



## **BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BRUSHFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 16TH 2024**

#### **23/138 PRESENT**

The following took part in the meeting

Parish Councillors:

Councillor N. Prouse, Councillor F. Takel, Councillor H. Albery, Councillor J. Sandiford, Councillor S. Cookson

In Attendance

Councillor F. Nicholson

Clerk :

J. Aldridge

Public :

#### **23/139 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor S. Pugsley

#### **23/140 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made.

## 23/141 DEFERMENT OF BUSINESS

## 23/142 APPROVAL OF DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Approved by Councillor Takel and seconded by Councillor Cookson subject to amendment

## 23/143 FINANCIAL REPORT

### 23/143/01 Payment Authorisation

The following January payments were approved, the Clerk will now make the BACS payments:

#### PAYMENT AUTHORISATION : JANUARY 16TH. 2024

PAYEE	INVOICE NO.	EXPENSE	NET	VAT	GROSS	CHEQUE NUMBER
Amherst & Shapland		Staff Wages - uplift inc. back pay	£1,419.70		£1,419.70	
		Amherst & Shapland monthly fee	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	
		<b>Total Staff Wages and Administration</b>	<b>£1,432.20</b>	<b>£2.50</b>	<b>£1,434.70</b>	<b>BACS</b>
Mrs J Aldridge		Refund for payment re: printer cartridges	£10.82	£2.17	£12.99	BACS
Somerset Bus Partnership		Financial Contribution	£120.00		£120.00	BACS
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£1,563.02</b>	<b>£4.67</b>	<b>£1,567.69</b>	

## **23/144 PATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS**

Councillor Albery has been invited to attend a Final Warden Surgeries meeting with the Wardens but has declined as parish is so small.

## **23/145 PARISH MAINTENANCE**

### **23/145/01 Proposed Services to be taken on by Parish/Town Councils**

It was proposed at the Exmoor LCN on the evening of 11th January 2024 that the Parish and Town Councils consider the financial implications of taking on the following tasks:

Purchase/maintenance/filling of grit and grit bins

Roadside verges maintenance including grass cutting

Drain jetting/gully cleansing

Following a full explanation from Councillor Nicholson the Councillors had a discussion and decided they could take on purchase of the grit and roadside verges maintenance but need to check on the cost of drain jetting and gully cleansing once the information is available from Chris Dubery's pilot scheme.

### **23/145/02 Precept**

The Councillors discussed the amount the precept should be for 2024-2025 and following a vote decided to keep the amount the same as last year.

### **23/145/03 Jubilee Gardens Play Equipment**

The Clerk contacted The Wooden Workshop Bampton and is awaiting an email with details of the items of play equipment they produce. The Clerk has also been in contact with Councillors from Dulverton Town Council regarding play equipment and will collect brochures from their office.

### **23/145/04 Village Centre Project**

The Clerk met with a stonemason in order to gain a quote for a stone pillar topped with a sundial and a commemorative plaque for the fallen of Brushford in conflict

### **243145/05 BPC Gritter**

Following a request for the loan/hire of Brushford Parish Councils Gritter from the Chairman/Mayor of Dulverton Town Council the Councillors discussed the matter and decided not to loan the Gritter to Dulverton Town Council as it is not insured for A & B roads, they also decided to purchase a new Gritter as the current one is coming to the end of its life.

### **23/146 Possible Closure of Dulverton Community Recycling Centre**

Rumours have been spread about the closure of Dulverton Community Recycling Centre and just before the Parish Council meeting a formal notification was given by Somerset Council that it is planned for closure. Should this site be closed the nearest would be either Minehead or Wellington. Councillor Nicholson stated the decision to close the centre was not based on logical basis and has asked for financial data. The £2 charge scheme was made illegal so this cannot be reimplemented, so can this decision on the closure be scrutinised and put forward a constructive argument with the Council as to how it can be kept open Councillor Nicholson will badger for the information. It was suggested that a petition be drawn up to propose the site remains open for the local community.

### **23/147 NICHOLAS CLOSE SIGN - update**

The Councillors asked the Clerk to arrange for a sign to be made and it will be paid for by the Parish Council.

### **23/148 SID UPDATE**

The Police and Crime Commissioner Mark Shelford attended the Exmoor LCN meeting on 11th January. The Clerk took the opportunity to ask him about the agreed grant for Brushford Parish Councils SID. The Clerk was told to send him an email regarding this, she duly did this the following morning and has received a reply in which Mr Shelford has tasked Paul Butler to expedite this matter. The Clerk awaits the payment.

### **23/149 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

None received

**23/150 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Councillor Nicholson stated change of rules regarding DIY rules in relation to waste being taken to recycling sites. Councillor Nicholson also supplied the website information regarding getting the railway line changed to a footpath.

**23/151 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is to be Tuesday, February 13th 2024 at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall.

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N. Prouse Chair