



BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the April Meeting of Brushford Parish Council held at the Parish Hall, Brushford on Tuesday, April 14th., 2015

15/001 PRESENT

The following attended the meeting:

Councillors: Mrs. S Cookson, Mrs F Takef, Mr M Martyn, Mr T Wilson, Mr N Morse, Mrs J Sandiford, Mrs F Nicholson, Mr K Ross.

In the Chair: Mr N Prouse

In Attendance: Mr. C Knight, Clerk

Members of the Public : Three

15/002 DEFERMENT OF BUSINESS

15/002/01 Mobile Telephone Networks

Mr N Thwaites reported to the meeting that through his previous contacts with mobile phone organisations, he has been successful in securing a commitment to improve the network signal from existing masts with Vodafone. At the present time, the TV transmitter mast in Brushford is being considered and an update on the examination will be forthcoming in the coming weeks.

15/002/01 Brushford Bus Services

Mr J Organ reported that, without any consultation, there have been a number of changes to the bus services between Exebridge, Brushford and Dulverton. Changes are as follows:

The First Bus route 25 from Taunton no longer passes Brushford on the inward journey.

The Beacon Bus service from Tiverton to Minehead (via Brushford and Dulverton) no longer operates.

Webbers now handle the Minehead to Dulverton route.

Dartline covers the Tiverton to Dulverton route.

Furthermore, the services above lack any kind of coordination, making it extremely difficult to travel and secure a return journey.

It was agreed that Councillor Nicholson would take the matter up with the relevant Somerset County Council department in the strongest possible terms.

15/003 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Heywood sent his apologies for absence.

15/004 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, April 14th were approved as true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

15/005 FINANCIAL REPORT

15/005/01 Payment Authorisation

The following due payments were approved and cheques signed :

PAYEE	INVOICE	EXPENSE	VALUE	VAT	NET	CHEQUE NUMBER
Amherst & Shapland		Clerk's Wages	£352.17		£352.17	
		Amherst & Shapland monthly fee	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
		Clerk Wages and Administration	£364.67	£2.50	£367.17	NATWEST 000324
Mr P Takel		Grounds grass cutting : 1 x £70.00	£70.00		£70.00	NATWEST 000325
Printing at the Vicarage		Brushford Post Printing	£79.50		£79.50	NATWEST 000326
C Knight		March and April Expenses	£139.47		£139.47	NATWEST 000327
TOTAL FOR MONTH			£793.11	£2.50	£656.14	

15/006 2015 ELECTIONS

The Clerk reported that as there were only six applications for the seven potential vacancies, the election was declared uncontested and will not take place. The vacant post is to be discussed at the next meeting when the procedure for the co-option of a seventh councillor will be available.

15/007 RIGHTS OF WAY

The Clerk reported that formal notification of the changes to the footpath/bridleway at Brocksbridge had been received.

15/008 HIGHWAYS**15/008/001 Dropped Kerb**

Councillor Takel reported that the current kerb at the bus stop is difficult for the elderly residents to negotiate. It was agreed that Highways should be requested to incorporate a dropped kerb at this position, and that this should be included with the introduction of the ~Traffic Calming Scheme.

15/008/002 Speed Indicator

A response is awaited from County on the introduction of Parish Council SID management.

15/008/003 Finger Post Repainting

Councillor Nicholson reported that a meeting was due to be held on April 23rd to discuss the possible funding of this item. In the meantime, it was agreed that the Chairman of Exford Parish Council should be approached to establish the costs involved should Council decide to proceed alone.

15/009 PARISH WELFARE**15/009/001 Homefinder Register**

It has been reported that the Homefinder website is unresponsive and that Dulverton residents have reported similar problems. Councillor Ross is to follow up.

15/009/002 Top Five Priorities

The Clerk reported that, despite asking for suggestions from the community, none have been forthcoming. It was agreed that the matter would be taken forward to the next meeting.

15/009/003 Mobile Library Services

The Clerk reported that, as expected, the Mobile Library Service would no longer operate in Brushford due to a lack of use.

15/010 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

15/010/001 3/04/15/002 : Croft Farm, Brushford : Replacement of garage with garage/studio

The plans for this development were discussed. There were no comments or observations to be passed to the Planning Authority.

15/011 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

15/011/001 High Speed Broadband

Councillor Nicholson reported that the Brushford Superfast Cabinet was now live and residents could apply to their ISP for connection should they wish.

15/012 CORRESPONDENCE

15/012/001 Police Matters

An email had been received from PCSO Bryan Stephens to confirm that the Parish would be able to recommence Speedwatch in the village. Councillor Wilson is to contact accordingly.

15/013 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the Annual Parish Council Meeting will take place at 6.30pm on Tuesday, May 12th., to be followed at 7.00pm by the normal Parish Council Meeting.

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N Prouse Chairman

12/05/15



BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Brushford Parish Council held at the Parish Hall, Brushford on Tuesday, May 12th., 2015

15/014 PRESENT

The following attended the meeting:

Councillors: Mrs. S Cookson, Mrs F Takel, Mr T Wilson, Mrs J Sandiford, Mrs F Nicholson, Mr N Thwaites, Mr B Heywood, Mr M Godfrey, Mrs F Nicholson

In the Chair: Mr N Prouse

In Attendance: Mr. C Knight, Clerk

Members of the Public : Three

15/015 QUORUM CONFIRMATION

A quorum was confirmed

15/016 ELECTION OF CHAIR

Mr N Prouse was elected Chair of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year, proposed by Mrs Cookson, seconded by Mrs F Takel and carried unanimously.

15/017 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Mrs F Takel was elected Vice Chair of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year, proposed by Mr Prouse and Seconded by Mrs S Cookson and carried unanimously.

15/018 ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

All Parish Councillors signed their personal Acceptance of Office.

15/019 REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Parish Councillors were issued with copies of their Register of Interests, to be returned completed at the next meeting.

15/020 COUNCILLOR VACANCY

It was agreed that the vacancy for a seventh Parish Councillor should be advertised on the Parish Council Notice Boards and the web site and that election would take place at the next Parish Council meeting.

15/021 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman gave his annual report as follows:

I always start my report with the same opening line, this year is no different!

Another year has passed, which has meant new issues and challenges have arisen for us all to address. I hope that we have managed to represent the whole community, at times I felt this was not the case particularly with recent planning issues, but I am pleased that when the parish needed to express views from across the community, they were made, heard and recorded.

Changes will no doubt be made in our Parish over the next months and years, and it is our responsibility to ensure that we gain services and amenities from this change. This in itself has been a major challenge, but we will continue to work with our District and County Councillors so that our voice is heard.

The Annual Chairmans award this year was a relatively easy choice. Many members of our community work tirelessly to improve the parish, but this year I was able to recommend Phil, Frances and Sam Takel for the award. The parish benefits daily from their work. The commitment they show to maintaining the parish and its amenities is outstanding, and I am pleased that it is now recognised by us all.

The parish council itself will change this year. Sadly Michael Martyn will no longer be part of BPC. I would like to thank him for his work and irreplaceable knowledge of the parish. Nick Morse is also leaving us after a lengthy service to the parish. He has been a dedicated member of the BPC and will also be missed.

However with all these changes I hope that new opportunities will arise. We will strive to make these opportunities positive and as always will welcome the views from our parishioners. Many thanks and best wishes.

15/022 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following responsibilities for the year ahead were confirmed:

Paths Officer	Mr M Godfrey
Police Liaison	Mr T Wilson
Highways	Mrs F Takel
ENPA	Mrs S Cookson
Exmoor Panel	Mr C Knight
Parish Hall	Mr N Prouse
Parish Church	Mrs J Sandiford
Brushford Activity Group	Mrs B Wilson

15/023 CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1850 hours

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N Prouse Chairman

09/06/15



BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Brushford Parish Council held at the Parish Hall, Brushford on Tuesday, May 12th., 2015

15/024 PRESENT

The following attended the meeting:

Councillors: Mrs. S Cookson, Mrs F Takel, Mr T Wilson, Mrs J Sandiford, Mrs F Nicholson, Mr N Thwaites, Mr B Heywood, Mr M Godfrey, Mrs F Nicholson

In the Chair: Mr N Prouse

In Attendance: Mr. C Knight, Clerk

Members of the Public : Thirty +

15/025 DEFERMENT OF BUSINESS

Messrs Clark and Knock, spokesmen for the Brushford Action Group, representing some 70 members of the community opposed to the recent planning application for the development of 13 new dwellings on land north of Ellersdown Lane, present their objections to the proposal.

These are summarised as follows:

- i. Non-compliance with the West Somerset District Local Plan 2006 and 2032
- ii. Sustainability of the development
- iii. Building on a Greenfield Site

- iv. Position of development and impact on adjoining properties
- v. Impact of increased traffic
- vi. Lack of resources in Brushford
- vii. Limited housing need
- viii. Loss of ancient hedgerow
- ix. Surface water run off

The Chairman thanked the Action Group for their thorough analysis of the situation and confirmed that their objections would be considered by Council.

15/026 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

15/027 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15/028 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting held on April 14th., were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

15/029 FINANCIAL REPORT

15/029/01 Draft Annual Accounts

The Clerk presented the draft annual accounts to Council and these were approved, proposed by Mrs F Takel and seconded by Mrs J Sandiford and carried unanimously.

The accounts will now be submitted to the internal auditor for onward transmission to the external auditors.

The draft accounts are as follows:

Annual Expenditure by Month

MONTHLY EXPENSE	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	TOTAL
STAFF COSTS	£361.72	£361.72	£361.72	£361.72	£361.72	£361.72	£359.62	£359.62	£359.62	£359.62	£474.72	£367.17	£4,450.69
MAINTENANCE	£74.75	£195.00	£130.00	£170.00	£250.00	£576.80	£70.00		£123.60		£210.00	£60.00	£1,860.15
GRANTS					£50.00	£500.00							£550.00
SUBSCRIPTIONS	£136.53												£136.53
INSURANCE		£302.40											£302.40
BRUSHFORD ACTIVITY GROUP													£0.00
ADVERTISING/WEB													£0.00
MISC EXPENSE	£83.26	£107.29	£602.40		£238.24	£132.00	£324.53	£35.00	£154.96	£79.50	£134.35		£1,891.53
RENT	£25.00	£162.00										£162.00	£349.00
COMMUNITY BUS	£62.80	£21.60	£60.80		£68.85	£114.40	£22.95		£49.50	£91.35		£45.00	£537.25
TOTAL OTHER COSTS													£0.00
TOTAL	£744.06	£1,150.01	£1,154.92	£531.72	£968.81	£1,684.92	£777.10	£394.62	£687.68	£530.47	£819.07	£634.17	£10,077.55

Annual Expense

ANNUAL EXPENSE	YTD	
STAFF COSTS	£4,450.69	44.16%
MAINTENANCE	£1,860.15	18.46%
GRANTS	£550.00	5.46%
SUBSCRIPTIONS	£136.53	1.35%
INSURANCE	£302.40	3.00%
BRUSHFORD ACTIVITY GROUP	£0.00	0.00%
ADVERTISING/WEB	£0.00	0.00%
MISC EXPENSE	£1,891.53	18.77%
RENT	£349.00	3.46%
COMMUNITY BUS	£537.25	5.33%
TOTAL OTHER COSTS	£5,626.86	55.84%
TOTAL	£10,077.55	100.00%

Annual Income

DATE	DEBTOR	AMOUNT	CUMULATIVE
1st April 2014	Opening Balance	£4,778.38	£4,778.38
	WSC Precept Pt 1	£4,357.12	£9,135.50
	WSC Precept Pt 2	£4,357.12	£13,492.62
	TOTAL PRECEPT	£8,714.24	
14 May 2014	Cash	£127.00	£13,619.62
12 Jun 2014	Cash	£39.00	£13,658.62
10 Sep 2014	Cash	£100.00	£13,758.62
20 Nov 2014	Cash	£13.00	£13,771.62
11 Feb 2015	Cash	£136.00	£13,907.62
30 Mar 2015	Cash	£63.00	£13,970.62
	TOTAL OTHER RECEIPTS	£478.00	
	TOTAL	£13,970.62	
	LESS TOTAL EXPENSE	(£10,077.55)	£3,893.07
	BALANCE CARRIED FWD	£3,893.07	£3,893.07

The year-on-year comparisons are as follows:

	2013/14	2014/15	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Opening Balance	£4,154.69	£4,778.38	£623.69	115.0%
Precept	£8,714.24	£8,714.24	£0.00	100.0%
Other Receipts	£2,127.89	£478.00	-£1,649.89	22.5%
	£14,996.82	£13,970.62	-£1,026.20	93.2%
STAFF COSTS	£4,227.94	£4,450.69	£222.75	105.3%
MAINTENANCE	£1,006.73	£1,860.15	£853.42	184.8%
GRANTS	£550.00	£550.00	£0.00	100.0%
SUBSCRIPTIONS	£132.02	£136.53	£4.51	103.4%
INSURANCE	£309.04	£302.40	-£6.64	97.9%
BRUSHFORD ACTIVITY GROUP	£109.97	£0.00	-£109.97	0.0%
ADVERTISING/WEB	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.0%
MISC EXPENSE	£3,278.39	£1,891.53	-£1,386.86	57.7%
RENT	£133.00	£349.00	£216.00	262.4%
COMMUNITY BUS	£471.35	£537.25	£65.90	114.0%
TOTAL OTHER COSTS	£5,990.50	£5,626.86	-£363.64	93.9%
TOTAL EXPENSE	£10,218.44	£10,077.55	-£140.89	98.6%
Balance C/Forward	£4,778.38	£3,893.07	-£885.31	81.5%

15/029/02 Payment Authorisation

The following payments were approved:

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
Amherst & Shapland		Clerk's Wages	£352.17		£352.17	
		Amherst & Shapland monthly fee	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
		Clerk Wages and Administration	£364.67	£2.50	£367.17	NATWEST 000328
Mr P Takel		Grass cutting : 2 @ £70.00	£140.00	£0.00	£140.00	NATWEST 000329
Came & Company		Annual Parish Insurance	£310.69		£310.69	NATWEST 000330
West Somerset Council		Jubilee Gardens Play Area Rent	£25.00		£25.00	NATWEST 000331
Exmoor Community Bus		05/11/14 Trip	£20.80		£20.80	
		26/11/14 Trip	£40.80		£40.80	
		Total Community Bus	£61.60		£61.60	NATWEST 000332
TOTAL			£901.96	£2.50	£904.46	

15/030 SPEED INDICATOR MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS FROM COUNTY

Clerk reported that there had been no response from County on this matter as the PC could not fulfil the number of speeding sites required for local management.

Clerk to follow up.

15/031 FINGER POST PAINTING

Councillor Nicholson reported that there has been no progress yet on this project.

15/032 HOMEFINDER

It was agreed that the current system was failing. Messrs Thwaites and Heywood agreed to meet with management of Homefinder to attempt to find a solution.

15/033 TOP FIVE PRIORITIES

It was agreed that the following should be “on the list”, although agreement could not be reached on the final five:

Repair and replacement of facilities at the Games Court in Jubilee Gardens

Children’s bus shelter

Disabled access to the Church

Solar Panels for the Parish Hall

other considerations:

Stairs to loft in Parish Hall

Broadband connection for Parish Hall

Council to review again at the next meeting.

15/034 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**15/034/01 3/04/15/003 : Lawful Development Cert for Farm Manager’s Dwelling at Post Farm, Brushford**

Council had no comment to make on this application

15/034/02 3/04/15/006 : Erection of agricultural barn at Middle Upcott Farm, Brushford

Council expressed concern of the proximity to a listed building and the veracity of the Farm designation

15/034/03: 3/04/15/004 Proposed residential development of 13 properties in Ellersdown Lane

This application was discussed in detail.

It was agreed that the Clerk would draft a reply to District, highlighting the following key concerns:

- The Local Plan calls for only 26 houses up to 2032 : 13 new dwellings constitutes 50% of allocation
- The fabric of Ellersdown Lane is not fit for purpose
- Traffic hazards at school bus stop at end of Pounds Close
- Flooding
- Size and layout
- Preference for 5/6 dwellings in one line

Clerk will circulate drafts to Councillors until consensus is reached and then submit to District.

15/035 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

15/035/01 Councillor Nicholson

Councillor Nicholson reported progress on negotiations with the Bus Companies and County

Route 198/398

This is a six month contract and it is unlikely that any changes can be made in the short term.

Route 25

The Bus Company is resisting the request for a stop at Brushford. As the route is 50% subsidised and 50% commercial, County can only influence the subsidised portion.

15/035/02 Councillor Heywood

WSC anticipate a reduced income from the Hinkley Development amounting to £190k per annum, thereby reducing available funds.

15/036 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next Parish Council Meeting will take place at 6.30pm on Tuesday, June 9th.

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N Prouse Chairman

09/06/15



BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Brushford Parish Council held at the Parish Hall, Brushford on Tuesday, June 9th., 2015

15/037 PRESENT

The following attended the meeting:

Councillors: Mrs. S Cookson, Mrs F Takel, Mr T Wilson, Mrs J Sandiford, Mrs F Nicholson, Mr N Thwaites, Mr B Heywood

In the Chair: Mr N Prouse

In Attendance: Mr. C Knight, Clerk

Members of the Public : 14

15/038 DEFERMENT OF BUSINESS

15/038/01 Ellersdown Lane Planning Application

Mr. Knock presented an update on the Brushford Action Group's activities with regard to the Ellersdown Lane planning application as follows:

- The Group is constructing a petition against the application and has secured 104 names to date
- There are, so far, 50 letters of objection lodged with the planning authority
- The Group has commissioned a report to be written by Mr Alan Jones (Chartered Town Planner)

In addition, he requested that the Council publish the draft minutes on the Council website.

15/038/02 Fibre optic Broadband

Mr D Park reported considerable problems with BT in securing his normal telephone line, but wished to express his concern at the lack of progress in the implementation of high speed broadband in the Parish. He reported that in his conversations with BT management, he had been given to understand that the proposed launch in the Autumn would be very unlikely to take place.

He requested that anyone who was interested in securing Highspeed Broadband to “sign on” with BT in order to bring pressure to bear.

15/038/03 Street Cleaning and Hedgecutting

Jane Erith reported that again this year, Mike Cridge was giving up his valuable time to carry out weeding on the roads of the village and asked for an acknowledgement to be given.

She also reported that the lane to Ellersdown Lane and that to the church past Orchard Cottages were in need of trimming. It was agreed that Mr Takel would attend to this.

15/039 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Godfrey and prospective Councillor Clarke.

15/040 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15/041 ELECTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR

The Chairman reported that there had been one response to the Councillor Vacancy, Mr John Clark. He proposed Mr Clark, seconded by Councillor Wilson and it was carried unanimously.

15/042 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting held on May 12th., were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

15/043 FINANCIAL REPORT

The following Council payments were approved and cheques signed:

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
Amherst & Shapland		Clerk's Wages	£352.17		£352.17	
		Amherst & Shapland monthly fee	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
		Clerk Wages and Administration	£364.67	£2.50	£367.17	NATWEST 000333
Mr P Takel		Grass cutting : 2 @ £70.00	£140.00	£0.00	£140.00	NATWEST 000334
Exmoor Community Bus		TRIPS 24/02/15 & 03/03/15 : 51 & 113 KM	£73.80		£73.80	
		TRIPS 17/03/15, 24/03/15 & 14/04/15 : 56, 102 & 51 KM	£94.05		£94.05	
		TRIP 28/04/15 : 99KM	44.55		44.55	
		TRIP 12 MAY : 51 KM	22.95		22.95	
		Total Community Bus	£235.35		£235.35	NATWEST 000335
TOTAL			£740.02	£2.50	£742.52	

15/044 PARISH MAINTENANCE

15/044/01 Repainting of Fingerposts

There has been no news from Highways on this matter and the Clerk is awaiting a response from Exford Parish Council who have successfully carried out the work on their own.

15/044/02 Traffic Calming Scheme

Councillor Nicholson reported that there has been no development on this scheme due to staff shortages

15/045 PARISH WELFARE

15/04501 Homefinder/Housing Needs

Councillor Nicholson has suggested that the Council investigate the opportunities presented by a Housing Needs Survey and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact Heather Rockford at WSC on the matter.

It was also suggested that the matter could be publicised on the website and in the Brushford Post.

15/045/02 Top Five Priorities

The following Top Five Priorities for the Parish were agreed as follows:

- Refurbishment of the games area in Jubilee Gardens
- The Children's Bus Shelter
- A new Bus Shelter on the B3222 going north
- Stairs and ballustrade to the mezzanine floor in the Parish Hall
- Kerb levelling/dropping for disabled traffic

15/046 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Councillor Nicholson reported as follows:

- The No25 bus from Brushford to Dulverton (every two hours) will be restored w.e.f. 10/08/15
- The 198 Firstbus service will now accept bus passes at all times

Councillor Cookson reported that the ENPA elections for Parish Members are to be held shortly. It was agreed that the candidate nomination should be at the discretion of Councillor Cookson.

Councillor Thwaites provided more information on the plans by DTC to rebuild a dangerous wall in the churchyard. It was agreed that the Council should support the DTC application to the Diocese.

15/047 PLANNING : ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT SITES

To be discussed at the next meeting.

15/047 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to take place on Tuesday, July 14th at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall.

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N Prouse Chairman

14/07/15



BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Brushford Parish Council
held at the Parish Hall, Brushford on Tuesday, July 14th., 2015**

15/048 PRESENT

The following attended the meeting:

Councillors: Mr T Wilson, Mrs J Sandiford, Mrs F Nicholson, Mr J Clarke, Mr M Godfrey, Mr N Thwaites, Mr B Heywood

In the Chair: Mr N Prouse

In Attendance: Mr. C Knight, Clerk

Members of the Public : 6

15/049 WELCOME OF NEW COUNCILLOR

The Chairman welcomed Mr J Clarke as the new Council Member

15/050 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Takel.

15/051 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15/052 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting held on June 9th., were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

15/053 DEFERMENT OF BUSINESS

15/053/01 Brushford Activity Group

Mrs Barbara Wilson reported as follows:

- The Activity Group plans a Village Picnic to mark the 90th birthday of Her Majesty the Queen.
- Previous village celebrations (The Diamond and Silver Jubilees) have been recorded on video and she requested that they be put up on the Parish Council website. Clerk is to examine feasibility.

15/053/02 Mrs Ceri Keene

Mrs Keene requested the following:

- That the Parish Council consider funding for the proposed connection of the Village Hall to Broadband Internet Connection. The Council had offered to support this some years ago and agreed to reconsider.
- That the paths to Ellersdown Lane and to the Church, previously reported as being overgrown, had not been cut. Clerk to follow up.

15/054 PAYMENT AUTHORISATION

The following payments were authorised and cheques signed :

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
Amherst & Shapland		Clerk's Wages	£352.17		£352.17	
		Amherst & Shapland monthly fee	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
		Underpaid in April	£6.00	£0.00	£6.00	
		Clerk Wages and Administration	£370.67	£2.50	£373.17	NATWEST 000336
West Somerset Council		Costs of uncontested election	£100.00	£0.00	£100.00	NATWEST 000337
Claire Savill		Printing Brushford Post	£79.50	£0.00	£79.50	NATWEST 000338

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
TOTAL			£550.17	£2.50	£552.67	

15/055 CHEQUE SIGNATORIES

Clerk reported that a third cheque signee was required following the retirement of Councillor Morse. Councillor Sandiford volunteered to fill the post and was provided with the necessary Bank Forms for completion and submission to the bank.

15/056 HIGHWAYS

15/056/01 Latest SID Results

The Clerk tabled the latest SID results together with the trend over recent years (see below). It is evident that the speeding problem still persists, despite the Speed Indicator Devices and that perhaps other means should be examined. It was also noted that with a 42MPH mean speed, the B3222 road through the village is considered to have a definite speeding problem.

DATE	MEDIAN SPEED	85% PERCENTILE
MAY 2015	35MPH	42 MPH
OCTOBER 2014	36 MPH	44 MPH
SEPTEMBER 2014	30 MPH	37 MPH
JUNE 2014	36 MPH	44 MPH
FEBRUARY 2014	32 MPH	37 MPH
JULY 2013	36 MPH	44 MPH
MARCH 2013	33 MPH	37 MPH
OCTOBER 2012	31 MPH	36 MPH
JULY 2012	32 MPH	37 MPH
APRIL 2011	36 MPH	44 MPH

15/056/02 Traffic Calming Scheme

In the light of the above, outline costs of permanent Speed Indicator Signs had been obtained and these were tabled.

It was agreed that Councillor Nicholson would ask County to consider the use of these signs along with the erection of new Village Signs previously agreed, in place of the Traffic Calming Scheme which has been delayed due to staffing problems.

15/057 COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

15/057/01 Circulation of Minutes

Following a public request for the posting of Draft Minutes on the Council website, it was agreed that this would now be introduced. Clerk to action.

15/057/02 WSC Advisory Committee Membership

Councillors were reminded that membership of the above was being sought.

15/058 PARISH MAINTENANCE

15/058/01 Finger Posts

A quotation had been requested from Exmoor Welding at Wheddon Cross, but was not forthcoming.

Councillor Nicholson reported that efforts were still being made to secure funding and also to secure a "block" price for several finger posts throughout the District. A decision is awaited.

15/058/02 Road Sweeping

At the recent Exmoor Panel, Exford Parish Council reported increased effectiveness of road sweeping by publicising the date of sweep and encouraging parishioners to remove vehicles to accommodate such.

It was agreed that Brushford should consider doing this and the Clerk is to publicise via web site, posters and email to the Community List once firm dates were available.

15/059 PARISH WELFARE

15/059/01 Defibrillator Training

Mr Gillison had suggested that defibrillator operatives should perhaps undergo refresher training. As it is only one year since training was provided and that the unit is virtually self-operating, it was agreed that the DVD should be recirculated to refresh operatives' memories.

15/059/02 Housing

It was reported that the Village Agent has secured paper copies of the Homefinder Application Form. It was, however, agreed that the Homefinder system was not working adequately and that pressure would be brought to bear in an effort to have the system updated and made more user-friendly.

15/059/03 Brushford Bus Services

Councillor Nicholson reported that the 25 Service will travel to Dulverton on a two-hourly basis and that Bus Passes will be accepted on the 198 service from 0900 hours.

15/060 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS WERE VIEWED AND CONSIDERED BY COUNCILLORS:

- **3/04/15/008 Agricultural Building at Riphay Farm Cottage for Livestock**
- **3/04/15/009 Agricultural Building at Riphay Farm Cottage for Hay Storage**
- **3/04/15/012 Conversion of listed building for dwelling at Allshire Lane, Brushford**
- **3/04/15/013 Replacement Dwelling - revision of previously approved scheme : Sunnybanks, Ellersdown Lane**

There were no comments to be made on the first three applications above and Council made the following observations on the fourth as follows, which is to be relayed to the Planning Authority:

Following the previous application in 2012, the Parish Council made the following observation:

“Sunnybank, Brushford : Application Number 3/04/12/010

Council noted that, following considerable earth works at this site earlier in the year, there is strong evidence that the drainage from this site, and the fields above, has caused considerable flooding problems further down Ellersdown Lane. Indeed, the area has recently been subjected to prolonged works by the Highways Department and Council have noted that this work has not necessarily alleviated the problem and that the matter is now up for review by the Highways management. It therefore follows that the Application statements with regard to drainage and watercourses contained within the Application are incorrect.

Council would urge that attention to the flooding potential is made a condition of the application.”

Since this time, there has indeed been further work carried out by County Highways on the drainage at this end of Ellersdown Lane, although Highways drainage is not designed to take flood-off water from the land. However, it is understood that it was also agreed between the landowner of the adjacent fields and the applicant that drainage

work would be carried out in the fields to ensure that water coming off the fields would be channelled through the drainage at the property and thence to the highway. It is not clear that this has been carried out.

The Council therefore urges the Authority to ensure that Flood Alleviation investigations are carried out to ensure that the flooding which occurred to a number of properties in Ellersdown Lane on 2012/13 is not repeated.

15/061 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

The Chairman reported that the recent Cream Tea event at The Sidings, Brushford organised by Mr & Mrs Wilson raised £784 for the Somerset and Dorset Air Ambulance and offered his congratulations on a sterling effort.

15/062 ENGLISH PRIZE FOR DULVERTON SCHOOL

Councillor Sandiford reported that the annual prize given by the Council was due to be presented this week. In view of the short notice, it was agreed that the Clerk should provide the funds (£50.00) and charge to expenses for the next meeting.

15/063 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the Somerset County Chairman’s Award 2015 should be considered by Councillors for the next meeting.

15/064 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Tuesday, August 11th at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall.

.....
N Prouse Chairman
11/08/15



BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Brushford Parish Council
held at the Parish Hall, Brushford on Tuesday, August 11th., 2015**

15/065 PRESENT

The following attended the meeting:

Parish Councillors:	Mr T Wilson, Mr J Clarke, Mr M Godfrey, Mrs S Cookson
County & District Councillors in Attendance :	Mrs F Nicholson
In the Chair:	Mrs F Takel
In Attendance:	Mr. C Knight, Clerk
Members of the Public :	1

15/066 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Prouse, Heywood, Thwaites and Sandiford

15/067 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15/068 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting held on July 14th., were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

15/069 DEFERMENT OF BUSINESS

There were no matters raised.

15/070 PAYMENT AUTHORISATION

The following payments were approved and relevant cheques signed:

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
Amherst & Shapland		Clerk's Wages	£352.17		£352.17	
		Amherst & Shapland monthly fee	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
		Clerk Wages and Administration	£364.67	£2.50	£367.17	NATWEST 000339
MR P Takel		July and August : 4 cuts @£60; Hedges nr Orchard Cottages and Ellersdown Lane path; Children's Bus Shelter garden	£360.00	£0.00	£360.00	NATWEST 000340
Exmoor Community Bus		Trips on June 2nd., July 28 and August 4th	£68.85	£0.00	£68.85	NATWEST 000341
C Knight		July and August Expenses	£141.38	£0.00	£141.38	NATWEST 000342
TOTAL			£934.90	£2.50	£937.40	

15/071 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

15/071/01 Traffic Calming Scheme

Councillor Nicholson presented the the first draft of plans for the traffic calming scheme in the village which have been developed by SCC. This comprehensive scheme was welcomed by Councillors who made the following additional suggestions to the scheme:

- i) Either move the 30mph zone to that adjacent to Pixton View, or alternatively implement a 30mph restriction all the way from Exebridge to Brushford.
- ii) Of the six rumble strips proposed, move 2 of them to the railway bridge and at the Back Lane junction.

- iii) The installation of flashing traffic warning signs was considered an important element of the scheme.
- iv) The proposed “virtual footpath” along the B3222 north from the bus stop pavement was considered advisable.
- v) The treatment of a virtual footpath on the corner with the garage was also not considered advisable.
- vi) The 30ph signs on the roadway were welcomed.

SCC will now develop new plans with these changes, should they be acceptable, and the scheme will then go to consultation with the Brushford community.

15/071/02 Finger Posts

Councillor Nicholson confirmed that the National Park was now involved in the plan to refurbish the finger posts and that relevant funding is being secured.

The initial meeting to discuss next steps and to secure volunteers will take place at Winsford Village Hall at 2pm on Friday, September 11th.

15/071/03 Village Road Sweeping

This was discussed and the consensus was that earlier notice of a sweep would be welcomed.

15/071/04 Bus Shelter

Councillor Wilson reported the following on the bus shelter:

- i) The building was looking “tired”
- ii) There was some debris and leaves
- iii) The notice board needs replacing
- iv) The building could do with repainting

It was agreed that a new notice board would be installed and Councillor Takel undertook to do this.

15/071/05 Dog Mess

Councillor Takel reported that dog mess was evidently become a problem within the village.

It was agreed that 6 new signs would be ordered and placed at strategic spots. Clerk to order signs and Mr Takel will put up signs.

15/072 VILLAGE WELFARE**15/072/01 Top Five Priorities**

Given that WSC have indicated that the repairs to Jubilee Gardens would not be acceptable under the 106 funding scheme, Council considered the alternatives.

It was agreed that the tracing of the driveway at the village hall should therefore be listed. Clerk to advise WSC.

15/072/02 Wi-Fi for the Parish Hall

Following the request made at the previous meeting by Mrs Keene, Council agreed to make £100 of grant funds available for this scheme. The Parish Hall committee are to make a formal application for same.

15/072/03 PCC Grant

Clerk reported that to date, no application for a grant had yet been received from the Brushford PCC. Councillor Nicholson as a member is to advise the PCC, accordingly.

15/072/04 SCC Chairmans' Award 2015

It was agreed that this year, the Council would not be making a nomination for this award.

15/073 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**15/073/01 Ref 3/04/15/004 Land to the North of Ellersdown Lane : amended plans/details**

It was noted that these amendments were relatively superficial and included the change from thatched to tiled roofing.

The Council noted that there was no further news on this application which is expected to go to Committee in September.

Councillor Godfrey reported that the WSC 2032 Local Plan has now been submitted to the Inspectorate.

15/074 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were no reports from Councillors

15/075 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 8th at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall.

.....
N Prouse Chairman

08/09/15



BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Brushford Parish Council
held at the Parish Hall, Brushford on Tuesday, September 8th., 2015**

15/076 PRESENT

The following attended the meeting:

Parish Councillors: Mr T Wilson, Mr M Godfrey, Mrs S Cookson, Mrs F Takel, Mrs J Sandiford

County & District Councillors in Attendance : Mrs F Nicholson, Mr B Heywood, Mr N Thwaites

In the Chair: Mr N Prouse

In Attendance: Mr. C Knight, Clerk

Members of the Public : 2

15/077 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Clarke

15/078 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15/079 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting held on August 11th., were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

15/080 DEFERMENT OF BUSINESS

There were no matters raised.

15/081 GRANT FUNDING

Applications were received from Brushford PCC and the Parish Hall Management Committee. Council approved the following grants:

- Brushford PCC : £500 towards churchyard maintenance
- Brushford Parish Hall : £100 towards Wi-Fi connectivity
-

15/082 FINANCIAL REPORT**15/082/01 Payment Authorisation**

The following payments were approved and relevant cheques signed:

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
Amherst & Shapland		Clerk's Wages	£352.17		£352.17	

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
		Amherst & Shapland monthly fee	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
		Clerk Wages and Administration	£364.67	£2.50	£367.17	NATWEST 000343
		CANCELLED				NATWEST 000344
Exmoor Community Bus		Trips on June 2nd. & 23rd	£69.75	£0.00	£69.75	NATWEST 000345
C Knight		September Expenses : Dog Signs purchased	£73.95	£14.79	£88.74	NATWEST 000346
Brushford PCC		Annual Grant	£500.00	£0.00	£500.00	NATWEST 000347
Brushford Parish Hall		Grant for Wi-Fi installation	£100.00	£0.00	£100.00	NATWEST 000348
SALC		Annual Membership Subscription	£134.64	£0.00	£134.64	NATWEST 000349
MR P Takel		3 X Grass Cuts @ £70, plus Bus Shelter Garden maintenance @ £60	£270.00	£0.00	£270.00	NATWEST 000350
TOTAL			£1513.01	£17.29	£1530.30	

15/082/02 YTD Financial Position

The Clerk presented the current financial position of the Council as follows:

Annual Expenditure by Month

33

MONTHLY EXPENSE	April	May	June	July	August	Septemb er	October	Novembe r	Decembe r	January	February	March	TOTAL
STAFF COSTS	£367.17	£367.17	£367.17	£373.17	£367.17	£367.17							£2,209.02
MAINTENANCE	£70.00	£140.00	£140.00		£360.00	£270.00							£980.00
GRANTS						£600.00							£600.00
SUBSCRIPTIONS						£134.64							£134.64
INSURANCE		£310.69											£310.69
BRUSHFORD ACTIVITY GROUP													£0.00
ADVERTISING/WEB													£0.00
MISC EXPENSE	£218.97			£179.50	£141.38	£88.74							£628.59
RENT		£25.00											£25.00
COMMUNITY BUS		£61.60	£235.35		£68.85	£69.75							£435.55
TOTAL OTHER COSTS	£288.97	£537.29	£375.35	£179.50	£570.23	£1,163.13							£3,114.47
TOTAL	£656.14	£904.46	£742.52	£552.67	£937.40	£1,530.30	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£5,323.49

Annual Expense-1

ANNUAL EXPENSE	YTD	
STAFF COSTS	£2,209.02	41.50%
MAINTENANCE	£980.00	18.41%
GRANTS	£600.00	11.27%
SUBSCRIPTIONS	£134.64	2.53%
INSURANCE	£310.69	5.84%
BRUSHFORD ACTIVITY GROUP	£0.00	0.00%
ADVERTISING/WEB	£0.00	0.00%
MISC EXPENSE	£628.59	11.81%
RENT	£25.00	0.47%
COMMUNITY BUS	£435.55	8.18%
TOTAL OTHER COSTS	£3,114.47	58.50%
TOTAL	£5,323.49	100.00%

Annual Income-1

DATE	DEBTOR	AMOUNT	CUMULATIVE
1st April 2014	Opening Balance	£3,893.87	£3,893.87
28/4/15	WSC Precept Charged to Taxpayer	£5,250.00	£9,143.87
	WSC Precept Transitional Grant		£0.00
17th April 2015	Cash	£68.00	£68.00
16 Jun 2015	Cash	£75.00	£143.00
6 Aug 2015	Cash	£66.00	£209.00
			£209.00
			£209.00
			£209.00
	TOTAL OTHER RECEIPTS	£209.00	
	TOTAL	£9,352.87	
	LESS TOTAL EXPENSE	(£5,323.49)	£4,029.38
	BALANCE CARRIED FWD	£4,029.38	£4,029.38

15/082/03 Internal Auditor's Report

Clerk tabled the Auditor's Report which was satisfactory, apart from the need to supply copies of Council Minutes in support of Expenditure Authorisation. This will be included in next year's audit.

15/082/04 Risk Analysis

Clerk tabled a draft Risk Analysis of the Financial Guidelines for the Council.

It was agreed that Councillors would be considered for discussion at the next meeting in October.

15/083 PARISH MAINTENANCE**15/083/01 Traffic Calming**

Councillor Nicholson reported that there was nothing new to report since the last meeting.

However, Council discussed the possibility of introducing formal Speed Checks, with attendant Speed Camera Warning Signs, as used at Waterrow. Councillor Nicholson confirmed that the operation of such cameras lay with the Police.

Councillor Prouse is to discuss with the local Police Force.

15/083/02 Kerb Dropping

As this project had been dropped from the Top Five Priority list as it does not qualify, it was agreed that the kerb dropping measures for the pavement near the north-bound bus stop would be included in the Traffic Calming Scheme.

15/083/03 Finger Posts

It was agreed that Councillor Takel would attend the inaugural meeting of the Finger Post Refurbishment Project at Winsford Village Hall on Friday, September 11th.

15/083/04 Bus Shelter

It was agreed that Messrs Prouse and Knight would carry out the repainting of the Bus Shelter.

15/084 PARISH WELFARE

15/084/01 Top Five Priorities

Despite the Kerb Dropping item being delisted from the Top 5 List, it was agreed that there were no suitable substitute items and that the list should only compose the remaining four subjects as follows:

Top Five Priorities suitable for 106 negotiation	Where	What	Who	When	Additional Comments
Children's Bus Shelter	Opposite Old Post Office on Parish Council land	A new bus shelter and garden	Children and parents	2016	
New Bus Shelter on B3222 for northward bound travellers	To be situated on the west side of the road.	Utilisation of old shelter from the Children's bus stop	All bus goers in the community	2016	
Stairs and ballustrade for the mezanine floor in the Parish Hall	Parish Hall	Replacement of current ladder access to mezanine floor	(Ultimately) All members of community	2016	
Kerb Levelling	Several kerbs throughout the village do not cater for disabled vehicles	Need to level the kerb in selected areas (bus stop, parish hall etc)	Disabled members of the community	2015/16	
Tarmac to the driveway of the Parish Hall	Parish Hall	Renovation of the current gravel driveway to tarmac	All members of community using the Hall. Visitors to the Hall	2016	

15/085 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following applications were considered and discussed as follows:

15/085/01 3/04/15/010 Bramblehurst, Exebridge, convert footpath to vehicular driveway

Council was not in favour of this application as it has been the subject of a number of similar applications in the past, all of which have been rejected. As there is no material change in planning laws, the same reasons for rejection apply.

15/085/02 Dovetails, Brushford : Erection of Porch

There were no objections to this application.

15/085/03 Orchard Cottage, Brushford. New conservatory roof, new porch, loft conversion & kitchen extension

There were no objections to this application. However, the proposed installation of a staircase to the roof space indicated a potential loft conversion, which was not included in the application. Planning will be alerted accordingly.

15/085/04 3/04/15/015 Croft Farm : New 2 storey extension & demolition of conservatory

There were no objections to this application.

15/086 MEETING REPORTS

The Clerk reported on the recent Exmoor Panel Meeting, the salient points being :

- **Badger Cull**
The next Badger Cull is due to start and will require additional Police attendance.
- **Salt Supplies**
The annual supply of salt bags will be made available in November. Highways will update collection information nearer the time

15/087 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were no reports from Councillors

15/088 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 13th at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall.

.....
 N Prouse Chairman
 13/10/15



BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Brushford Parish Council held at the Parish Hall, Brushford on Tuesday, October 13th., 2015

15/089 PRESENT

The following attended the meeting:

Parish Councillors:	Mr T Wilson, Mr M Godfrey, Mrs S Cookson, Mrs F Takel, Mrs J Sandiford, Mr J Clarke
County & District Councillors in Attendance :	Mr B Heywood
In the Chair:	Mr N Prouse
In Attendance:	Mr. C Knight, Clerk
Members of the Public :	5

15/090 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Nicholson and Thwaites

15/091 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15/092 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting held on September 8th., were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

15/093 DEFERMENT OF BUSINESS**15/093/01 Open Gardens Scheme - 2016**

Jane Erith reported that in the absence of an Open Gardens Scheme in Dulverton in 2016, the Brushford Parish Church will be holding a Brushford-based scheme in 2016, to take place on June 26th.

15/093/02 Hungarian Eco Farm Proposal

The meeting was addressed by three visitors who are investigating the business opportunity which may be presented as a result of the proposed sale of the three fields between the old Carnarvon Arms and the river.

They are planning to purchase the fields in question and to open a Hungarian-based Eco Farm with Restaurant, Bar and Shop and yurt and tent camping facilities. The farm will include farm animals, a playground, staff and accommodation with disabled access.

The meeting made clear that the question of approval for such a scheme would have to come from the relevant planning authorities at West Somerset Council and urged the three attendees to talk in detail with the relevant authorities.

15/094 FINANCIAL REPORTS**15/094/01 Payment Authorisation**

The following due payments were approved and relevant cheques signed:

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
Amherst & Shapland		Clerk's Wages	£352.17		£352.17	

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
		Amherst & Shapland monthly fee	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
		Clerk Wages and Administration	£364.67	£2.50	£367.17	NATWEST 000351
Exmoor Community Bus		Trips on Sept 1 (£45.00) & Sept 15th (£34.20)	£79.20	£0.00	£79.20	NATWEST 000352
Keene Partners		Brushford Welcome Pack	£40.30	£0.00	£40.30	NATWEST 000353
MR P Takel		2 X Grass Cuts @ £70, plus 1 hour maintenance	£150.00	£0.00	£150.00	NATWEST 000354
Amherst & Shapland		Annual Internal Audit Fee	£110.00	£22.00	£132.00	NATWEST 000355
Grant Thornton		Annual External Audit Fee	£125.00	£25.00	£150.00	NATWEST 000356
TOTAL			£869.17	£49.50	£918.67	

15/094/02 Auditors' Report

The Clerk presented the Auditors' Report which identified the mis-quoting of dates. It was agreed that this would be carefully monitored in future.

15/094/03 Accounting Risk Analysis

The Risk Analysis presented at the last meeting was discussed. There were no additions/deletions/changes proposed and they are therefore the definitive procedures.

15/095 PARISH MAINTENANCE

15/095/01 SID Posts

It was reported that the two posts for the Speed Indicators were loose and leaning. Clerk to advise accordingly.

15/095/02 Finger Posts

Frances Takel and Jane Erith, together with Councillor Nicholson are undertaking the survey requested by ENPA. Progress will be reported as we go forward with the scheme.

15/095/03 Salt Supplies - 2015

Clerk confirmed that the annual salt supplies will be available for collection on November 21st and Mr Takel will be requested to collect as previously.

15/096 PARISH WELFARE

Councillor Godfrey reported that the WiFi installation at the Parish Hall was now up and running.

15/097 PLANNING APPLICATIONS 3/04/15/017 Stocklinch, Brushford

This was examined and it was agreed that there were no comments or observations to be made.

15/098 MEETING REPORTS

There were no meeting reports

15/099 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were no reports from Councillors

15/100 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 10th at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall.

.....

N Prouse Chairman

10/11/15



BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Brushford Parish Council
held at the Parish Hall, Brushford on Tuesday, November 10th., 2015**

15/101 PRESENT

The following attended the meeting:

Parish Councillors: Mr T Wilson, Mr M Godfrey, Mrs S Cookson, Mrs F Takel, Mrs J Sandiford,

County & District Councillors in Attendance : Mr B Heywood, Mrs F Nicholson

In the Chair: Mr N Prouse

In Attendance: Mr. C Knight, Clerk

Members of the Public : 3

15/102 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Clarke and Thwaites

15/103 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15/104 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting held on October 13th., were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

15/105 DEFERMENT OF BUSINESS**15/105/01 Exmoor Bus Drivers**

Mr Godfrey Knock reported that a new additional driver for the Community Bus had been secured, but that more drivers were needed.

15/105/02 Ellersdown Lane Developments

Mr Knock also reported the following on behalf of the Brushford Action Group, following the recent additions to the application:

- Concerns that the drainage proposals were insufficient.
- Concerns that a new (replacement) 2 metre hedge is to be built.
- Indications from the latest house drawings that some appeared to be on platforms in order to compensate for the slope of the land and that this would further increase the overall visibility and be overbearing on existing properties.
- That there were now over 80 objections posted on West Somerset Council's Planning web site.
- That the group had taken no further action in the search for alternative building sites within the parish.

In the light of the above, Mr Knock requested the Parish Council to reconsider these new elements of the application and to make further representations to West Somerset Council in this regard.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would convene a special meeting to review this planning application and agreed to meet in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, November 17th at 6.30pm.

15/105/03 Brushford Post

Mrs Ceri Keene reported that there would be no issue of the Dulverton & Brushford Parish Magazine in January and that any publicity in regard to the proposed Traffic Calming Scheme in The Brushford Post might be delayed.

It was agreed that should this occur, the Council would consider a special publication of The Brushford Post to cover the subject.

15/105/04 Exmoor Flag

Mrs Keene also suggested that the Council consider including the words "Birthplace of the Exmoor Flag" on the proposed new village signs. This was considered to be too late as (reduced) wording for the signs had been agreed.

15/105/05 Brushford Voluntary Lifts

Mr Walford Gilison reported that SCC plans to cut the subsidy currently provided to the Voluntary Lifts Scheme, which would result in the cost of a return visit to Musgrave Hospital, Taunton would increase from £12.50 to £18.00.

He reported that the Voluntary Lifts Groups are to hold an extraordinary meeting on November 24th and he would report accordingly at the next Parish Council Meeting.

15/106 FINANCIAL REPORT**15/106/01 Payment Authorisation**

The following due payments were approved and relevant cheques signed:

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
Amherst & Shapland		Clerk's Wages	£352.17		£352.17	
		Amherst & Shapland monthly fee	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
		Clerk Wages and Administration	£364.67	£2.50	£367.17	NATWEST 000357
Exmoor Community Bus		Trips on Sept 29 (£44.55) & Oct 13th (£23.40)	£67.95	£0.00	£67.95	NATWEST 000358
Information Commissioner		Annual Subscription	£35.00	£0.00	£35.00	NATWEST 000359
C Knight		Expenses Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov	£202.72	£0.00	£202.72	NATWEST 000360

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
MR P Takel		1 X Grass Cuts @ £70	£70.00	£0.00	£70.00	NATWEST 000361
TOTAL			£740.34	£2.50	£742.84	

15/107 PARISH MAINTENANCE

15/107/01 Jubilee Gardens Access

During the month it was reported that the main five bar gate to Jubilee Gardens had been strapped up following the failure of the latch.

It was agreed that the latch on the small gate should be replaced and that the large gate should be padlocked.

15/107/02 Damaged Style on Dulverton Circular Path

This repair had been assumed to be the responsibility of SCC. However, Councillor Takel had been advised locally that it was the responsibility of the ENPA and that they had been advised accordingly. To be reviewed at the next meeting.

15/107/03 Damage to Railway Bridge

This was believed to be the responsibility of the Railways Authority. Mr Michael Martyn will be contacted to ascertain routes for requests to repair.

15/107/04 Traffic Calming Scheme

Councillor Nicholson reported that the scheme is still under consideration and that new plans are due to come forward. The following early changes are being considered:

- Removal of the Virtual Footpath
- Removal/reduction in Traffic Humps
- Remove consideration for 30mph regime all the way from Exebridge to Brushford

15/108 PARISH WELFARE

15/109/01 High Speed Broadband

Clerk reported that this had been due to start at the end of October, but had failed. Enquiries's had been made of both BT and Connecting Devon and Somerset, but no reply had been received.

15/109/02 Bus Services

Councillor Nicholson reported on developments as follows:

- **The 198 Service to Minehead**

Webbers are currently handling this service, but it is planned for ATWEST to cover in future with their 16 seater mini-bus, with some journeys attracting at Brushford.

- **The 25 Service to Taunton**

This service currently costs the County Council some £140k per annum, which is unaffordable.

It is planned for the journey to be split at Wiveliscombe, with a 10 minute wait for passengers before onward service to Taunton, starting in 2016. There will be no Saturday service.

It is estimated that this will save some £66k.

15/109 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3/04/15/018 Erection of Stables at Middle Upcott Farm, Langaller

This application was considered by Council and no objections, comments or observations were made.

15/110 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

15/110/01 Councillor Heywood

Councillor Heywood reported as follows:

- The proposed new multi-service provider mast on Haddon Hill had been approved by ENPA
- Financial stress at WSC is forecast to continue with further cuts in the pipeline for 2016.

15/111 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is to take place at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall on December 8th., preceded by the Special Planning Meeting on November 17th.

.....
N Prouse Chairman

08/12/15



BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Special Planning Meeting of Brushford Parish Council
held at the Parish Hall, Brushford on Tuesday, November 17th., 2015**

15/112 PRESENT

The following attended the meeting:

Parish Councillors: Mr T Wilson, Mr M Godfrey, Mrs S Cookson, Mrs F Takel, Mrs J Sandiford, Mr J Clarke

County & District Councillors in Attendance : Mr B Heywood, Mr N Thwaites

In the Chair: Mr N Prouse

In Attendance: Mr. C Knight, Clerk

Members of the Public : 6

15/113 PURPOSE OF MEETING

The meeting had been convened following the previous Parish Council Meeting a week earlier in order to consider the latest developments of Planning Application Ref **3/04/15/004 Proposed residential development of 13 properties in Ellersdown Lane** in the light of new additions to the application.

15/114 DISCUSSION

The Chairman opened the meeting to allow members of the public to voice their concerns which was carried out in the Council's spirit of openness and transparency. There followed a wide discussion on key elements of the application which were causing concern.

15/115 MEETING OUTCOME

It was agreed that the Council would write formally to the West Somerset Council, covering the following key elements:

- Concern at the drainage proposals which were considered grossly inadequate.
- Potential sewage problems.
- Reaffirmation of the Council's original objections to the application.

The Clerk is to draw up the proposed documentation for input from Councillors before final submission.

The meeting closed at 7.15 pm.

.....
N Prouse Chairman

08/12/15



BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Brushford Parish Council
held at the Parish Hall, Brushford on Tuesday, December 8th., 2015**

15/116 PRESENT

The following attended the meeting:

Parish Councillors: Mr T Wilson, Mr M Godfrey, Mrs S Cookson, Mrs F Takel, Mrs J Sandiford, Mr B Heywood., Mr J Clarke, Mr N Thwaites

County & District Councillors in Attendance : Mrs F Nicholson

In the Chair: Mr N Prouse

In Attendance: Mr. C Knight, Clerk

Members of the Public : 2

15/117 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Nicholson

15/118 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15/119 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting held on November 10th., were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

15/120 DEFERMENT OF BUSINESS**15/120/01 Brushford Voluntary Lifts**

Mr Walford Gillison, Chairman of Brushford Voluntary Lifts detailed the work carried out by the Voluntary Lifts Scheme as follows:

- The scheme has been in existence for 10 years and provides 250 lifts a year to residents of Brushford and Dulverton.
- There are 14 drivers - 4 from Dulverton and 10 from Brushford, who provide their services free of charge.
- Dulverton have been invited to establish their own scheme on 2 occasions, but have chosen to stay with the status quo.
- The scheme currently enjoys a SCC subsidy of 20p/mile for the first 50 miles, meaning that a return trip to Musgrave costs £12.50, providing an excellent service at an affordable cost.

Mr Gillison reported that County were planning to reduce the subsidy, resulting in the cost of a trip to Musgrave increasing to £18.00.

Mr Gillison requested that the Parish Council write to the local MPs and other interested parties to request support in resisting this reduction in subsidy, given the considerable benefits it provides to the community.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write accordingly.

A decision by SCC is expected by January 12th., 2016.

15/121 FINANCIAL REPORT**15/121/01 Payment Authorisation**

The following due payments were approved by Council and relevant cheques signed:

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
Amherst & Shapland		Clerk's Wages	£352.17		£352.17	
		Amherst & Shapland monthly fee	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
		Clerk Wages and Administration	£364.67	£2.50	£367.17	NATWEST 000362
Exmoor Community Bus		Trip on 3rd November	£44.10	£0.00	£44.10	NATWEST 000363
MR P Takel		Tractor Insurance premium contribution	£100.00	£0.00	£100.00	NATWEST 000364
		Collection of winter salt	£20.00	£0.00	£20.00	NATWEST 000365
		Total Mr Takel	£120.00	£0.00	£120.00	NATWEST 000366
Claire Savill		Printing Brushford Parish Post October issue	£84.93	£0.00	£84.93	NATWEST 000367
TOTAL			£613.70	£2.50	£616.20	

15/121/02 2016/17 Budget

Clerk presented the year end forecast, together with the draft budget for 2016/17 as follows:

Annual Expense-2

ANNUAL EXPENSE	YTD	
STAFF COSTS	£2,209.02	41.50%
MAINTENANCE	£980.00	18.41%
GRANTS	£600.00	11.27%
SUBSCRIPTIONS	£134.64	2.53%
INSURANCE	£310.69	5.84%
BRUSHFORD ACTIVITY GROUP	£0.00	0.00%
ADVERTISING/WEB	£0.00	0.00%
MISC EXPENSE	£628.59	11.81%
RENT	£25.00	0.47%
COMMUNITY BUS	£435.55	8.18%
TOTAL OTHER COSTS	£3,114.47	58.50%
TOTAL	£5,323.49	100.00%

Annual Income-2

DATE	DEBTOR	AMOUNT	CUMULATIVE
1st April 2014	Opening Balance	£3,893.87	£3,893.87
28/4/15	WSC Precept Charged to Taxpayer	£5,250.00	£9,143.87
22/9/15	WSC Precept Charged to Taxpayer	£5,250.00	£14,393.87
	WSC Precept Transitional Grant		£0.00
17th April 2015	Cash	£68.00	£68.00
16 Jun 2015	Cash	£75.00	£143.00
6 Aug 2015	Cash	£66.00	£209.00
11 Nov 2015	Cash	£268.00	£477.00
			£477.00
			£477.00
	TOTAL OTHER RECEIPTS	£477.00	
	TOTAL	£14,870.87	
	LESS TOTAL EXPENSE	(£5,323.49)	£9,547.38
	BALANCE CARRIED FWD	£9,547.38	£9,547.38

Annual Expenditure by Month -1

MONTHLY EXPENSE	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	TOTAL
STAFF COSTS	£367.17	£367.17	£367.17	£373.17	£367.17	£367.17	£367.17	£367.17	£367.17	£367.17	£367.17	£367.17	£4,412.04
MAINTENANCE	£70.00	£140.00	£140.00		£360.00	£270.00	£150.00	£70.00	£120.00	£120.00	£120.00	£60.00	£1,620.00
GRANTS						£600.00							£600.00
SUBSCRIPTIONS						£134.64							£134.64
INSURANCE		£310.69											£310.69
BRUSHFORD ACTIVITY GROUP													£0.00
ADVERTISING/WEB													£0.00
MISC EXPENSE	£218.97			£179.50	£141.38	£88.74	£322.30	£237.72	£84.93	£150.00	£50.00	£150.00	£1,623.54
RENT		£25.00											£25.00
COMMUNITY BUS		£61.60	£235.35		£68.85	£69.75	£79.20	£67.95	£44.10	£75.00	£65.00	£50.00	£816.80
TOTAL OTHER COSTS	£288.97	£537.29	£375.35	£179.50	£570.23	£1,163.13	£551.50	£375.67	£249.03	£345.00	£235.00	£260.00	£5,130.67
TOTAL	£656.14	£904.46	£742.52	£552.67	£937.40	£1,530.30	£918.67	£742.84	£616.20	£712.17	£602.17	£627.17	£9,542.71

It was agreed that Councillors would give consideration to the forecast and make the decision at the next meeting in order to meet the deadlines required from WSC.

EXPENSE	2014/15 FORECAST	2015/16 BUDGET	2015/16 FORECAST	2016/17 BUDGET
STAFF COSTS	£4,328.04	£4,436.24	£4412.04	£4,450.00
MAINTENANCE	£1,830.00	£1,900.00	£1620.00	£1,800.00
GRANTS	£550.00	£600.00	£600.00	£700.00
SUBSCRIPTIONS	£136.53	£140.00	£134.64	£150.00
INSURANCE	£302.40	£305.00	£310.69	£320.00
ELECTION COSTS		£1,500.00	£0.00	£0.00
ADVERTISING/WEB				
MISC EXPENSE	£2,217.68	£2,300.00	£1623.54	£1,800.00
RENT	£187.00	£195.00	£25.00	£200.00
COMMUNITY BUS			£816.80	£800.00
TOTAL OTHER COSTS	£5,223.61	£6,940.00	£5130.67	£5,770.00
TOTAL	£9,551.65	£11,376.24	£9542.71	£10,220.00

15/122 HIGHWAYS

Clerk reported that to date, there was no news from SCC on this matter.

15/123 PARISH MAINTENANCE**15/123/01 Stile on Brushford/Dulverton Path**

Councillor Godfrey reported that the damaged stile had been taken down. There was no news from ENPA on the matter.

15/124 PARISH WELFARE**15/123/02 Highspeed Broadband**

Fibre optic high speed broadband was now due for introduction, based on Connecting Devon & Somerset's website. It was agreed that users would be encouraged to apply for connection to establish status.

15/123/02 Bus Services

It was suggested that the new 198 service to be operated by Atwest should also go to Exebridge. Clerk to advise Councillor Nicholson.

15/123/03 Community Bus

Councillor Wilson reported that the new Community Bus is to be delivered shortly and that it will be "on show" at Dulverton on Saturday, December 12th.

15/124 PLANNING MATTERS**15/124/01 Application No. 3/04/15/020 Erection of Garage/Log Store at Sullys, Brushford**

There were no objections or comments on this application.

15/124/02 Application 3/04/15/007 Retention of Mobile Home, Little Allshire - Appeal

It was noted that this application was being put to appeal.

15/124/003 WSC Call for Sites

Councillor Clarke reported that minutes concerning the interim release of sites shown on the WSC site in the section for the Local Plan to 2032 included two sites in Brushford which had passed a "higher assessment criteria" these being the two fields to the North of Ellersdown Lane and the field behind the Parish Hall. As these sites had not been included within the interim release of sites there was no material change but it was noted that WSC had not made any effort to notify the council. Accordingly it was agreed that the Clerk should make enquiries.

15/125 MEETINGS

15/125/01 ENPA

Councillor Cookson reported that the recent ENPA meeting had discussed the Economic Growth Plan for the Park.

15/125/02 Parish Hall AGM

It was noted that the recent AGNM of the Parish Hal did not include a statement/report from the Chair.

15/126 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Councillor Heywood reported that Arqiva had withdrawn from the plan t establish a new multi-operator mast for mobile communications and that the project might have to extend the deadline in order to secure an alternative contractor.

15/127 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is to take place at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall on January 12th., 2016

.....
N Prouse Chairman

12/01/15



BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Brushford Parish Council
held at the Parish Hall, Brushford on Tuesday, January 12th., 2016**

15/128 PRESENT

The following attended the meeting:

Parish Councillors: Mr T Wilson, Mr M Godfrey, Mrs S Cookson, Mrs F Takel, Mrs J Sandiford, Mr B Heywood., Mr J Clarke,

County & District Councillors in Attendance : Mr N Thwaites, Mr B Heywood

In the Chair: Mr N Prouse

In Attendance: Mr. C Knight, Clerk

Members of the Public : 3

15/129 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Nicholson

15/130 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15/131 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting held on December 8th., were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

15/132 DEFERMENT OF BUSINESS**15/132/01 HM Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations**

Mrs Barbara Wilson requested use of the play area and Jubilee Gardens for a Children's Picnic on June 12th., 2016 to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday, which was unanimously supported by Council.

15/132/01 Brushford Voluntary Lifts

Mr Gillison reported that there are strong indications that concessionary fares for the Voluntary Lifts Schemes across the County are to be cut, following a meeting of all such schemes in the county (of which there are now 184 drivers involved). A Public Meeting is to be held on February 7th in an attempt to have the cuts stopped, but Mr Gillison noted that this is generally thought to be unachievable. He therefore requested the Parish Council (and, via Councillor Thwaites for Dulverton Town Council) to be prepared for a grant application to replace the reduced subsidies.

As the financial controller of the Brushford Scheme, Councillor Clarke estimated that a total of £1,000 would be required to make up this shortfall, amounting to £500 per Council. (See 15/133/03 Brushford Voluntary Lifts).

15/133 FINANCIAL REPORT**15/133/01 Payment Authorisation**

The following due payments were approved by Council and relevant cheques signed:

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
Amherst & Shapland		Clerk's Wages	£352.17		£352.17	
		Amherst & Shapland monthly fee	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
		Clerk Wages and Administration	£364.67	£2.50	£367.17	NATWEST 000366
TOTAL			£364.67	£2.50	£367.17	

15/133/02 2016/17 Budget and Precept

Following the discussion last month on the Precept for the forthcoming year, it was agreed that the precept should be set at £11,000.00 to ensure cover for the probable requirements of the Brushford Voluntary Lifts Scheme grant (see 15/133/03 below).

15/133/02 Clerk Wages

Having previously requested a review of the Clerk's wages at the request of the Chairman, the clerk presented the current wage structure as follows:

Current salary w.e.f May, 2013 **£344.62**

Based on 8 hours/week @ £9.941/hour = 8 x £9.941 x 52/12 = £344.62 (£9.941 = Spinal Column Point 21)

Spinal column rates were increased in 2015 as follows:

SCP	20	£9.900
SCP	21	£10.261
SCP	22	£10.527
SCP	23	£10.836

The Clerk left the meeting to facilitate open discussion by Councillors.

It was agreed that the Clerk's Wages should be now based on the new Spinal Column Point 22 (£10.527/hour), which would result in an increase as follows:

$10.527 \times 8 \times 52/12 = £364.94$ per month w.e.f February 2016.

15/133/03 Brushford Voluntary Lifts

Councillor Clarke provided the following estimate on the costs for the Voluntary Lifts Scheme, in the event of a 50% cut in subsidy by SCC from 20p/mile to 10p/mile:

BVL currently operates at 10,000 miles per annum, earning a 20p/mile subsidy, amounting to £2,000.00 per annum.

The decrease would result in a £1,000.00 per annum shortfall, which could be subsidised by grants from Brushford Parish Council and Dulverton Town Council of £500.00 each.

Councillor Clarke pointed out that Councillor Nicholson plans to apply for a grant from the Health and Wellbeing Fund at SCC, but this is to be confirmed.

15/134 HIGHWAYS : TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME

In the absence of Councillor Nicholson, there was no news on the Traffic Calming Scheme.

15/135 PARISH WELFARE

15/135/01 Superfast Broadband

It was confirmed that this service was now available to Brushford residents and was welcomed by Council.

15/135/02 Bus Services

There was no news on any further changes.

15/135/03 A396 Closure

In view of the significant time that the A396 between the Exeter Inn and Cove will be closed, it was agreed that a piece should be placed in the Brushford Post to advise the Community of the possible alternative routes.

15/136 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Councillor Heywood reported that WSC faced further stringent restrictions on budgets in the light of central government's requirement that a back-payment of £1.5 million is to be paid to Hinkley,

15/137 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is to take place at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall on February 9th., 2016

.....
N Prouse Chairman

09/02/16



BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Brushford Parish Council
held at the Parish Hall, Brushford on Tuesday, February 9th., 2016**

15/138 PRESENT

The following attended the meeting:

Parish Councillors: Mr T Wilson, Mr M Godfrey, Mrs S Cookson, Mrs F Takel, Mr J Clarke,

County & District Councillors in Attendance : Mr N Thwaites, Mr B Heywood, Mrs F Nicholson

In the Chair: Mr N Prouse

In Attendance: Mr. C Knight, Clerk

Members of the Public : 5

15/139 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

15/140 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15/141 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting held on January 12th., were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

15/142 DEFERMENT OF BUSINESS**15/142/01 Brushford Voluntary Lifts**

Walford Gillison reported that SCC have relented on their plans to reduce their support for concessionary fares and that, for at least the forthcoming year, the Lift Scheme will not be looking for financial support from the Parish Council. It was noted that this may well become the case next year.

15/142/02 Brushford Open Gardens Day

Jane Erith reported that the plans for Brushford Open Gardens Day on June 26th are progressing well and confirmed the group's request of the Parish Council to support the day with funding for flower tubs to be placed throughout the village on a permanent basis. This matter is dealt with later in the meeting (see 15/142/04 Grant for Flower Tubs)

15/142/03 Brushford Parish Post

Ceri Keene advised the Council that, due to taking on the publication of the Exmoor News, she will no longer be able to produce the Brushford Post with effect from the next issue.

Mrs Keene also requested that the Parish Church sign be resited on the telegraph pole at the junction of Brushford New Road and the B3222 and it was agreed that Mr Takel would carry out this work.

15/142/04/HM Queen's Birthday Celebrations

Barbara Wilson reported that the children are planning to hold an art competition as part of the celebrations.

15/142/05 Brushford Bell Ringing Group

Roger Routledge spoke on behalf of the new bell ringing group in support of their application for a grant as follows:

- The group consists of eight members and was formed last October.
- The village has had no formal bell ringing group for more than 25 years, although visiting bell ringers have provided services.
- The group is receiving training from bell-ringing groups at Bampton, Carhampton and Minehead.
- However, it is necessary that rope skills can only be developed over a considerable period of time.
- In order to carry out bell ringing practice without unnecessarily disturbing residents, the group wishes to purchase the Abel "Silent Bells" computer system, which is composed of computer software, sensors on "silent" bells, cabling, speakers etc.
- The group plans to commence practice on February 16th between 6.30 and 8.00pm and are targeting Easter for their first public ringing.
- In the longer term, they hope to involve young people to join the group and become proficient bell-ringers.
- The group is seeking £560.00 for the complete kit as detailed above.

15/143 PAYMENT AUTHORISATION

The following due payments were approved by Council and relevant cheques signed:

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
Amherst & Shapland		Clerk's Wages	£364.94		£364.94	
		Amherst & Shapland monthly fee	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
		Clerk Wages and Administration	£377.44	£2.50	£379.94	NATWEST 000367
Printing at the Vicarage		Brushford Parish Post printing	£84.93		£84.93	NATWEST 000368
TOTAL			£462.37	£2.50	£464.87	

15/144 HIGHWAYS

15/144/Police Speed Checks

Councillor Wilson reported that the Police had carried out a speed trap in the village, when a number of motorists were caught speeding. It is understood that further checks will be carried out and this was welcomed by the Council.

15/144/02 Traffic Calming Scheme

The proposed Traffic Calming Scheme plans were viewed and discussed. There are no requests for any changes.

However, it was agreed that the scheme should be communicated to the public as widely as possible, utilising the following:

- Email to the Community List
- Posting on the Council's website
- Feature in the next edition of the Parish Post.

15/145 PARISH WELFARE

15/145/01 Brushford Voluntary Lifts

In the light of the decision by County not to proceed with a cut to the support to the lifts scheme, it was agreed that the £500 budgeted in this year's accounts should be carried forward into 2017/18.

15/145/02 Battleton Road Closure

It was noted that despite the road closure at Battleton, it was being opened for the school bus. However, it was also noted that bus access to Dulverton from Brushford was proving difficult.

15/145/03 Grant to Bell Ringing Group

The meeting discussed the request for a grant of £560 to the new Bell Ringing Group as proposed by Roger Routledge in deferment of business (see 15/142/05 Brushford Bell Ringing Group). It was agreed to provide a grant for 50% of the total (£280.00), provided that the group could secure match funding from (possibly) the Brushford PCC.

15/145/04 Grant for Flower Tubs

The meeting discussed and agreed the request for a grant of £216 for the purchase of six wooden half barrels from Cove Garden Nursery @£36.00 each for the Brushford Open Gardens project.

15/145/05 HM Queen's Birthday Celebrations

Councillor Clarke reminded the Council that the Public Liability Cover is provided under the Parish Council's insurance policy and that it was therefore important that any activity carried out by the Brushford Activity Group must be done *on behalf of the Brushford Parish Council*. Clerk is to advise Mrs Wilson accordingly.

15/145/06 Exmoor Community Bus

The Clerk reported that there had been a small increase in the cost of the hire of the Community Bus which is to take effect from April 1st as follows:

Current cost = 45p/Kilometre = 72.42p/mile. New cost = 75p/mile.

The minimum charge will increase from £10 to £20 with immediate effect.

It was noted that the new charges agreed with Councillor Wilson will cover this increase, but the situation will be monitored as usual.

15/146 PLANNING APPLICATIONS, APPEALS AND DECISIONS

15/146/01 Application No. 3/04/16/001 : Springfield, Oldways End.

This application was discussed and there were no comments or observations.

15/147 MEETINGS

Councillor Cookson reported that she had recently attended a meeting at the ENPA, who are organising a “Young Voices” Meeting at Wheddon Cross on Thursday, February 11th to discuss housing, work opportunities etc in an effort to encourage young people to stay within the community rather than move away to find work.

15/148 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

15/148/01 Councillor Nicholson

Councillor Nicholson noted that there have been no Council Tax increases on behalf of SCC for 6 years. However, she reported a 5.24% proposed increase in Council Tax for the forthcoming year, made up from the following items of expenditure:

+1.99% for 2016/17

+2.0% for Adult Social Care

+1.25 for Somerset Rivers Authority

It is estimated that this will be the equivalent of +/-£50 per year for a Band D Property.

15/148/02 Councillor Heywood

Councillor Heywood reported that the WSC are due to have their Budget-setting meeting on February 25th. and that a £5.00 per month increase in District Council Tax will be proposed, plus a 1.25% charge for the Somerset Rivers Authority.

He reported that there was no news on planning matters in regard to the Ellersdown Lane application.

15/149 BUSINESS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the Council should revisit the Flood Alleviation Plan for Exebridge at the next meeting. In the mean time, the Clerk will renew contact with the Environment Agency who were instrumental in carrying out the banking work at Exebridge last year.

15/150 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This was agreed as Tuesday, March 8th at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall.

.....
N Prouse Chairman
08/03/16



BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Brushford Parish Council
held at the Parish Hall, Brushford on Tuesday, March 8th., 2016**

15/151 PRESENT

The following attended the meeting:

Parish Councillors: Mr T Wilson, Mr M Godfrey, Mrs S Cookson, Mr J Clarke, Mrs J Sandiford

County & District Councillors in Attendance : Mr N Thwaites, Mr B Heywood, Mrs F Nicholson

In the Chair: Mrs F Takel

In Attendance: Mr. C Knight, Clerk

Members of the Public : 3

15/152 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Prouse

15/153 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15/154 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting held on February 9th., were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

15/155 DEFERMENT OF BUSINESS**15/155/01 Bramblehurst Planning Reapplication**

Mr R Byrt of Exebridge attended the meeting to voice his opposition to the planning reapplication No.3/04/16/002, Brambehurst, Exebridge as follows:

- The property originally (pre 1987) had vehicular access via the land now occupied by Higher Exe
- The application raises noise and visual impacts.
- The property is in a flood risk area, contrary to the claim in the application.
- A footpath already exists.
- There is the possibility of petrol and oil from cars parked in the proposed new car park area leeching into the watercourse and thence into the river Exe.

The Council noted his comments and stated they would be considered in the review later in the meeting.

15/155/02 Road Closures

Mr Gillison thanked the Council for the regular updates on works on the public highway, but asked if there was any information regarding a rumoured closure of the Taunton road at Wiveliscombe

The Clerk is to examine and report.

15/156 FINANCIAL REPORT

15/156/01 Council Tax Bills for 2016/17

The Council had been advised by WSC that due to an accounting error, the full precept for 2015/16 was not collected from taxpayers and the shortfall of £2,264.54 was funded by WSC. This has meant that in the comparison calculation of the difference between 2015/16 and 2016/17 has been grossly overstated at +33.98% as opposed to the *real* change of some 5%.

Attempts had been made to explain the reason for this error, but it was decided that, given the complexity of the calculations, it would be better to address any concerns from the community on an individual basis.

15/156/02 Payment Authorisation

The following payments were approved and the relevant cheques signed:

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
Amherst & Shapland		Clerk's Wages	£364.94		£364.94	
		Amherst & Shapland monthly fee	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
		Clerk Wages and Administration	£377.44	£2.50	£379.94	NATWEST 000369
C Knight		Expense : Dec, Jan & Feb	£148.26	£7.67	£155.93	NATWEST 000370
P Takel		Salt Collection	£20.00		£20.00	
		Hedge cutting & J Gardens maintenance	£140.00		£140.00	
		Road salting 4 x £25	£100.00		£100.00	
		TOTAL PARISH MAINTENANCE	£260.00		£260.00	NATWEST 000371
		CANCELLED				NATWEST 000372
Exmoor Community Bus		Trip 2/2/16 63m @ 71p	£44.73		£44.73	NATWEST 000373
Brushford PCC		Grant to new Bell ringers group	£280.00		£280.00	NATWEST 000374
Cove Garden Nursery		Grant for Village Tubs	£180.00		£180.00	NATWEST 000375

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
TOTAL			£1290.43	£10.17	£1300.60	

15/157 HIGHWAYS

15/157/01 Traffic Calming Scheme

Following the publication of the Traffic Calming Scheme on the Council website, one email has been received to voice objection and the Clerk is to respond to this.

The mailed letter of notification to residents on the main road had elicited three responses, of which only one commented on the cost of the project.

It was decided to proceed with the proposed scheme, which is due to be implemented in August. It was also agreed that should the works require a full road closure, the task should be postponed to later in the year when tourism traffic had ceased.

15/157/02 Finger Posts

It was noted that a meeting is to be held at ENPA on Friday, March 11th to take this project forward.

15/157/03 Damage to Railway Bridge at Langaller

It was noted that no formal response had been received from County on this matter. Clerk to pursue.

15/157/04 Road Closure at Battleton

It was reported by Councillor Nicholson that the closure at Battleton had had to be extended due to power being detected on the pipework.

15/158 PARISH WELFARE

15/158/01 Bus Services

It was confirmed that due to the road closure at Battleton, the 398 Service was not coming through Brushford for the time being.

15/158/02 Exebridge Flood Plan

It was agreed that this project should be pursued.

Possible grants are available from Devon County Council, which could be accessed via Morebath Parish Council.

In addition, Councillor Nicholson suggested that further grants may be available through the Somerset Civil Contingencies department and communityresiliencesomerset.org.uk.

It was agreed that the clerk would progress the project.

15/158/03 Hanging Baskets

It was noted that the Parish Hall Committee had been asked to replace the hanging basket hooks on the Hall to facilitate easier watering.

15/158/04 HM Queen's 90th Birthday

The following events are now planned:

- Beacon Lighting on April 21st
- A youth Disco at the Parish Hall on Saturday, May 23rd
- A possible Open Air Church Service in Jubilee Gardens
- A Children's Picnic in Jubilee Gardens

In addition to the above, there is to be a children's painting activity, tied in with the Brushford Open Gardens project.

15/159 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

15/159/01 Application No.3/04/16/002, Bramblehurst, Exebridge

This application was discussed and the following comments made:

- The property already has 2 garages and space for 2 cars
- The appeal is similar to previous applications, all of which have been refused
- The property is in a Flood Risk area
- Possible pollution of the river Exe from petrol and oil leeching into the ditch
- The opinions of three adjoining residents should be actively considered

It was agreed that the Clerk is to respond, opposing the application.

15/159/02 WSC Planning Committee Meeting

It was noted that the next Planning Committee Meeting is to be held on Friday March 24, when the Ellersdown Lane Proposed Development is to be considered. This is to be preceded by a Site Meeting on Monday, March 21st.

15/160 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 12th at 6.30 and that it will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting, starting at 6.00pm. It was agreed that the Chairs of the Voluntary Lifts and the Parish Hall would be invited to speak at this meeting.

15/161 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

It was noted that Ceri Keene will no longer be able to produce the Brushford Parish Post, following the next edition due later in March. A replacement is to be sought.

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N Prouse, Chairman

12/04/16