

# BECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Date of Publication: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025

To: Cllr Paula Fox (Chair), Cllr Kevin Bishop, Cllr Rory Ingleby-MacKenzie, Cllr Simon Milner, Cllr Anne Owen, Cllr Clive Winterbourne and Cllr Liz Wright.

## **NOTICE OF MEETING**

You are hereby summoned to attend the Beckington Parish Council meeting to be held on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 commencing at 6:00pm** in the Beckington Memorial Hall, Bath Road, Beckington, Frome BA11 6SH.



Paul Russell  
Locum Clerk

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Prior to the start of the meeting fifteen minutes will be allowed for questions or comments from members of the public. Any resident wishing to address the Council will have a maximum of 3 minutes to speak.

Questions may not be answered at the meeting but a written reply will be provided within 7 days. Once the meeting has started members of the public are reminded that they have no right to speak.

The Somerset Councillors are invited to make a report to the Parish Council in this time as well.

## **AGENDA**

### **121. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive any apologies for absence and resolve to accept the reasons.

### **122. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Members to declare any 'Pecuniary' or 'Other' interests under the council's code of conduct. Members are reminded of their responsibility to register their interests with Somerset Council and to keep that register up to date.

### **123. MINUTES**

To formally approve and adopt the minutes of the Beckington Parish Council meetings held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025 (attached)

### **124. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

- (a) **Neighbourhood Plan Development** – To consider how best to progress the drafting of the Neighbourhood Plan up to Regulation 14. Council will consider contacting additional consultants for a quotation and availability. The target date for the completion of this work is the end of February 2025.
- (b) **Consultation Budget** – To consider a resolution to allocate a budget for the parishioner consultation on the preferred site allocation following the Call for Sites initiative.

### **125. PLANNING, LICENSING & TREE APPLICATIONS:**

- (a) The following applications will be considered:

**Proposal:** Beech - Reduce crown height by approx. 4m- finished height approx. 12m, reshape remainder by up to 3m, carry out 10-15% crown thin & crown lift to approx. 5m  
Willow - Pollard back to existing pollarded points, remove diseased branches.

**Location:** 35 Goose Street, Beckington, Somerset BA11 6SS

**Application Type:** Works/Felling Trees in a CA

**Application Number:** 2025/0048/TCA

- (b) **Planning Application 2024/2309/FUL at Land At Tower Hill Farm** – To note that a public meeting to discuss this planning application will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025 at 6pm at the Memorial Hall.

### **126. NEW WEBSITE**

Please see the attached quotations received for the provision of a new website. The costs are contained within the quotations provided to Members. Council is requested to consider appointing a suitable provider.

### **127. LAND REGISTRATION**

Please see the attached estimate from Wellers Law Group to formally register the Recreation Ground land with Council as Custodian Trustees.

### **128. NETWORK MAGAZINE**

Council is requested to consider supporting the Network Magazine by submitting a monthly article and make a contribution of £345.

### **129. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- (a) **Parish Council Priorities** - To consider developing the Parish Council's priorities for the forthcoming year.

- (b) **Budget 2025/26** – To review the draft budget. Please see attached.
- (c) **Precept 2025/26** – To consider requesting a precept of £55,545 from Somerset Council for the 2025/26 financial year.
- (d) **Easypcaccounts** – Council is requested to consider taking out a subscription for this accounting package at a cost of £9 per month. A free three month trial is about to commence to ensure the package is fit for purpose. If agreed the charges would commence from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025.
- (e) **Payments** – To approve the payments outlined below:

Supplier	Reason	Net	VAT	Total
Context Planning*	Planning Advice	£3,000.00	£600.00	£3,600.00
Unity Trust Bank*	Service Charge	£6.00	£0.00	£6.00
Paul Russell	Expenses Jan 25	£25.00	£0.00	£25.00
Paul Russell	Salary Jan 25	£551.25	£0.00	£551.25
HMRC Cumbernauld	PAYE Jan 25	£137.60	£0.00	£137.60
Network Magazine	Contribution	£345.00	£0.00	£345.00
Ben Richards	NP Website through WIX	£192.00	£38.40	£230.40
Beckington Memorial Hall	Room Hire	£32.00	£0.00	£32.00
Beckington Memorial Hall	Room Hire	£20.00	£0.00	£20.00
		<b>£4,308.85</b>	<b>£638.40</b>	<b>£4,947.25</b>

- **Note: \*Already paid. Ratification requested.**

### 130. NEXT MEETING

To note that the next scheduled meeting of Beckington Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025 commencing at 7:30pm.**

# BECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Beckington Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025 commencing at 6:45pm in the Beckington Memorial Hall, Bath Road, Beckington, Frome BA11 6SH.

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**PRESENT:** Cllr Paula Fox (Chair), Cllr Kevin Bishop, Cllr Simon Milner, Cllr Clive Winterbourne, Cllr Liz Wright and Cllr Rory Ingleby-MacKenzie.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ward Cllr Adam Boyden, two members of the public and the Clerk to the Council.

Public participation: A question was raised regarding planning application 2024/2309/FUL at Land at Tower Hill Farm.

Cllr Boyden provided the following update:

- Somerset Council has launched its Call for Sites for the Local Plan, for housing and other types of development, to inform the development of the Somerset-wide Local Plan from 2027. This will run for 6 weeks from 13 January 2025. The deadline for submissions is 24 February 2025;
- Boundary Commission – The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is still consulting on its review of Somerset Council's future council ward boundaries, until 20<sup>th</sup> January. Somerset Council's Constitution and Governance Committee met and rejected the proposals tabled. An extension is being requested to respond;
- The Somerset budget consultation will close on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

## 115. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Anne Owen. Apologies were also received from Ward Cllr Denton.

## 116. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The following Declaration of Interest was made:

- Cllr Winterbourne informed Council that he had submitted a parcel of land in his ownership as part of the Neighbourhood Plan Call for Sites as previously declared.

## 117. CO-OPTION

It was proposed by Cllr Ingleby-MacKenzie, seconded by Cllr Winterbourne and **RESOLVED** to co-opt Mr Simon Milner onto Beckington Parish Council.

## 118. MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr Winterbourne, seconded by Cllr Wright and **RESOLVED** to formally approve and adopt the minutes of the Beckington Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

## 119. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

- (a) **NP Progress Update** – Council received an update from Mr Richards:
- The Steering Group had met on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024 and 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025 since the last Council meeting;
  - The main topic for discussion was how best to progress the Neighbourhood Plan. The NPPF had been revised on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024, Somerset’s requirements had increased from 2,669 homes per year to 3,769 (41% increase) and Somerset had not yet issued any target figures. It currently had a 2.55 year land supply rather than a five year one;
  - The main priority was to draft the Plan up to Regulation 14 and to include preferences for site allocations. The aim was to complete this by the end of February 2025;
  - 13 sites had been put forward as part of the call for sites and the assessment of the sites would now be finalised;
  - A public meeting would be held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2025 to consult residents;
  - Expert advice was now required due to the unavailability of existing consultants. The Parish Council was asked to advise on how best to proceed on drafting the plan and consulting parishioners on preferred sites.

Cllr Boyden advised the Council to formally request housing allocation requirements for Beckington directly.

- (b) **NP Policy Drafting** – It was agreed to allocate up to £4,000 towards the cost of a consultant developing the Neighbour Plan Policies if requested by the NP Steering Group.

## 120. PLANNING, LICENSING & TREE APPLICATIONS:

- (a) The following applications were considered and comments resolved:

<b>Proposal:</b>	External alterations to two barns to include the construction of external walls
<b>Location:</b>	Priors Court Farm, Rudge Lane, Beckington, Frome.
<b>Application Type:</b>	Full Application
<b>Application Number:</b>	2024/2314/FUL
<b>Comment:</b>	It was agreed to submit a comment to support the works proposed provided it will only be used for agricultural purposes but the Council would not be able to support any application for any other use.
<b>Proposal:</b>	Convert existing garage space into ground floor bedroom for disabled access. Construct new garage with flat roof link.
<b>Location:</b>	3 The Weavers, Beckington, Frome BA11 6SA
<b>Application Type:</b>	Full Application
<b>Application Number:</b>	2024/2234/FUL

**Comment:** No objection provided the Wessex Water requirements are met.

**Proposal:** Residential Development consisting of 24 dwellings including formation of vehicular access off Bath Road, associated landscaping and infrastructure

**Location:** Land At Tower Hill Farm, Bath Road, Beckington BA11 6SH

**Application Type:** Full Application

**Application Number:** 2024/2309/FUL

**Comment:** Considered under item (b) below.

- (b) **Planning Application 2024/2309/FUL at Land At Tower Hill Farm** – Council noted the overview provided of this planning application. The development included 7 x 4 bed houses (205m<sup>2</sup>), 7, 6 x 4 bed houses (170m<sup>2</sup>), 4 x 3 bed houses (141m<sup>2</sup>), 3 x 2 bed houses (70m<sup>2</sup>) and 4 x 1 bed houses (54m<sup>2</sup>) in a mixture of detached, semi-detached and terraced dwellings. A public meeting would be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February and the Council would agree its response at its meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

It was proposed by Cllr Ingleby-MacKenzie, seconded by Cllr Wright and **RESOLVED** to ratify the appointment of Context Planning to develop a formal response to this application from Beckington Parish Council at a cost of £3,000 + VAT.

It was agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting of Full Council on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 commencing at 6pm.

There being no other business the Chair thanked Members for attending and closed the meeting at 7:27pm.

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**CHAIR:**

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**DATE:**