

North Cadbury & Yarlington Parish Council

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“Draft” Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on **Wednesday 26th June 2024** in Galhampton Village Hall commencing at 7.00pm

Councillors Present:

Diane Rickers (Chairman)

Chris Jose

Nerissa Northover

John Rundle

Johnnie Counsell (Vice-Chairman)

Andy Keys-Toyer

Alan Rickers

In Attendance: Somerset Councillor Henry Hobhouse, the Clerk and fifteen members of the public.

❖ **Public Question and Comments:** No comments.

❖ **Report from Nick Sinfield, Teals Farm Shop to update on plans to provide more space at Teals.**

Not present.

❖ **Report from The Newt and Emily Estate**

Zoe Young, The Newt Community Liaison Officer reported as follows:

Wheelwrights. The Wheelwrights' renovation began on Monday. We are speaking to the building team to try and minimise their footprint, especially for upcoming weddings.

Stags Head Inn. An offer has been accepted on The Stag's Head! As soon as I have further information and a clear plan for recruiting, I will update.

Premises Licence. Councillors and residents raised questions regarding the application to Somerset Council for the grant of a premises licence at the Newt's 'Fulfilment Centre', Galhampton Hill. Zoe agreed to contact the Clerk once she had clarification from The Newt and reported back as follows: 'The fulfilment centre refers to our e-commerce warehouse, where the picking, packing and storing occurs for distribution of online orders. The premises licence is to cover the storage and distribution of alcohol orders used to fulfil online e-commerce orders. Previously, this was covered by another licence, but due to a change of departments, personnel, layout and working hours of our warehouse team this needed a new application. To clarify there is no change of operations. No alcohol will be sold for consumption on the premises, nor will customers be allowed on site to collect orders. The licence will continue to cover distance selling only.'

❖ **Reports from Somerset Council:**

To receive any verbal report from Somerset Councillors Henry Hobhouse or Kevin Messenger. Cllr Hobhouse reported as follows:

New Services/Farm Shop, West Camel. Nathan Hopkins had applied for full planning permission [24/00841/FUL] for the development of a new trunk road service area incorporating a farm shop and restaurant/cafe, hotel/lodge accommodation, energy station (including electric vehicle energy hub and petrol filling station), photovoltaic solar arrays,

truck stop, strategic landscaping and other ancillary works, similar to Gloucester Services on land OS 6143 Sparkford Road, West Camel, BA22 7RH.

Police. There were 20,000 more police officers a year ago, however, they were only funded for three years. All civilian staff had been warned of redundancies and police officers were restricted to thirty five hours a week. The Police Crime Commissioner had put up funding as much as it could, however, police will have to cover the civilian jobs as well.

(Cllr Hobhouse left the meeting at 7.15pm)

Agenda:

24/80. Apologies for absence:

To receive any apologies for absence.

RESOLVED: Apologies were received from Cllrs Mareike Beyer, Nick Garrett and Maria Viney. Somerset Councillor Kevin Messenger also tendered his apologies.

24/81. Declarations of Interests:

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any Pecuniary or Other interests they may have under the Localism Act 2011 and NALC Model Code of Conduct adopted May 2022. (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).

RESOLVED: None declared.

24/82. Minutes:

To approve the Minutes of the Annual PC meeting held on 22nd May 2024.

RESOLVED: The minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

24/83. Planning:

- a. Somerset Council Decisions. None received.

24/84. Finance:

a. Balance of the Council's Bank Account & Bank reconciliation:

To receive the full council accounts and bank reconciliation.

RESOLVED: The Clerk previously circulated the PC's Accounts, which were agreed and Lloyds Bank balances at 25th June 2024 in the Treasurers Account of £3,331.75 and Business Bank Instant Account of £32,974.87, reconciled, approved and signed.

b. Accounts for payment:

To review and approve a schedule of items of expenditure:

- | | |
|--|---------|
| i. Smith of Derby St Michael's Church Clock repairs | £210.00 |
| ii. SALC Training Inv 3176, 3250, 3268 & 3284 | £188.00 |
| iii. NC Annual Parish Mtg expenses – Bar Stock NC Hall | £33.88 |

RESOLVED: Items of expenditure approved unanimously.

24/85. North Cadbury and Yarlinton Neighbourhood Plan (NP):

Update from the NP Monitoring Group.

RESOLVED: Cllr Rickers reported on behalf of the Group as follows:

“Since the last meeting we have been focusing on:

Project 4. Local Bus services. To work with local bus operators to investigate how we can improve the service and the position of the current stops (especially Galhampton). We have had various discussions with the operator and Somerset Council, and are pleased to announce that the Council has agreed that, from a road safety point, they need to improve the Galhampton stops. They have,

therefore, budgeted and included into their programme of works for the Bus stops to be painted onto the road and the appropriate sign mounted on the roadside.

Project 5. Road Safety Improvements. Concentrating on the A359, the Group have previously reported on the new village signs to replace the existing Galhampton signs. We are now in receipt of all the funding and the signs are in the process of being manufactured. We have also secured funding for speed monitoring cameras. We are at present trying to find a land owner that resides alongside the A359 willing to have the cameras mounted on their property.

Project 7. Galhampton Footpath. Which was to secure an off-road footpath from Galhampton to the Country stores as a potential site for an alternative bus stop. Unfortunately, whilst Charles is willing to purchase the land, the landowner is at present not willing to sell. Therefore, we are proposing to park this until the land becomes available.

The Group asked if any councillor knew of any issues within the various villages that could have an impact on the NP to let the Group know so that they could monitor and investigate.

Next month, the Group would be looking into project 8. The potential designation of parts of Yarlington as a conservation area.”

24/86. Highways and Rights of Way (RoW) Report:

PC Representatives to provide progress reports.

RESOLVED: Cllr Jose reported as follows: “I would like to thank John Rundle for all his efforts on the highway brief over the last years . It will be a hard act to follow and I would ask that you bear with me initially, it will take some time to get fully up to speed. The May report that John produced was very comprehensive, I will just advise any changes that have occurred recently.

Pound Lane. Has a lovely new tarmac surface, paid for by the Newt I understand.

Sandbrook Lane - Four small potholes repaired and filled. They seem to have left some much larger potholes. Everything is outlined in white spray paint so obviously on the to do list!

Speed Restriction lights at the school. These are stuck on most of the day . This has been reported to the relevant council department via John Nicholson of Highways.

Highway verges are being cut.”

Cllr Northover thanked Cllr Counsell for strimming the verges at Three Ashes, which had greatly improved visibility at the junction. Cllr Counsell offered to be contacted regarding any other road safety issues that could be improved by strimming.

24/87. Emergency Planning and Flood Mitigation:

Update on the formation of a Community Emergency Plan and flood mitigation.

RESOLVED: Cllr A Rickers previously circulated a list of types of incident that Galhampton Village Hall were reviewing for its Emergency Plan. These are considered to be events where the Village Hall may be able to help either an individual, a family, the wider community or indeed the emergency services. Cllr Viney was working with Yarlington on its Plan and the Chairman, North Cadbury Village Hall was working on theirs. Once the Plans were finished they would form the basis of the Parishes Emergency Plan.

Flood Mitigation. The Clerk read out the report on behalf of Cllr Beyer as follows:

“The flooding team of the Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) has now organised a Section 19 Community Meeting for 16th July 6.30 - 8.30pm, Galhampton Village Hall. The progress and timetable of the Section 19 report will be presented. This is our last opportunity to check that the Council has properly looked at and understood what happened and for us to make any necessary corrections or additions before the technical analysis phase of the report process begins.

During the day Anna Mears and Paul Ellison (SRA) will visit our villages to view the locations affected by flooding and to receive additional information if available. They would like to be shown the extent of flooding by someone with the local knowledge of what occurred on the day.

Last month we had more flooding on Sandbrook Lane. It is clear that this happened because the ploughing of the field coincided with heavy rain fall. Surface water run-off increased considerably, even though the rain was not as heavy as other rain falls we have experienced recently. The field

in question is owned by Emily Estate whom I contacted during the event to help with sandbags. I contacted Paul Rawson and he has agreed to meet to visit the area and better understand the problem. I am also in contact with John Nicholson, Highways who agreed last Autumn that there is a problem with insufficient drainage underneath the road, which needs to be addressed. Paul Ellison passed my concerns on to George Caruth, Technical Advisor, Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) who contacted me to arrange a visit to have a look at the problem and suggest possible solutions, they have also had a flooding referral for Corkscrew Lane from Highways and will look at this at the same time. Hugo van Dorssen, Community Liaison, FWAG and Lorne Thompson, Yeovil Rivers Community Trust (YRCT) will also join this visit. Both FWAG and YRCT are now independently engaged by Emily Estate, to assess the viability and give recommendations for Natural Flood Management (NFM) measures on their land, which is fantastic news.

The Shatwell gauges triggered on a rainless day and I found vegetation growing into the path of the laser. The Eastwood gauge also looked quite overgrown and I have now cleared both location of any undergrowth and assume that this does not need to be done again until later in the year. We now have three volunteers signed up to receive the warnings from the gauges, these are Sally Jose (North Cadbury), Ben Critchley (Yarlington) and myself. We will work together with Gareth Varney and Paul Ellison to assess and test appropriate alert responses. “

24/88. Local Community Networks LCNs:

Reports.

RESOLVED: Cllr Keys-Toyer reported on the LCN AGM held on 13th June 2024, for which he had previously circulated his report covering the last twelve months and what might be achieved in the future. Many priorities still remained unresolved and would be on the list for future meetings. He also mentioned that both he and Cllr H Hobhouse were robust in their questioning of Avon and Somerset Police with regard to its lack of communication. Cllrs thanked Cllr Keys-Toyer for attending the LCN meetings.

24/89. Destruction & Subsequent loss / theft of ancient mile stone monument on A359

Report of destruction/loss following verge cut/flail on 23/24 May 24 near Galhampton/North Barrow crossroads with Hearn Lane.

RESOLVED: Cllr Counsell reported on the loss of the base of the listed monument. To date it was still unknown who carried out the cut and the whereabouts of the missing base; the small pieces had been collected in the hope that the post could be re-cast. The Clerk agreed to follow this up with Castle Cary Town Council and Nic Wall, Senior Conservation Officer.

24/90. Items for Report and Future Business:

a. Update on anti-social behaviour in the Parish. The Clerk reported that she had received a response from Amanda Ware, Police Community Support Officer Supervisor, who confirmed that the Neighbourhood Team had not received any calls in relation to the anti-social behaviour in Galhampton. They had been conducting patrols and nothing concerning had been noted either. If there were any ongoing concerns, the PC would be contacted and updated accordingly. Patrols would continue and if anyone had any further questions please do let her know at Amanda.Ware@avonandsomerset.police.uk. If anyone did not want to report information to the police then they can do anonymously via Crimestoppers crimestoppers-uk.org and the information would still come to the Team.

b. Update on councillor training on Parish Website. Cllr A Rickers thanked those councillors who had attended the training and they thanked Cllr Rickers in return.

Action: Cllrs Beyer, Jose and Northover to consider website training. Cllrs Jose and Northover to attend Code of Conduct Training.

Next meeting: to be held on Wednesday 24th July 2024 in Yarlinton Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Signed

DatedChairman

DRAFT