

# BECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Zoom (videoconferencing)

on: **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020 @ 7:00pm**

**Present:**

**Councillors;** Mrs Paula Fox (Chairman), Mrs Elizabeth Wright, Mr Roland Kelly, Mr Clive Winterbourne, Mr Kevin Bishop.

**In attendance:**

Mr Simon Pritchard - Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer.  
(No Members of the Public)

**Public participation:**

(No comments / questions)

**County & District Councillors reports:**

(None)

Agenda Number:	Agenda Item:
58	<b><u>Apologies for absence:</u></b> Cllr Mark Wilson – Work commitments. Cllr Bishop gave apologies for District Councillor Shannon Brooke.
59	<b><u>Declarations of interest &amp; dispensations to participate:</u></b> A. None B. None
60	<b><u>Adoption of previous Council minutes:</u></b> ▪ Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2020  It was proposed by Cllr Winterbourne to adopt the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Bishop and resolved unanimously.
61	<b><u>Planning, Tree &amp; Licensing Applications:</u></b> A. To receive and determine planning, tree or licensing applications made to Mendip District Council and pass comment:  ▪ County Councillor written report Members had been emailed a report from County Councillor, Linda Oliver. The Chairman went over the report items. It was agreed to put the report onto the website.

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- **2020/1150/FUL** - Erection of 30 dwellings (21 market, 9 affordable), with public open space and other associated infrastructure.

Land At 380227 152171 Great Dunns Close, Beckington, Frome, Somerset.

The parish Council has already objected to this application. But further documents have now been submitted by Redrow to the District Council and so it is back out for consultation.

**19:17 – District Councillor Brooke joined the meeting.**

The changes to the application appear to be as a result of conversations between Redrow and Mendip District Council Officers. Members were concerned that previous submissions would become void. Cllr Brooke felt this was not the case and there was no conspiracy.

**It was agreed to ask Patrick Moss to quote for assessing the traffic implications of the planning app and reporting to the council.**

**Action – The Clerk**

- **2020/2189/PAA** – Barn Conversion on Rudge Lane (Near A36).

The Parish Council had not been informed of this application; it had been spotted by a Member of the Council while out on a walk. The PAA coding is not known. Cllr Wright speculated that it was change of use that was permitted development and that is why the Parish Council hadn't been informed. She will contact Mendip District Council to find out.

**Action – Cllr Wright**

It was noted that it is a massive barn that is to be turned into a house. Cllr Brooke was also not aware of the application. Members expressed concern.

- **2020/204/VRC – Sam's Corner**

Cllr Brooke inquired as to the Parish Council's response to this planning application. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had sent a response of No Objection. Cllr Brooke stated that she was going to object to the application. The tenants have built a building bigger than they have permission for, the Parish Council should have reported it to Planning Enforcement.

Cllr Brooke also reported a Gypsy pitch in the area of Sam's Corner that is having tyres and other stuff dumped on it. Rode Parish Council are aware but say the land in is Beckington Parish.

- **Local Plan Part II – Inspector's Hearing**

Cllr Brooke informed the meeting that she will be speaking at the Local Plan Part 2 Inspector's Hearing. It was confirmed that the Parish Council will be represented by DLA Piper.

**District Councillor Brooke left the meeting.**

Cllrs Bishop and Kelly confirmed that Google maps show the Gypsy pitch as being in Rode Parish.

- **Road Naming**

The Clerk has received notice that the developer of the eight new homes on Warminster road has applied to name the road Longmeadow Lane. Members were not keen on the use of "Lane".

Councillors Winterbourne & Wright will try and find out what the field is called so that any historic reference is not lost and suggest this to the developer.

**Action – Cllr Winterbourne & Wright**

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	<p><b>B. To note responses sent to Mendip District Council between meetings under the Clerk's delegated authority:</b></p> <p><b>2020/2064/VRC</b> - Application to remove condition 4 (permission expiry date) of planning approval 2016/0521/FUL (Use of land, stables, hay store and manege in connection with a commercial equine rescue business, and stationing of temporary agricultural workers dwelling for occupation ancillary to the equine business).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Sams Corner Green Park Lane Beckington Frome BA11 6TT, 21 Oct 2020</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Parish Council recommendation: No Objection</b></p> <p><b>2020/2079/TCA</b> - T1 - Silver Birch - Reduce crown by 25%. T2 - Weeping Beech - Remove branch that is overhanging into neighbour's garden</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3 Warminster Road Beckington Frome BA11 6SP, 15 Oct 2020</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Parish Council recommendation: Leave to Tree Officer</b></p>
62	<p><b><u>Parish Council's Accounts:</u></b></p> <p><b>A. To approve the following payments:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(None)</p> <p><b>B. Budget to date:</b></p> <p>Members received the budget to date; the Clerk reported that a quick look at the budget earlier in the day suggested that the council may underspend by around £8,000.</p>
63	<p><b><u>Bettering Beckington II – Review of ideas from workshop – Bring a resident:</u></b></p> <p>It was agreed to defer this item and hold a separate workshop.</p>
64	<p><b><u>Climate Change – SALC Workshop:</u></b></p> <p>Councillors Winterbourne and Fox had attended this event. Cllr Winterbourne reported that it had been a professional event with good speakers, a credit to the organisers. The Chairman went over the main points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Somerset Climate Emergency Strategy to be completed by the end of 2020</li> <li>○ The Parish Council should look to set up a Sustainable Beckington group to engage parishioners, rather than the Parish Council trying to do it all.</li> <li>○ Should look for easy wins to get things going and build interest.</li> <li>○ Have a green agenda item at each meeting.</li> <li>○ Promote walking / cycling routes.</li> <li>○ Declare an Ecological Emergency</li> <li>○ Measure the community's carbon footprint so that the impact of any measures could be monitored.</li> <li>○ Appoint Ecological Ambassador/s</li> <li>○ Energy saving planning / development</li> </ul> <p><b>It was agreed to work through the list by tackling one item per council meeting under a green agenda item.</b></p>

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<p>65</p>	<p><b><u>Somerset County Council - Climate Emergency Fund:</u></b></p> <p>Somerset County Council has launched a Climate Emergency Fund to support Town and Parish Councils with projects that make a real difference in reducing carbon emissions and contribute to making Somerset resilient to the effects of Climate Change. Grants are available from £5,000 to £75,000</p> <p>Cllr Kelly has received informal advice from Moss Naylor Young Ltd, the consultants that produced the Beckington Cycling strategy, for a grant bid to stand a chance of being successful it needs to be about connecting communities to reduce emissions by encouraging people to cycle. The Parish Council project could be to improve road cycle ways connections from Beckington to Rode, Frome &amp; the National Cycleway.</p> <p>Moss Naylor Young Ltd has put together a possible outline project that ticks all the boxes that Somerset County Council are looking for in their grant assessment.</p> <p>The deadline for applications to the first tranche of funding is the 12<sup>th</sup> of November, the Parish Council should apply to this one as there may not be much money left by the second date in January. Match funding improves the chance of success. The Parish Council needs to be able to demonstrate a project will reduce overall emissions to be successful, so improvement to cycling just within the Parish does not deliver that on its own.</p> <p>The Parish Council should apply for the maximum amount of £75,000. The potential total cost of the draft proposals is around £117,690, this would leave around £42,690 to be funded if the grant were approved. There is £33,912 in the S106 fund that may be able to be used and the rest could be funded by the Parish Council (£8,778). It has been suggested that as much of the S106 money as possible is spent, as there is concern that if it is not spent then it will have to be handed back to the developers.</p> <p>63% of respondents to the Bettering Beckington survey supported a ‘Safe cycle route to Frome’ so this gives justification to potentially spend S106 money on this project. It was noted that Somerset Highways would need to approve any highways project. It was noted that the Council has looked for other sources for grant funding over several years, but there is none. It was hoped that Rode Parish Council would contribute around of £10,000. Link to Whiterow Farm Shop would be a separate project.</p> <p><b>It was proposed by the Chairman to apply for £75,000 form the Somerset County Council Climate Emergency Fund, seconded by Cllr Kelly and resolved unanimously.</b></p> <p>20:47 – Cllr Wilson joined the meeting to voice his support for a project and then left the meeting again.</p>
<p>66</p>	<p><b><u>Capital Projects / Budget for 2021/22:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Footpath map in Village &amp; Updated footpath guidebook - £5,000</li> <li>▪ Bus Shelter (Frome road) - £6,000</li> </ul>
<p>67</p>	<p><b><u>Sue’s Walk Cutting Tenders:</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk had run a full tendering process for the cutting of Sue’s walk. This is to cut the grass four times per year and cut the hedge twice a year. Five local contractors were approached, three of</p>

them had tendered. The Council would need to resolve to go into confidential session if Members wanted details of the contractors. The cheapest was £620, then £980, then £1,440.  
**It was proposed by the Chairman to appoint the cheapest contractor at £620, seconded by Cllr Bishop and resolved unanimously.**

***End of formal meeting: 21.11***

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