

WITHAM FRIARY PARISH COUNCIL

Mendip District of the County of Somerset

Chairman: Hugo Brooke, hugobrooke@gmail.com

Clerk: Jen Gregory, withamfriary.parishcouncil@gmail.com

MINUTES

Of Witham Friary Parish Council

Held on Tuesday 12th April at Witham Friary Village Hall

Present: Chair H Brooke, Cllrs J Knowles, C Horstmann, F Nicholls, M Powell, W Sheppard

Also Present: J Gregory Proper Officer, plus 2 members of the public

04/22/01 Apologies for absence

District Councillor Gay gave apologies for absence.

Resolved: Apologies accepted from Cllr Gay.

04/22/02 Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to advise any Declarations of interest in today's agenda items or any pecuniary interests in line with Councils' Code of Conduct.

Resolved: It was noted that no declarations, pecuniary or otherwise were received.

04/22/03 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To receive the minutes of the meeting held 9th March 2022.

Resolved: Minutes of the previous meeting agreed and would be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

04/22/05 Matters Arising

None

Public Participation

M Ferrari was in attendance to report a damaged style at Ballswood. Cllr Powell would report. M Ferrari stated in relation to her planning application she would be screening this off.

Thanks was expressed to the newly surfaced area outside the Village Hall.

04/22/06 Planning Applications

To consider the following applications:

Air Source Heat Pump for installation at 38 The Yard. Cllr Brooke had been along to look at this and himself had no objection

Resolved: To approve application

Application for a certificate of lawful existing development 2No caravans, Postlebury House

Resolved: To approve application

04/22/07 Finance

1. To receive financial statement

Bank reconciliation completed and showing figure on cashbook as £34117.70 as at the YE March 22

2. To agree schedule of payments as indicated below

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Witham Friary Payment Schedule - April 22		
Payment Method	Payee	Amount
	J Gregory Clerk Salary 01.03.22 - 31.03.22	£225.80
CREDIT	SSE Charges 5 Feb - 28 Feb and 1 Mar to 31 Mar £41.32	78.90 CR
	Jess Hyde Reimbursement of Jubilee bunting	£57.20
	SALC Election Training	£20.00
	Potty Potters Jubilee Mugs	£705.00
	HMRC PAYE Month 10 and 11	£139.40
Total Agreed at March PCM		£1,147.40

Resolved: The above payment schedule was agreed

3. Update on Unity Bank

Not gone as smoothly as we hoped. Two issues in that 2 of the signatories were unable to access online banking due to the unreadable password slip and Natwest has blocked the movement of the business reserve. Both are being addressed with the latter requiring signatories to sign a letter to close the account.

4. Year End Accounts

Have been prepared as much as possible and circulated. Contact made with the Auditor and drop off of papers being made on Thursday this week.

04/22/08

Reports

1. To receive Chairman's Report

The Chair reported that the Jubilee sub-committee was due to meet next week to firm up the programme, advertise the event with a leaflet drop. The timing of the hog roast was a concern as it coincided with the start of the celebrations. However, in response it was said that the flow of people may diminish if it was later in the day and many were elderly and possibly waiting around after the march wasn't ideal. This was something to be debated further at the sub-committee.

2. Cllr Nicholls/Powell report on Highways

Highways are addressing the potholes in the village with work currently being attended to and coned off and some resurfacing had been done to the Upton Noble Turning.

3. To receive Cllr Horstmann report on Communications

Nothing to report

4. To receive Cllr Sheppard/Knowles report on the Recreation Ground

Cllr Sheppard said that he received the Grass Valet quote and was waiting on a further quotation from Idverde. Cllr Knowles pointed out the ROSPA concerns of the cricket pitch covers too close to the track and the fence the far end preventing cycles from going over. Cllr Sheppard would make representations to those involved to ensure compliance.

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5. To receive Cllr Knowles report on the Play Patch

Cllr Knowles advised that the company who originally installed the play equipment had stopped trading. He had been searching for alternatives to carry out remedial works of which Steve Orr had come forward. Mike White needed chasing regarding the see-saw seats which he would address.

Cllr Knowles requested a sum of £250.00 per month to deal with issues and maintenance as it occurred rather than gaining authority at a meeting and making actions very timely.

Resolved: This request of £250 was agreed.

Cllr Brooke noted that we pay half of Roy Featherstone's professional membership and questioned when this was last paid. The Clerk would look into and report.

6. To receive Cllr Powell report on Footpaths

Cllr Powell said that he had not had opportunity to speak with Nick Hutton regarding the FWAG update but had inspected the concrete bridleway which was complimented as being very good. This had previously been raised by Wanstrow Parish Council and Cllr Brooke would report back accordingly.

7. To receive Cllr Nicholls report on the Friendly Society

Nothing further to report and previously mentioned in the Chairman's report.

04/22/09

Network Rail

Cllr Powell advised there was nothing to report. There had been no correspondence of any bank holiday works as in previous years so hoping it was a quiet bank holiday in this regard.

04/22/10

Witham Water

Cllr Nicholls stated that much work had been done with WW and communications in recent months and the election situation could upset and push back the good work already made. Cllr Sheppard said a leaflet drop regarding the history of the water and the current situation and communication lines be advised.

Resolved: Cllr Sheppard would design an appropriate advice leaflet to residents.

04/22/11

Policies and Council Documents

The Clerk had not progressed a Health and Safety Policy as the Risk Assessment had not been fed back on and didn't want to create too much work for RF. It was suggested that a template be looked at and advised for RF's comment

Cllr Knowles was progressing the Village Emergency Plan but due to the election situation had not completed.

04/22/12

Further correspondence:

Sports Pavilion

Two complaints had been received and these were discussed at length. Possible re-siting of the pavilion was debated and this was measured against cost and public opinion as well as a possible planning application. It was however clear that the pavilion was a great idea but we must be mindful of cost and taking on board public opinion for a successful outcome.

Resolved: It was agreed to wait for the grant outcome and then consider approach to the Cricket Club regarding re-siting and further implications such as planning and further costs.

Election

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The Clerk advised of a contested election with 3 more candidates than needed. Details were awaited from MDC regarding the next steps.

South West Archives were looking at “snapshots” of village life in the Platinum Jubilee year. This wasn’t a history of the village but more about what makes the Village special

Resolved: Details to be passed to Will Gorman

It was reported that Flora would do some maintenance in the form of sanding and painting of the village noticeboard.

There would be badminton Club on a Monday night in the Village Hall

CLlr Knowles gave apologies for missing the parish election on the 5th and subsequent meeting on the 10th due to holiday arrangements which he made when MDC stated there would not be elections this year!

Meeting closed at 8.00pm

Next Meeting 10th May 2022 at 7.30pm. Elections 5th May

A signed copy of the minutes can be viewed by arrangement via the Parish Clerk.