

MINUTES OF THE ISLE ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER AT 7.30pm IN THE VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Cllrs Lockley, Richards, Westworth, Vaun Davis and Hillman, Somerset Council Cllrs Roundell Greene, the Clerk, and 4 members of the public.

- 23/48 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Somerset Council Cllr Dance.
- 23/49 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.
- 23/50 MINUTES: Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19th July were approved as a correct record and duly signed by the Chair.
- 23/51 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: A resident asked if it was possible to make better use of the noticeboard at Coxx's Pit and if it could be made more prominent. The council will look into this and review options at the next meeting.
Comment was made regarding a bus service shown to be stopping in Isle Abbots. This is known to be incorrect, and Cllr Hillman will look into getting this information updated.
Cllr Roundell-Green provided an update on RAAC concrete in schools, advising that only 1 school in Somerset has been identified with the issue. She also advised that an overspend on child and adult social care is affecting budgets, along with increasing rates of interest on borrowings. It is likely that Town and Parish Councils will be required to cover the costs of services that were previously provided by Somerset Council, and this should be considered during budgeting for the next financial year.
- 23/52 FINANCE.
a. The council approved the financial statements up to 31/8/23.
b. The council approved the list payments requiring authorisation, which is annexed at the end of the minutes.
- 23/53 PLANNING APPLICATIONS: There were no applications to consider.
- 23/54 VILLAGE HALL REPRESENTATIVE: Cllr Hillman agreed to act as the Parish Council liaison and with the Village Hall.
- 23/55 BUS SHELTER PROTECTION: Cllr Lockley advised that in order to carry out any works, an S171 licence would be required, with the application cost alone being £250. Considering the low cost of the council's insurance premium and the excess which is only £100, councillors agreed that the costs of implementing any protective measures were not financially feasible, and in the unfortunate event of an incident of damage in future, this should be dealt with through the insurance as before.
- 23/56 LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORKS (LCN)(LVD): The Levels and Moors LCN meeting is scheduled for 20th September. An update will be given at the next meeting.
- 23/57 ROADS (LL): Cllr Lockley reported that there continues to be improvement with pothole repairs. It was noted that road closure signage is not always clear or provided with advance notice to allow people to plan appropriately. Any issues on the roads should continue to be reported on the Somerset Council online reporting tool to ensure they can be attended to as promptly as possible.
<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/report-a-problem-on-the-road/>
- 23/58 FOOTPATHS (AR): Cllr Richards reported there will be a bridge built across the ditch to the rear of the Village Hall to re-open this footpath. The path from The Drovers to Northalls Farm is due to open in October. New gates are being installed at Ball Lane opposite Steamalong and along Otterman Lane. Any issues on footpaths/rights of way should be reported using the Explore Somerset interactive map which also shows any existing open issues. <https://roam.somerset.gov.uk/roam/map>
- 23/59 FLOODING(TW). Nothing to report.
- 23/60 ROADSIDE BOLLARDS/OBSTRUCTIONS (LL): Cllr Lockley has contacted Somerset Council Highways for information and advice and is awaiting a response.
- 23/61 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA. Noticeboard; 2024/25 Budget.
- 23/62 DATE OF NEXT MEETING. Next Ordinary Meeting - Wednesday 8th November 2023 in the Village Hall. There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting

Signed.....

Date.....

ANNEX. 1 - PAYMENTS

Payments authorised - September 2023			
Invoice date	Payee	Description	Amount
30/09/2023	K Larsson	Clerk Salary - September	£ 140.00
30/09/2023	HMRC	PAYE	£ 35.00
14/07/2023	K Larsson	Admin exps.	£ 10.67
Payments made since July Meeting:			
Invoice date	Payee	Description	Amount
31/08/2023	K Larsson	Clerk Salary - August	£ 140.00
31/08/2023	HMRC	PAYE	£ 35.00