

# HUISH CHAMPFLOWER PARISH COUNCIL

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

## Meeting of Huish Champflower Parish Council held on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall

**Present:** Dorothy Hayward (DH-Clerk), Mary Abel (MA), Sarah Payne (SPa), Stephen Kimsey (SK) (Chair), Stephen Powles (SPo), Chris Chanter (CC), Cllr Francis Nicholson (FN) and Cllr Steven Pugsley (SPu).

1	<b>Apologies</b> Louise Cook (LC), Marc Vyvyan-Jones	
2	<b>Declarations of Interest-</b> None	
3	<b>Minutes of the meeting on the 11th July 2023.</b> It was agreed that these were an accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were accepted and signed off by the chair.	
4	<p><b>Updates from Somerset Council Councillors.</b> Re Mr Bryant the ongoing letter of comfort might not be enough. The Discontinuance Order needs Secretary of State approval to remove. Property has gone on the market.</p> <p>Cllr Nicholson asked about the fingerpost, if we can locate it and weld it back on we can save huge sums of money. This happened around May, but opinion differs as to the cause. DH to put a notice in the parish mag and a plea on Facebook.</p> <p>Winters Cross icy road sign FN having further discussions tomorrow.</p> <p>Highways are now checking the grit bins and we can also report empty bins via the App. The Highways map is likely to be very out of date, Highways people should contact the Parish Council before inspecting. DH is likely to be away but SK and SPo know all the locations. Our parish map needs to be corrected for the Brown Lane bag. Locations to be marked with What3Words. Need to check that there are small shovels in the bins. DH to locate the electronic map and to send it to SK/SPo for this discussion.</p> <p>A paper has been circulated on National Park Permitted Development. Comments need to be made by Thursday. The proposals could damage family farms and change landscape use.</p>	DH  DH/ SK/ SPo
5	<p><b>Planning Matters</b></p> <p><b>Woodland off Huish Cleeve.</b> This plot is still subject to an Enforcement Notice for an illegal entrance onto the Highway. However, limited staff and other serious pressures mean that progress on this is slow. There is also a second entrance that hasn't been included in the Enforcement notice.</p> <p>The plot was considered separately for a General Permitted Development Order (GPDO) and the Planning Officer considered that Planning Permission was not required under Class E. No reference seems to have been made to the outstanding Enforcement Notice. A development within 25 metres of a classified road would not be allowed, but we believe that Huish Cleeve is an unclassified road - DH to check.</p> <p>In the location plan the plot identified in blue covers land and access to Harts Lane that the applicant does not own or have any rights over this land. We do not believe the owner was informed of this prior to the GPDO being granted. Given the inconsistency of information SPu to recheck with the planning officer.</p> <p>Should the parish council consider requesting a Tree Preservation Order? Also does he own sufficient land to warrant this forestry operation 1 Acre would give a very limited timber output.</p> <p><b>Potato Villa</b> owners have been fencing land on the Cleeve on the outside of the hedge with 3 lines of barbed wire. We should write a polite letter to the landowner as the fencing could cause harm to people, horses or vehicles.</p>	DH  SPu  DH
6	<p><b>Exmoor Panel Meeting:</b> SK is now part of the Housing Group, meeting on 2/11/23 at Exmoor House in Dulverton. Lots of information about affordable housing, information needs to be clarified and more information is needed on housing stock and occupancy. Small scale development sites are needed but not economic to develop.</p> <p>Also a new Employment group. In West Somerset the proportion of young people leaving the area is small but this is often masked by the overall county figures.</p> <p>The idea is for the Housing and Employment groups to meet between the LCN's and feed into them.</p>	

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<b>7</b>	<p><b>Finances, Balances and Outstanding Payments</b>            DH gave an update as of 26th Sep 23 we have £3,931.72 in our Treasurers Account, the only outstanding payment is an invoice which arrived from SALC today for £71.89 annual membership. Agreed that this should be paid. DH to arrange BACS payment. Since July we have paid out £800 in Clerks wages, 62.34 for swings matting, £144 to the village hall for annual rent.            In the Business account we have £1071.83 and since July we have earned £1.79 in interest.</p>	DH
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Highway Matters</b>            Tanners dip, twice reported to Highways and they reported back this was not a Highways Matter, eventually Wessex Water agreed this was their issue. This dip is dangerous as vehicles are driving on the wrong side of the road to avoid it. FN asked DH to send copies of the emails to her by 10 am next day as she was discussing highways matters.             Brown Lane inspection promised but nothing happened. DH to log a few of the worst ones via the portal using What3Words.</p>	DH  DH
<b>9</b>	<p><b>AOB</b>            DH to speak to LC about a photo opportunity re the opening of the swings   <b>Emergency Plan</b> SK is working on this.             Spring Stables footpath is very difficult to use due to Flooding, poor surfaces, electric fences, and width of path in places is a problem. Needs to be reported to the footpath officer. What are the landowners' responsibilities, particularly in regard to electric fencing? MA has contact details and SPa has film footage.</p>	DH/ LC  SK  MA/S Pa
	<b>Meeting closed at 9:05</b>	
<b>10</b>	<b>Date of next meeting Tuesday 14th Dec at 7:30</b>	