

**MINUTES OF THE ISLE ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 5th JANUARY 2022 AT 6.45PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Cllrs Habberfield (Chair), Bradshaw, Pix, Richards, the Clerk, CC Adam Dance and 20 member of the public.

- 01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. None**
- 02. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. None**
- 03. The MINUTES of the last meeting held on Wednesday, 3rd November 2021 were approved as a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.**
- 04. MATTERS ARISING. a) Bus shelter posts – This is still ongoing. b) Broadband – Cllr Bradshaw had made no further progress with Airband. c) Replacement Clerk – The position had been advertised in SSDC and Somerset West and Taunton District Council areas. No applications had been received to date – the final date for applications being the 21st January. d) Resignation of Councillor – Mandy Hughes had resigned as a Councillor on the 10th December 2021. The Parish Council wished to thank her for the contributions she had made during her term in office. The due process of advertising for a replacement Councillor had been set in motion and the Clerk was now waiting for the Elections Officer to give the go-ahead for co-option. At present, the Parish Council has 5 interested candidates as Councillors to fill 4 up and coming vacancies which could result in a Parish election in May. It had been suggested that the Parish Council may wish, in the future, to increase the number of serving Councillors. Cllr Pix proposed this with Cllr Bradshaw seconding that we apply for an increase to 7 Councillors. The Clerk to approach Angela Cox of SSDC copying in CC Adam Dance, who stated that this was a lengthy process. Regarding the construction works next to the Village Hall garden, the Clerk had emailed the owner of the property suggesting he sought advice from SSDC Planning Department.**
- 05. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME. CC Adam Dance notified the meeting on Unitary elections and the disappearance of District Councils. Under the new set up, Planning matters would be centrally controlled and not by LCNs. He could foresee problems with this. He suggested that any applications for grants should be made as soon as possible.**
- 06. PLANNING DECISIONS. 21/00828/LBC. Internal alterations at Chapel Farmhouse – consent granted. 21/02885/COL. Certificate of Lawfulness at Stoneford Farm – granted.**
- 07. PLANNING APPLICATIONS. 21/03410/FUL. Erection of 3 dwellings etc, on land adjacent to Thimble Hall. Comments/observations to be submitted to SSDC by Friday, 7th January 2022. The proper notices having been issued, a Public meeting was scheduled to be held following this meeting to enable the Parish Council to determine the general wishes in respect of this application, in accordance with the**

Village Plan, as it has been determined 'a significant application'. (Note: At the Public meeting, the Parish Council passed a proposal to object to the application by 3 Councillors with 1 abstention, having taken into consideration the views expressed by the villagers, both at the meeting and on the SSDC planning web site). 21/03722/S73A. Removal of condition 4 (agricultural tie) at Stoneford Farmhouse. The Parish Council had no comments/observations to make on this application.

08. **ROADS.** Woodlands Lane – Has had minor repairs. Highways report that the verges have been pushed into the ditch causing water to run down the road. John Toon had discussed this with the farmer concerned who was going to find an alternative route into his fields, thus by-passing Woodlands Lane. The Clerk had reported various potholes and road damage around the village. Cllr Habberfield had spoken with Geoff Mills concerning the cutting back of the hedge at the bottom of Steamalong to give improved visibility.
09. **FOOTPATHS (AH).** Cllr Habberfield had nothing to report.
10. **FLOODING(AH).** Cllr Habberfield had spoken with John Lucas and would see the owner at Manor Farm regarding the clearance of the ditch, which connects from Cox's Pit to the River Isle, to try to alleviate the flooding in the Cox's Pit area.
11. **FINANCE.** Cllr Bradshaw produced the financial statement up to 05/01/22 which was approved. Current a/c £206.02. Deposit a/c £5,088.22. Total £5,294.24. Payments: Clerks salary £99.20 : HMRC £24.80. Precept 2022/3. Cllr Bradshaw produced figures to reflect the incoming Clerk's salary whereby market rates would apply. After discussions, it was proposed by Cllr Bradshaw and seconded by Cllr Pix that the precept would be £3,710.00. This was unanimously supported by Councillors. The necessary forms would be prepared for signature.
12. **REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE.** The Clerk had forwarded the following to Councillors: Neighbourhood Policing newsletter, Formation of Local Community Networks (next meeting Wednesday, 23rd February)
13. **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA.** 1) Broadband. 2) Replacement Clerk. 3) Co-options.
14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** Wednesday, 2nd March 2022. 7.30pm Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.10pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Isle Abbotts Parish Council

Income, Expenditure & Balances as at 05/01/2022

Current account activity since 03/11/2021	Credit	Debit	Balance
Opening Balance			£330.02
04-Jan-22 HMRC		24.80	
04-Jan-22 Clerk Salary		99.20	

Current balance **£206.02**

Deposit account activity since 03/11/2021			
Opening Balance			£5,088.14
09-Nov-21 INTEREST (GROSS)	0.04		
09-Dec-21 INTEREST (GROSS)	0.04		

£5,088.22

Total **£5,294.24**