

BINEGAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 2 September 2014 in the Memorial Hall at 7 30 pm

Present: Philip Blatchford, Gus Halfhide, Richard Higgins (Chair), and David Stone.

In attendance: Diane Abbott (Clerk), Anne Caley, Lynne Emery, Molly Reakes and Maxine Romain.

1	<p>Apologies for absence It was RESOLVED to accept apologies from Cath Law and Phil Roberts.</p>	
2	<p>Declarations of interests David declared an interest concerning the planning application of agenda item 8.1.</p>	
3	<p>Chair's announcements The Chair informed the meeting that the Council had received the resignation of Roger Anderson. The Chair stated that he would take the agenda in the following order: items 4, 19, 5.9 and 11.</p>	
4	<p>Minutes of the previous meetings It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the 1 July and 7 August meetings be signed as a correct record.</p>	
5	<p>Matters arising from the Minutes</p> <p>5.1 Tree works and churchyard [May 13] The meeting received a draft tender document for consideration. Following discussion members agreed that funding was available for tree works to take place in the current financial year. The meeting agreed that Diane and David should finalise the document and invite tenders.</p> <p>5.2 Cemetery Gates [June 14] Philip reported that the frame was complete and anticipated that the gate would be ready in 4 weeks. Philip stated that at some point the old gate would have to be removed to enable completion of the new gate. The Chair requested the Parochial Church Council be notified in advance of the gate removal.</p> <p>5.3 Council land at Emborough [Nov 13] The meeting received an up-date on the treatment of <i>Fallopia japonica</i> from Philip and Richard, after discussion it was agreed the item to be deferred to April 2015.</p> <p>5.4 Binegar Bottom land: replacement of gate posts [Nov 13] Philip reported he had been unable yet to replace the gatepost.</p> <p>5.5 Highways: requested works outstanding Binegar Bottom/Roemead Lane re-erection of road name sign – no action yet taken [Nov 13] Surface water drains on Station Road and Binegar Lane – no action yet taken [May 14]</p> <p>5.6 Planning issues 2014/0045 Turner's Court Lane: Traveller Pitch The meeting noted that this application had been approved with conditions. 2014/0492 Housing to rear of Flowerstone, Station Road The meeting noted that this application was still pending consideration 2014/0905 Proposed new house and relocation of parking, Tralee, Binegar Lane The meeting noted that this application was still pending consideration.</p>	<p>DA</p> <p>PB</p> <p>PB</p> <p>PB</p> <p>PB</p> <p>PB</p>

	<p>2014/0905 Housing to rear of Flowerstone, Station Road The meeting noted that this application was still pending consideration</p> <p>5.6.5 2014/1046 Change of use of agricultural building to dwelling The meeting noted this application had approval refused</p> <p>5.7 Projects for sustaining healthy lives [Jun 14] As Cath was not present, this item was deferred.</p> <p>5.8 Safety audit of memorial stones in churchyard and cemetery [Jun 14] The meeting received a verbal report from Gus on the audit and recommendations for changes to the burial policy. Richard gave an update on the repair of faulty headstones. After discussion, it was agreed that the 25 faulty headstones left standing be classed as priority 2 (not an immediate danger, not fully stable so reviewed in a year) and owners be advised of their condition.</p> <p>5.9 Dog fouling [Jun 14] Maxine Romain asked if it would be possible to have dog waste bins located in the village. The meeting agreed that the cost of bins and disposal of waste be looked into.</p> <p>5.10 Wayleave [Feb 14] The meeting noted that the George Inn sign had been removed from Clarkes Pool and thanked the Abbotts for their work.</p> <p>5.11 Honouring local people [Jul 14] The meeting agreed the item be deferred to 2015.</p> <p>5.12 Notice boards [Jul 14] The meeting noted that materials were in place to undertake renovations. The meeting thanked Jonathan Abbott.</p> <p>5.13 Playground Works [Aug 14] Philip reported on playground works. He stated that he had not received a date for installation of safety matting. Diane to chase the manufacturer.</p> <p>5.14 Archiving Parish Council Records Gus reported that a gap in burial records had been identified by the Somerset Archive. David informed the meeting that records for 1922-56 were in the care of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). It was agreed it was a PCC decision whether to archive the documents. Gus undertook to notify the Archive on the whereabouts of the records.</p> <p>Gus also reported that a bundle of burial information had been refused by the Archive. The meeting RESOLVED that the papers should be collected from the archive office and kept.</p>	<p>CL</p> <p>DA</p> <p>DA</p> <p>DA</p> <p>GH</p> <p>DA</p>
6	<p>Local government reports No reports were received</p>	
7	<p>Police report The Clerk reported that Lucy Bagnowiec was the new beat officer and that PCSO 6987 would attend Village Day. August incidents: 18 - dispute, Kingscombe; 19 - sheep on A37.</p>	
8	<p>Planning applications and issues 8.1 2014/1526 Bennett's Lane: change of use of agricultural building to dwelling Diane read a statement from Mr & Mrs Carter and shared planning papers. Following discussion it was RESOLVED to recommend that the decision be left to the Planning Officer following consultation responses.</p>	<p>RH</p>

	<p>8.2 2014/1287 Marchants Hill: replacement Vodafone masts / dishes – approved The Chair reported that no application had been received prior to confirmation of approval. The meeting agreed Mendip District Council be approached to clarify the situation.</p>	RH
9	<p>Financial matters</p> <p>9.1 Receipts since the last report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RW Connock & Son (funeral of A Matthews) £275.00 2. Dignity Funerals (funeral of E Wareham) £364.00 3. Binegar School PTA (closing balance paid to Binegar playground account) £489.99 <p>9.2 Standing order payments since the last report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Primrose Garden Maintenance for grass cutting: £1267.20 (3 & 4/7 payments) <p>9.3 Cheque payments It was RESOLVED to authorise the following payments and the cheques were signed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management training fee: £192.00 2. Playsafety Ltd for annual playground safety inspection: £128.40 3. Diane Abbott for contracted expenses: £74.10 4. Gus Halfhide for travel expenses: £38.70 5. Grant Thornton for Annual Return Fee: £120.00 6. Heather Wareham for Village Fun Day float (from playground account): £50.00 7. Philip Blatchford for travel expenses and playground matting disposal: £160.91 8. C G Tovey Tree Services for churchyard tree works: £600.00 <p>9.4 Annual return The meeting noted the conclusion of the annual audit and the Clerk advised the meeting that notices of this had been posted on notice boards and website.</p> <p>9.5 Financial summary The meeting received a summary of budget, spending and variances for Binegar Parish Council, Binegar Playing Fields Group, National Saving & Investments account.</p> <p>9.6 Financial risk strategy – reserves Following discussion, the meeting agreed to take reserves up held in the NS&I account to £5,000 and review annually.</p> <p>9.7 National Saving and Investment Bank authority Because too few Councillors were present, this authority could not be concluded.</p> <p>9.8 Internal audit review Members received a draft internal audit document from Gus. The meeting agreed to accept the draft and proposed that Diane approached Phil to ask if he would take on responsibility.</p>	DA
10	<p>Binegar Playing Fields Group The council noted receipt of the minutes of the meetings held on 8 July and 7 August 2014. Philip reported on the Village Day taking place on Sunday 7 September and encouraged members to attend.</p>	
11	<p>The Batch The Chair outlined options open to the Council to protect The Batch. After discussion it was agreed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Test the case for registering title by seeking a legal opinion from the <i>National Association of Local Councils</i> 	RH

	<p>2. Research the potential of village green status, investigating guidance from the County Council and <i>Open Spaces Society</i></p> <p>3. Write to the owner of High Banks requesting information about restoring the land used as temporary access</p> <p>4. Investigate if any wayleaves are paid for services located on The Batch</p>	RH DA DS
12	<p>Improving the village environment As Cath was not present this item was deferred.</p>	
13	<p>Speed Indicator Device (SID) The meeting considered a request from Ashwick Parish Council on a 3 Parish SID group. The meeting agreed that the Council would, in principle, be interested and asked that Ashwick be advised of this position.</p>	DA
14	<p>Complaints Procedure The meeting received a complaints procedure document from Diane. Following discussion, it was RESOLVED to adopt the procedure.</p>	DA
15	<p>Service to the community awards The meeting considered making nominations for the Somerset County Council Chairman's award. It was agreed Diane should approach spouses of potential nominees.</p>	DA
16	<p>Parish Paths The meeting received an oral report on footpaths from Gus. He stated that he had walked all footpaths, clearing them obstructions. He noted that path SM3/1 leading onto Coalpits Lane was blocked by a locked gate. The meeting agreed a letter be written to the lessee of the field asking for the gate to be opened for footpath users.</p>	DA
17	<p>Training Gus and Philip reported completion of pesticide spraying courses. The meeting considered and approved a request from Cath for £280.00 for life support skills training.</p>	DA
18	<p>Events attended There were no reports of events attended.</p>	
19	<p>Highways and rights of way Molly Reakes raised concerns over excessive parking in front of the playground and the potential danger to pedestrians. The meeting agreed the Council write to the Memorial Hall Committee requesting permission for playground visitors to use the car park.</p>	DA
20	<p>Correspondence Diane reported on 2 items of correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flyer from Avon & Somerset constabulary • Certificate of membership from SW Councils 	
21	<p>Items for the next or future agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October: Old Down Touring Park request to discharge water onto Council land • April: <i>Fallopia japonica</i> 	
22	<p>Date and time of next meeting It was agreed to meet at Binegar Memorial Hall on 7 October at 7 30 pm.</p>	

The Chair closed the meeting at 9 20 pm.