HUISH CHAMPFLOWER PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Parish: Dorothy Hayward Email: ParishClerk@HuishChampflower.org

Meeting of Huish Champflower Parish Council held on the 3rd May 2022 at 7:30 pm in the village hall.

Present: Stephen Kimsey (SK- Chair), Mary Abel (MA),), Jos Phillips-Harral (JPH), Dorothy Hayward (DH-Clerk), Marc Vyvyan-Jones (MVJ), Chris Chanter (CC), Stephen Powles (SP) Cllr Mark Blaker, Cllr Francis Nicholson

| 1 | Apologies Louise Cooke, Councillor Dave Mansell. | |
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| 2 | Declarations of Interest- None | |
| 3 | Minutes: MA proposed that the minutes were accepted and JPH seconded. The minutes were accepted as an accurate record and signed off by SK the Chair. | |
| 4 | Matters Arising: Phone box: hardwood needed for shelving in the phone box. MA to ask her husband. SK to also ask the sawmill if they have an offcut. Still a lot of condensation issues in the box, which is a problem for book storage. Highways: Potters Cross to Lowtrow Cross road large section missing-DH to report. JPH reported potholes on the Cleeve and they were repaired very quickly. | MA SK DH |
| 5 | Finance AGAR Return and Other Payments: Draft AGAR had been circulated before the meeting along with cash book records. All were in agreement this was accurate. This will now be audited by Andrew Smith and will be formerly signed off at the Annual Parish Council Meeting in late May. Cheque to be raised for Stephen Kimsey for £92.24 for the annual licence fee for the website. Payment is also due to Gareth Varney for approximately £130 for replacing the pads on the defibrillator, exact amount awaiting confirmation. Both payments agreed. DH to organise payments. | DH DH |
| 6 | Online Banking: It had been thought this was sorted but when a test payment was made this went through without the dual signatures being requested. DH spoke to the bank and another form needs to be completed and signed and then it is suggested that DH and MA visit the bank in Taunton to check all is set up correctly. | DH MA LC |
| 7 | Elections: Jos is standing down from the council and a thank you was given to her for all her hard work. The Parish Council election is uncontested. However, after the election day there is paperwork that needs to be completed within 28days of the election on the 5th May 2022. DH to email out the paperwork and ask that everyone brings their completed ones to the Annual Parish Council Meeting on the 24th May. There have been some expressions of interest from residents looking to become a parish councillor, these will be discussed at the meeting on the 24th May. | DH |
| 8. | Planning: Stolford Farm. An old wooden barn has gone rotten, and they want to replace this with a larger modern building in order to increase their herd size. No objections were made. | |

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| | Potato Villa: An application has been made to demolish the existing building and replace it with a 5 bed property. It is not a listed building, but is a small stone built property in a remote location. It was felt this was out of character and scale as well as concerns about difficult vehicular access for construction traffic. It was felt that it was too big, too different and out of keeping. As a minimum it needs to be faced in local stone so that it doesn't look out of place. DH to feedback after comments received from CC and MVJ next week. The Village Hall:-All agreed to support this application, which needs to be approved ASAP due to grant funding dates running out. | DH DH |
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| 9 | Swings: LC met a rep from a playing field company and is awaiting a price. John Grace is looking at grants and DH to ask SALC if we can use the stage 3 opening up grants if this is an acceptable use of that funding. | DH |
| 10 | Updates: From Councillor Mark Blaker SW&T. Everything is focused on the election of the new council at the moment. Recent activities include - The Finger Sign-Post (in Wivey) is shortly coming back to Wivey Square, which will point the way to Huish. Lots of work going on around refugees, lots of support needed transport and housing are also major issues. Wivey welcomes refugees is coordinating this, but it is not an easy task for hosts. Somerset has the 2nd lowest proportion of bus journeys in the country, which makes supporting refugees in remote areas difficult. SK asked if an electric vehicle charging point could eventually go outside the refurbished hall. MB to find out. From Councillor Francis Nicholson: Refugees, the county council is doing the checks on housing and hosts. Some children are already in schools but the trauma they have been through can be difficult to cope with. The Highways pilot is moving on, trying to find a new way of working. Local priorities and control are the aim, hoping to change the way of thinking. The traffic lights at Upton, the contractor has pulled out and now needs a new procurement exercise. | МВ |
| 11 | Jubilee event: Hall will be available on Saturday the 4th June as work won't have started. Plan for a picnic in the park event. Following needs to be done:- Ask Andrew Norman if people can park in his field Signs for car parking Posters to go on notice boards, parish magazine, on Facebook and SK to add to the website. DH to pull together a poster. Ask people to bring their own food and drinks, crockery and cutlery. Mary to provide a BBQ where people can cook their own food Put up a display of the plans for the village hall and bunting A chance to say goodbye to the old village hall. Chris to get a barrel of beer from Exmoor brewery and the Parish Council will fund Buy mugs for all the children in the village-suggest Pulhams Mill where they do hand painted pottery. Borrow the gazebo used for the fete-contact John Moore. Later in the year the PC to source a tree for every household in the village, to remember the jubilee. Some games possibly a tug of war, other suggestions? Footpaths:-Not illegal to have horses in a field with a footpath or an electric fence with a hook but this does need signposting. It is the landowners liability. | All |

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| | Footpath on the RH side of the Cleeve is dangerous and the owner has been angry with children straying off a poorly marked path. MVJ is talking to the footpaths officer to see if the path can be diverted safely by agreement. MA has 2 stiles that need to be replaced with kissing gates. | MVJ |
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| 11 | Gates on the Cleeve are now getting spray painted. Lots of anger about these. Owner lives in Chepstow. Notices from the Parish Council are taken down. It has been reported to planning but no reply yet, DH to chase and MB has asked to be copied in. Cars at Potters Cross:-concern about cars possibly drug dealing in the early hours of the morning. Need to try and get number plates and it needs to be reported to the police. MVJ has a contact with the local PCSO and vehicles are there between 10:30 and 3:00 in the morning every other night near weekends. One vehicle is a Land Rover Discovery Sign at Beulah Chapel needs to be changed from Give Way to Stop as this is a dangerous junction. DH to notify FN. | DH MB MVJ DH FN |
| 12 | Annual meeting of the parish council to take place on the 24th May 2022 | |