

# HUISH CHAMPFLOWER PARISH COUNCIL

*Clerk to the Parish: Dorothy Hayward*  
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**Meeting of Huish Champflower Parish Council**  
**held on the 10th January 2023 at 7:30 pm in St Peter's Church.**

**Present: Stephen Kimsey (SK Chair), Dorothy Hayward (DH-Clerk), Mary Abel (MA), Sarah Payne (S Pa), Steven Powles (S Po), Marc Vyvyan-Jones (MVJ), Louise Cook (LC), and Cllr Francis Nicholson (FN).**

1	<b>Apologies</b> Cllr Dave Mansell (DM), Chris Chanter (CC), Cllr Steven Pugsley (SPu)	
2	<b>Declarations of Interest-</b> None	
3	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on the 15th Nov 2022.</b> S Pa proposed these were accepted as an accurate record, S Po seconded and MA signed them off	
4	<b>Matters Arising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CC to discuss Queen Elizabeth footpath with Paul Sanders who owns the adjacent field.</li> <li>● Frozen roads signs FN will have an update tomorrow. A car skidded off the road at Winters Cross, and a vehicle ended in the hedge on the Cleeve.</li> <li>● Noticeboard to be fixed when the weather is better S Pa</li> <li>● Make sure highways issues are reported as they are dealing with them quite quickly</li> <li>● DH to circulate the final anonymised auctions list with prices paid</li> </ul>	S Pa DH
5	<b>Finances</b> <p>a) Balances Business bank Account £1065.84 DH to confirm interest rate. Treasurers Account £13,584.57 but this includes £10K from the lottery for the swings replacement, Invoices from SALC for £40 to be paid, Clerks wages, repairs to noticeboard approx. £200. This means we have just under £3k balance.</p> <p>b) Precept, happy to keep this the same as in previous years at £3500. This will mean a 20p increase per band D household as the tax base is slightly smaller.</p> <p>c) SALC Invoices for training for 2 councillor training courses coming to £40. Approved and DH to set up on line banking for LC and MA to sign</p>	DH
6	<b>Standing Orders/ Policies/ Procedures</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Model Standing Order 2018. Agreed that the section in 3.1 where it required speakers to stand should be removed. MVJ Proposed and SK Seconded and the Standing Order was approved</li> <li>● Model Financial Regulations 2019. Name required on page 1. Agreed to set up a third signatory in case of illness or personal interest in the payments DH. SK proposed and MA seconded regulations were agreed.</li> <li>● Complaints- need to change the date and council name. LC proposed they were accepted and S Po seconded, policy was agreed</li> <li>● Co-option Policy Proposed by MA and seconded by S Pa- policy agreed</li> <li>● GDPR policy SK proposed and MVJ seconded, the policy was accepted</li> <li>● Remote attendance needs clarification; government rules do not allow remote meetings at the moment for the full council, but does this apply to sub committees? Add to next agenda DH</li> <li>● Audio Visual Policy Proposed by MVJ and Seconded by LC- policy agreed</li> <li>● Social Media Policy Proposed by MVJ and Seconded by LC- policy agreed</li> </ul> <p>SK to make amendments and add to the website</p>	DH DH SK
7	<b>Planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Potato Villa application approved</li> <li>● Gates on the Cleeve have been removed but this has not progressed any further.</li> <li>● Some residents have mentioned the fencing at Wagtails is not in line with planning permission and has been mentioned by several residents. Planning enforcement will pick this up with completion notice.</li> </ul>	

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<b>8</b>	<p><b>Village Hall update.</b> It is currently being decorated and the kitchen installed by Ware, as this gives full accountability if there are any future issues. There is a committee meeting on the 25th Jan when the hall will have been handed back from the contractor. At this meeting future events and clubs will need to be discussed and prices agreed. The stage is currently in the cricket club hut and there is debate about whether this should go back. The Cricket Club has left, so the field maintenance needs to be considered. The field has to stay as a playing field, does the Parish Council need to be involved here?. S Po felt the red brick columns on the front of the building look out of place. Will car parking changes be necessary?</p>	
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Swings Update.</b> LC received 2 quotes, but both were unviable and risked losing deposits, as they were poor financial risks. There is a third larger contractor called Kompan who are emailing LC a renewed quote; however they are proposing to put down a huge area of safety surfacing. RoSPA have advised that this is not necessary. If they supply without the safety surface this will come to £12K inc VAT. Other people do matting, LC to find a quote. Matting or child friendly bark chippings are an option. It will need a small fence to keep animals out and we will have 30 days to agree to the price once it is offered. LC to check on the matting and levelling queries.</p> <p>It was agreed with the Village Hall Committee that the swings will be kept in the same location, in order to keep the field free for team games etc. A stile is to be re-introduced and MA has emailed Sam Jackson at the council about this. A big thank you was given to Louise for all her hard work.</p>	
<b>10/ 11</b>	<p><b>Updates from SCC, SW&amp;T and Highways</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Local Community Networks a decision will be made next Wednesday, it will be a work in progress but the current division around Exmoor will stay and the Highways pilot will stay, this has been successful due to community involvement. In April the new Somerset Council will be working but things will evolve, most ground level staff are being retained but there is some senior staff rationalisation.</li> <li>● S Po asked about bin emptying, Bins are being thrown everywhere and damaged and this must cost money in damaged bins. There are staffing issues and it is a hard job. FN will talk to S Pu regarding this.</li> <li>● Road closure signs are very frustrating, FN is aware. There are more road closures as larger vehicles are on the road, leading to health and safety issues. BT are being encouraged to use smaller convoy vehicles and traffic lights.</li> <li>● DH asked about road sweeping, but this is only confined to village centres, it may be included in the highways pilot in the future. In the meantime ask DM.</li> <li>● Advance notice of any planned maintenance would be useful, they advertise in the Gazette and on the One Network, DH to find links. Links could then be added to the website.</li> <li>● Dip in the road on Tanners Hill MVJ to report this.</li> <li>● Email addresses although advised in training FN confirmed that very few parish councillors use a dedicated email.</li> <li>● FN raised an issue about rights of way, is the interaction sufficient? MVJ confirmed that people were good at using the online reporting tool and the service is very helpful. MVJ noted that some fingerposts have rotted and he will report them.</li> </ul>	<p>DH</p> <p>DH MVJ</p> <p>MVJ</p>
<b>12</b>	<p><b>E-mail addresses</b> agreed not to pursue unless individual councillors requested. MVJ is considering this as an option.</p>	
<b>13</b>	<p><b>Civil contingencies</b> Emergency Contact Name- Emergency plan needs to be drawn up- wait till later</p>	
<b>14</b>	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b> Tuesday 14th March 2023 in the Village Hall. A big thank you to the church for letting us hold our meetings there.</p>	
	<p><b>Meeting closed</b> at 9:29 pm</p>	