

MINUTES OF THE ISLE ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 10.30AM IN THE VILLAGE HALL GARDEN

PRESENT: Cllrs Habberfield, Bradshaw, Pix, Richards, the Clerk and 5 members of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr Hughes, CC Adam Dance, DC Mike Stanton.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None
3. The **MINUTES** of the last meeting held on Wednesday 4th March 2020 were read and approved.
4. **MATTERS ARISING:**
 1. a) Flooding at Cox's Pit. The ditch bordering Broomes House has been cleared. b) Sewage – Wessex Water. Cllr Richards advised that Wessex Water had not been interested in the problem during Covid-19, but would carry out an inspection soon. CC Adam Dance had not inspected village problems (potholes, blocked drains etc) The timber railings at Badbury had not been replaced.
 2. Supplementary – Matters arising/carried out during Covid-19.
 - a) The Governance review had been approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.
 - b) The Account and Audit review had been approved and signed by the Chairman. Cllr Bradshaw wished to thank Mrs Liz Lockley for carrying out the internal audit for the Parish Council.
 - c) The Exemption Certificate had been approved and signed by the Financial Officer and Chairman.
 - d) Notices had been placed on the website and Parish noticeboard regarding the cancellation of the APCM, PCM and APM on the 6th May plus a joint statement by the PC and PCC.
 - e) Councillors had approved for Cllr Pix to go ahead with an attachment to the village newsletter regarding internet registration with Truespeed. Cllr Pix reported to the meeting that 36 had registered from the village and the subject was ongoing.
 - f) Approval had been given by Councillors on the Website migration. Cllr Bradshaw advised that the system was working well.
 - g) A dedicated email address for the Clerk had been introduced.
 - h) Cllr Habberfield had confirmed that he was willing to remain as the Parish Councils representative on the Village Hall Management Committee.
 - i) Cllr Bradshaw had emailed Councillors with the Financial Statements at 06/05/20 and 02/07/20.
5. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.** A query was raised as to whether the track by Pitts Cottage was a public footpath or bridleway. Councillors presumed it was a footpath.(The Clerk has since checked on this and it appears to be designated as a footpath – L14/10. There are not any bridleways, at present, in the Parish).
6. **ROADS AND FOOTPATHS.** Cllr Hughes had reported on the 17th July 2020 a pothole just before Round Oak junction, but it had not been repaired. Consequently, she had contacted Highways again. FOOTPATHS – Cllr Habberfield had nothing to report.
7. **FLOODING.** Cllr Habberfield had nothing to report.
8. **FINANCE.** Cllr Bradshaw had emailed to Councillors, the financial statement up to 14.09/20. Current Account £491.56. Deposit Account £4,407.66. Total £4,899.22(this includes £1,970.00 precept payment). Payments approved Clerk's salary (3 payments) £292.80: HMRC(3) £73.20: PCC grass cutting £250.00:2 web hosting payments to Teec £419.99. £1,000.00 had been transferred from the current a/c to the deposit a/c plus a transfer of £500.00 from the deposit a/c to the current a/c.
9. **CORRESPONDENCE.** Items received since the last meeting and during Covid-19: a) Query by a member of the public regarding the pollarding of willow trees at Two Bridges. b) Email from Bradon Soft Fruit Farm reference strawberry harvesting. Notice placed on website regarding misdirected vehicles in village. c) Email exchanges with The Duchy over people gaining access to the Fivehead River weirs. d) Email from Manor Road resident about speeding vehicles en route to river and weirs. e) Query from

members of the public concerning cables across the road near Chapel Farmhouse. f) Planning Application: 19/01917/FUL – Manor Farm – Approved with conditions. 19/03254/OUT – Land adjacent to Thimble Hall – Approved with conditions. 20/01397/TCA – Intention to fell 1 tree in conservation area at The Old Vicarage – Application refused with Tree Preservation Orders placed on 2 trees on the property. g) The Parish Council has requested that a TPO be placed on a tree, believed to be an Alder, situated on the corner of Steamalong opposite Green Hatch. Phil Poulton, SSDC Tree Officer has advised the Clerk that he will inspect and advise. h) PCSO Caroline Matthews of A & S Police has enquired of the dates of our meetings with a view to a Representative of our local Neighbourhood Policing Team attending. i) Letter from VHMC requesting an input, financial or otherwise, into the facility of Child’s play equipment. The request was withdrawn on the VHMC receiving a grant of £10,000.00. j) The following communications had been forwarded to Councillors – Joint statement from the 4 District Councils regarding ‘One Somerset’ and the future of local Government in Somerset. Proposed review of the Code of Conduct. A communication regarding the badger cull in Somerset. Briefing paper on changes to the current planning system. Notification from SSDC advising that a contingency was in place during DC Malcolm Cavill’s illness. CC Adam Dance and DC Mike Stanton would respond to queries from the Parish Council in the interim. Councillors wished to place on record their appreciation for David Sutcliffe keeping the public footpath across Townfield cut and tidy.

10. **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:** a) Sewage – Wessex Water. b) Truespeed. c) Review of Precept.
11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday 4th November 2020. 7.30pm in the Village Hall (to be confirmed). There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.10am.

Signed.....

Date.....

These minutes were approved at the Virtual Parish Council meeting on 6th January 2021 and will be signed at the next actual Parish Council meeting when Covid restrictions allow.