

BECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Zoom (videoconferencing)
on: **Tuesday 12th January 2021 @ 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:

Cllr Wright informed the Council that she had been contacted by Leslie Stather, Chairman of the Somerset Ramblers who is offering to do a talk on the Lost Paths of Beckington, looking at old maps and comparing them to what is on the ground now. It was agreed to accept this offer and open the event to all Residents.

County & District Councillors reports:

The Chairman went over the County Councillor's written report, this had already been emailed to all Members. It was noted that the Warminster Road Yellow Lines issue would now have to be dealt with by a Senior Officer at SCC, but that nothing was likely to happen any time soon due to the Covid crisis.

Agenda Number:	Agenda Item:
71	<p><u>Apologies for absence:</u> Cllr Mark Wilson – Work commitments. Cllr Linda Oliver (County Councillor).</p> <p>The Clerk reported to Members that Cllr Wilson was applying to the Council for a six-month sabbatical in order for him to be able to concentrate on his new employment and family. It was proposed by the Chairman to grant Cllr Wilson a six-month sabbatical from all Parish Council business, seconded by Cllr Winterbourne and resolved unanimously.</p>
72	<p><u>Declarations of interest & dispensations to participate:</u></p> <p>A. None B. None</p>
73	<p><u>Adoption of previous Council minutes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Tuesday 10th November 2020▪ Tuesday 1st December 2020 <p>Minutes of Tuesday 10th November 2020:</p>

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	<p>Cllr Kelly expressed his unhappiness with the November minutes stating that it had been agreed to undertake a project, as it was his view that it was only agreed to apply for some funding. The Clerk reminded Members that if they had comments about the minutes then this should be made to him within a week of him having sent them out.</p> <p>It was agreed that the minutes of 10th November would be withdrawn to allow time for the Clerk to look at the issue.</p> <p>Cllr Winterbourne stated that the November minutes had agreed that a 'Green' agenda item would be added to agendas going forward, but the January agenda did not have one. The Clerk apologised that this had been overlooked and the next meeting would have a green theme agenda item.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action - The Clerk</p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr Winterbourne to adopt the minutes of 1st December 2020 as an accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Kelly and resolved unanimously.</p>
<p>74</p>	<p><u>Planning, Tree & Licensing Applications:</u></p> <p>A. To receive and determine planning, tree or licensing applications made to Mendip District Council and pass comment:</p> <p>2021/0022/VRC - Application to vary condition 3 (external materials) of planning approval 2016/2652/HSE (Replacement of existing two storey lean-to extension with new two storey extension, replacement of existing outbuildings/garages adjacent to house with new single storey extension, removal of the existing single storey glazed porch on the rear elevation of the existing house and modifications to the fenestration on the rear (North) elevation. Replacement of existing, single glazed, timber framed windows to the front (South) elevation of the existing house with double glazed windows and the addition of 2no. rooflights in the North facing side of the existing pitched roof)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1 Goose Street Beckington Frome Somerset BA11 6SS, 06 Jan 2021 Parish Council recommendation: No Objection</p> <p>B. To note responses sent to Mendip District Council between meetings under the Clerk's delegated authority:</p> <p>It was noted that 2020/2189/PAA (Prior Approval for change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Use Class C3). Priors Court Farm Rudge Lane Beckington) had been Refused by Mendip District Council.</p> <p>It was noted that 2020/2354/HSE (SINGLE STOREY FRONT EXTENSION, 4 Homefield Close Beckington Frome BA11 6SX) had been Approved with Conditions by Mendip District Council.</p>
<p>75</p>	<p><u>Parish Council's Accounts:</u></p>

	<p>A. To approve the following payments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Moss Naylor Young – Planning Advice - £240.00 2) S. Pritchard – Clerks Exp (Oct to Dec) - £84.90 3) SALC – Planning Training - £25.00 <p>It was proposed by Cllr Winterbourne to make the listed payments, seconded by the Chairman and resolved unanimously.</p> <p>B. Budget to date: Members had been sent the budget to date; the Clerk had nothing more to add.</p>
76	<p><u>Purchase of Grit Bins:</u></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr Winterbourne that the Council purchase one grit bin at a cost of £120 for Rudge, seconded by Cllr Wright and resolved unanimously.</p> <p>The Chairman noted the Council’s formal thanks and appreciation to Cllr Winterbourne for his voluntary work in keeping all the grit bins in the Parish full of grit.</p>
77	<p><u>Bettering Beckington II – Consultation Process:</u></p> <p>It was agreed that due to the number of things going on that the Council is becoming involved with, this consultation should be put on hold. The Chairman will obtain an invoice from the consultant and free her from any obligation to finish the process.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action – Cllr Fox</p> <p>Cllr Kelly reported an approach to him by Rode Parish Council asking if the Council will join a Walking & Cycling initiative with Frome Town Council.</p> <p>The Chairman reported that Frome Town Council had phoned her to talk about their project. It was agreed to express an interest.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that he had had direct contact from Frome Town Council and had expressed an interest already but had received no further information thus far.</p>
78	<p><u>Governance Report:</u></p> <p>Members had been circulated with a report by the Clerk, looking at his concerns relating to process that led to a potential £118,000 cycleways project being introduced at the Council’s November meeting and £75,000 worth of grant funding for the same being agreed to be applied for under a reporting item and without prior notice to the Clerk.</p> <p>The main concern being that the Council had not established the power it would use to act. The Clerk has retrospectively been unable to find a specific power allowing the Council to spend money on adjusting / upgrading the highways with cycleways. The Council would have to fall back on S137 as the spending power, this power has capped spending limits (£8,090.43 in 2020/21)</p> <p>The Clerk requested that in the future, in his role as Proper Officer, that Members of the Council consult with him on all matters well in advance of meetings and that he was included as part of the team.</p> <p>The Clerk acknowledged that he had not raised his concerns during the November meeting.</p>

	<p><i>Cllr Wright left the meeting.</i></p> <p>The Chairman reported that Somerset County Council had delayed the allocating of the grant funding, due to staff being transferred onto Covid matters. All grants now to be awarded in one hit in March, with no deadline on when you can spend the money.</p> <p>It was agreed that in light of the Clerk's report, a second application would be submitted for just the consultation fees, licensing fees and to commission a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan that's the same as Frome Town Council have commissioned. This would bring the total cost of the project within S137 spend limit, at around £12,500 across two financial years.</p> <p>It was also agreed to hold another meeting to present the application.</p> <p>At this point the meeting had been running for over two hours so it was agreed to defer all the other items to the next meeting other than agenda item 81</p>
79	<p><u>Footpath to Farm Shop:</u></p> <p><i>As the meeting had been running for two hours at this point, this item was deferred.</i></p>
80	<p><u>Local Council Award Scheme:</u></p> <p><i>As the meeting had been running for two hours at this point, this item was deferred.</i></p>
81	<p><u>Rubbish Bin installation on the A36 & A361 lay-bys:</u></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr Winterbourne to spend (up to) £500 on a bin for the A361 lay-by, seconded by Cllr Bishop and resolved unanimously.</p>
82	<p><u>Parish Council Precept / Budget 2021/22:</u></p> <p><i>As the meeting had been running for two hours at this point, this item was deferred.</i></p>
83	<p><u>HR Panel Recommendation:</u></p> <p><i>As the meeting had been running for two hours at this point, this item was deferred.</i></p>

End of formal meeting: 21:07

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