

MINUTES OF THE ISLE ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 4th JANUARY 2023 AT 7.30pm IN THE VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Cllrs J Westworth, T Westworth, Richards and Lockley, County Cllr Roundell Greene, the Clerk, and 5 members of the public.

22/121 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. CC Adam Dance.

22/122 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS. All councillors have a declared interest in item 6.b on the agenda – Precept setting. However, exclusion from this item would mean the council were not quorate and the matter could not be concluded. As such, the Clerk granted all councillors a dispensation to participate in discussions and vote in relation to the precept setting.

22/123 The MINUTES of the Ordinary meeting held on Wednesday 2nd November 2022 were approved as a correct record and duly signed by the Chair.

22/124 MATTERS ARISING. a) King Charles III Coronation: It was agreed that a representative from the PC, PCC and Village Hall would work together on a plan for the coronation. Cllr Lockley will represent the PC. Cllr Lockley also agreed to investigate costs of providing a commemorative mug to under 16's in the village. b) Village Entryway Signs: Costs have been advised at £300 per sign, with options of either 2 or 4 signs proposed. It was agreed that parishioners would be consulted on this item before any decision was made. c) Refurbishment of Phone Box: Discussions have not yet taken place with the owners. Cllr J Westworth will advise once this happens.

22/125 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT. There is less than 100 days until the new unitary authority comes into force. A review to check progress with service alignments has taken place and is in a good place to start well. A £2.00 bus fare initiative has been launched. Proposals for the LCN's have been put forward for agreement at the next Executive Meeting on the 18th January. Currently there are 18 LCN's, they do not contain planning at this stage.

22/126 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public raised the issue of potholes along all roads into and through the village. A number of drains are blocked, roads are flooding and pot holes can not be seen under the flood water. It was mentioned that Gravel Lane is in a particularly poor state and is the only emergency access from Merryfield and to Isle Abbots if other routes are flooded. County Cllr Roundell Green offered assistance with pursuing SCC to act on the reported issues.

Councillors were pleased to welcome District Cllr Cavill to his first meeting after having taken time off due to illness. He advised he will be on hand to help support until the new Somerset Council is in effect from 1st April.

Graffiti has been reported in the bus stop. Residents are asked to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity or any information to the police on their non-emergency number, 101; or by using the Avon and Somerset Police online reporting tool.

22/127 FINANCE.

a) The Clerk produced the financial statement up to 31/12/22, and list of payments for January, which were both approved. These are annexed at the end of the minutes.

b) A draft budget was circulated to councillors in advance of the meeting.

After discussions, taking into account the proposed budget for 2023/24 and to ensure a reasonable level of reserves is held by the council, a precept for 2023/24 was proposed at £6000 by Cllr J Westworth, seconded by Cllr T Westworth. Councillors voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.

22/128 PLANNING DECISIONS: 22/02946/S73 Manor Farm Manor Road Isle Abbots Taunton Somerset TA3 6RN - S73 application to remove Condition 2 (Plans - new vehicle access and repositioned parking spaces) from Planning Permission 19/01917/FUL - Conversion of agricultural buildings to 2No. dwellings & 2No. Annexes: APPROVED

22/129 PLANNING APPLICATIONS: None.

22/130 ROADS (LL) Cllr Lockley received advice from Highways that the necessary signage is in place at Two Bridges and that further flood warning signage would require competently trained persons to put the signs in place. Cllr T Westworth agreed to be a nominated flood contact and Cllr Lockley will liaise with Highways to see if this can be progressed.

22/131 FOOTPATHS (JW). No updates to report.

22/132 FLOODING(TW). It was noted that Cox's Pit has not flooded, having had the gulleys cleared.

22/133 REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE. Cllr Lockley was pleased to advise that Mr Habberfield is to be recognised in the Somerset County Council Chair's Awards, which he was nominated for his many years of contributions to the community. The award ceremony is being held in February.

22/134 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA. 1) LCN Update. 2) Pot Hole Update.

22/135 DATE OF NEXT MEETING. Next Ordinary Meeting - Wednesday 1st March 2023 in Village Hall.

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Income, Expenditure & Balances as at 31/12/2022

Current account activity since 01/11/2022			Credit	Debit	Balance
	Opening Balance				£2,128.55
31.10.22	Clerk Salary Oct	BACS		175.00	
31.10.22	Clerk Admin Expenses	BACS		51.91	
07.11.22	Clerk Salary Nov	BACS		175.00	
07.11.22	SALC Membership	BACS		51.23	
07.11.22	Jubilee Coin	BACS		12.99	
	Current balance				£1,662.42 1,662.42
	Outstanding Liabilities				

Deposit account activity since 01/11/2022			Credit	Debit	Balance
	Opening Balance				£4,589.03
09-Nov-22	INTEREST (GROSS)		0.49		£4,589.52
09-Dec-22	INTEREST (GROSS)		1.05		
					£4,590.57 4,590.57
	Total				£6,252.99

Payments January 2023

Payments authorised:

Invoice date	Payee	Description	Amount
04.11.22	SALC	Training - Planning 14.9.22 (LL)	£25.00
31.12.22	K Larsson	Clerk Salary - Dec	£175.00

Payments made since Nov meeting:

Invoice date	Payee	Description	Amount
30.11.22	K Larsson	Clerk Salary - Nov.	£175.00