor Sargent wished it to be noted that, due to the Ward boundary being different to the parish boundary, the Ward members for the development would be Councillors Oakes, Strickland & Lock.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to submit the following response to Grassroots:

Mudford Parish Council were pleased to note that the density of housing was reasonable, with large areas of green space, they would like to see more starter and affordable homes but remained concerned that the location was unsuitable due to the significant impact on the countryside, along the ridge looking over South Somerset towards the Mendips. Flooding was a major concern, with the run-off from the development posing a risk to the Parish of Mudford and its residents. Sewage overflow is already a problem in the area, this development would increase the problems that were already being experienced. There is concern that Cold Brook is missing from the development proposals, which would carry water overflow down to the parish of Mudford. It is not thought that the site is fit for this purpose.

Furthermore, it is a site of significant historical interest, within the territorium of the Roman town of Ilchester with lots still to be discovered. There are listed buildings at Stone Farm & within Mudford Sock that are affected and need to be considered also.

21/10 Parish Council Matters – To agree the responses to the Valuation Agency for the Cemetery and premises

The clerk had received a request for information from the Valuation Agency and whilst the clerk was happy to answer the questions relating to the burials, help was needed with those regarding the size of the cemetery. Councillors Sargent and Bartlett agreed to take a look and provide suitable responses to the time sensitive request.

ACTION: Councillors Bartlett, Sargent & Parish Clerk

21/11 Parish Council Matters – To receive the annual playing field inspection report.

Councillor Lanigan had completed the recent monthly checks and the annual report had been received. It was agreed that some of the issues needed attention and Councillors Sargent & Rowlands agreed to hold a site visit and report back to the PC.

ACTION: Councillors Sargent & Rowlands

21/12 Parish Council Matters – To consider letting out the land at the Cemetery on a standard tenancy agreement.

Councillor Rowlands left the meeting whilst this was being discussed.

Councillor Sargent agreed to approach the person looking after the land to understand the current agreement before deciding on any future tenancy agreement.

ACTION: Councillor Sargent

21/13 Parish Council Matters – To review the asset register for insurance renewal

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the asset register for insurance cover and accept the insurance renewal for the next year.

21/14 Finance – To approve the 2020/21 EOY Financial statement, cashbook and bank reconciliations.

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RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to accept the EOY financial statement, cashbook and bank reconciliations for 2020/21

21/15 Finance – To approve the AGAR Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2020/21

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve, answering 'YES' to the AGAR Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2020/21.

21/16 Finance – To approve the AGAR Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2020/21.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the AGAR Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2020/21.

21/17 Finance - To approve the following BACS payments:

J Ferguson – Clerk's salary and expenses	£ 509.11
HMRC – PAYE	£ 112.40
P S Services – Cemetery maintenance (March)	£ 12.00
K M Dike – Ground maintenance (March)	£1068.52
Came & Company – Annual Insurance	£672.80

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed for the payments presented to be approved.

21/18 Finance – To note receipt of the precept

The clerk reported that the precept payment of £36,000 had been received into the MPC account.

21/19 Parish Matters – To discuss the process for creating a hardstanding and dropping the kerb outside your property.

The clerk presented the information from the National Planning Portal. It was understood that planning permission is sometimes required, building regulations do not apply as the work should be carried out by the local authority or an approved contractor. Planning permission for paving your front garden (the area between the front of your house and the highway) is only needed if you cover more than 5 m² using traditional materials that don't let water through. If a permeable surface is used or the rainwater can drain to a lawn or border then the area can be any size, without permission needed. Building regulations do not generally apply to this work. The Parish Council agreed that they would be able to advise any residents unsure of the rules in the future, however individuals should make their own enquiries to SSDC planning department.

21/20 Parish Matters – to respond to an item of correspondence relating to a dog meet in the village recreation round

The clerk had circulated an email that had been received asking for the parish council's permission to hold dog socialising and handling group sessions in the recreation ground. The parish council were in agreement with this being allowed, with the exceptions of Thursday mornings and weekends, as these are thought to be busy times at the car park and rec.

21/21 Highways and Rights of Way Reports – To hear a report from a site meeting between Councillors and County Highways

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Councillors Sargent and Rowlands provided a report from discussions with representatives from County Highways. The discussions involved additions of rumble strips, gates (funded by a grant from Avon & Somerset Constabulary) and new lines. The clerk was asked to request double yellow lines on the corner of the A359 and Primrose Lane to prevent parking on the corner & obscuring the view for vehicles entering & exiting Primrose Lane.

ACTION: Councillor Sargent & Parish Clerk

21/22 Highways and Rights of Way Reports – To her bridge reports

Councillor Bartlett reported that he was waiting on a structural engineer's report on the bridge repairs at Hinton Wier that should progress the opening of the bridge by Somerset County Council. Councillor Rowlands reported that highway engineers had been inspecting the A359 road bridge in light of safety concerns raised at a previous PC meeting.

21/23 Date of next meeting – 24th June 2021 (subject to the relaxation of Government Covid restrictions)

21:15 – Meeting closed