

MINUTES OF THE ISLE ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6th JANUARY 2021 AT 7.30PM VIA ZOOM

PRESENT: Cllrs Habberfield (Chair), Bradshaw, Hughes, Pix, Richards, the Clerk and 2 members of the public.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Chairman wished to propose that the Parish Council place on record, it's thanks and appreciation to all those people in the village who have undertaken on a voluntary basis, tasks in helping and benefitting the community during these very difficult times. All Councillors agreed with the proposal and this statement would be placed on the village website and noticeboard.

- 01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** None. However, Councillors wished it to be recorded that they were extremely disappointed and thought it was very bad manners that no communication had been received from CC Adam Dance and DC Mike Stanton explaining their absence.
- 02. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None
- 03.** The MINUTES of the last meeting held on Wednesday, 16th September 2020 were approved as a correct record. The minutes will be retrospectively signed at the next face-to-face meeting.
- 04. MATTERS ARISING.** a) Sewage – Wessex Water. Cllr Richards advised that Wessex Water had inspected the system and found that the return pipe into the river had been blocked and clearance of this should alleviate the problem. However, this had not cured the problem and Cllr Richards would take photographs the next time the sewage appeared out of the manholes and forward them to Wessex Water advising them that the situation was still the same. b) Truespeed. Cllr Pix advised that in the CDS roll-out programme, Wessex Internet would now be the provider for our area. On attempting to register an interest with Wessex Internet, villagers had been advised that they have no contractual obligation for Isle Abbotts, at present. Cllr Bradshaw, as webmaster, had emailed CDS with a copy to CC Adam Dance asking for clarification, but to-date, had not received any replies. (Note – A few days following this meeting, further confusion arose when CDS confirmed that Wessex had the contract, but Wessex denied this. It appears that we are in no man's land and await further information). c) TPO for tree in Steamalong. The Clerk had contacted the SSDC Tree Officer. Our request has been rejected because a) the age and condition of the tree and b) the conditions imposed in the outline planning permission, clearly sets out the obligations on the landowner. Regarding the bus shelter, Cllr Habberfield said the matter was still in hand. Cllr Bradshaw had earmarked money from the accounts for any costs that might be incurred.
- 05. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** to include County and District Councillors reports. A member of the public had emailed the Clerk prior to the meeting querying the following: dislodged sign at Steamalong junction – this had been reported to Highways; cutting of overgrown willow branches at Two Bridges – has been rectified; the Clerk's email address and Chairman's residential address on the website – both have been updated. No reports from County and District Councillors as they were not in attendance.
- 06. PLANNING DECISIONS.** None
- 07. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.** 20/03279/LBC. Proposed replacement windows at Lower Woodlands Farm. Documents were available on the website and any comments/observations to be made to SSDC Planning by the 13th January.
- 08. ROADS.** Cllr Hughes had reported a pothole and blocked drain, both of which had been rectified.
- 09. FOOTPATHS.** Cllr Habberfield had nothing to report.
- 10. FLOODING.** Cllr Habberfield had nothing to report.

11. **FINANCE.** a) Cllr Bradshaw had emailed to Councillors the financial statement up to 05/01/21 plus account activity since the 14/09/20. Current a/c £370.67. Deposit a/c £4,207.77. Total £4,578.44. Payments: Clerks salary 2x£97.60: HMRC 2x£24.40: Clerks printing supplies £62.12: Clerks Covid supplies £14.77. £200.00 had been transferred from the current a/c to the deposit a/c. b) Approval of 2021/2 precept of £2,170.00 – equivalent increase of £1.40 per annum on Band D homes. Proposed by Cllr Pix and seconded by Cllr Hughes. Cllr Bradshaw would check with SSDC regarding the signing of the forms.
12. **Matters of REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE.** The Clerk advised that details had been emailed to Councillors concerning the 2021 National Census to take place on the 21st March plus the names of the Avon & Somerset Police Beat Team for our area.
13. **ITEMS for next agenda.** a) Sewage – Wessex Water. b) Broadband (CDS). c) Bus shelter (erection of protective posts)
14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday 3rd March 2021 (method to be advised).**

It was the express wish of all the Councillors that especial thanks be given to Robbie, Parish Clerk for the very large amount of extra work that he has been involved with since the start of the original lockdown back in March last year.

The Clerk duly thanked Councillors for their appreciation.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Signed.....

Date.....