

## ***BINEGAR PARISH COUNCIL***

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2016 in the Memorial Hall at 7:30 pm

**Present:** Jon Abbott, Philip Blatchford, Richard Higgins (Chair), Cath Law, Phil Roberts, John Scadding and David Stone.

**In attendance:** Diane Abbott (Clerk), Cllr J Carter, Cllr R Carter, Tonya James.

1	<p><b>Apologies for absence</b> There were no apologies for absence.</p>	
2	<p><b>Chair's Announcements</b> The Chair informed the meeting that a planning application had been received for a residential development of 17 dwellings to the West of Flowerstone and that he had consulted with the Clerk to call an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on Thursday 15 December at 6.00 pm in the Memorial Hall. He stated that local people would be consulted and suggested that a copy of the agenda be distributed to those on the consultation list. Jon undertook to distribute the agendas.</p> <p>The Chair stated that Mendip had published a new planning enforcement plan. Though billed as "tough", evidence did not support this claim. John Carter stated that District Councillors had also expressed concerns and that action was being taken. The Chair undertook to write to Cllr Woolcoombe-Adams, Planning Portfolio Holder to outline the policy shortcomings.</p> <p>The meeting noted that Mendip District Council would be holding a Neighbourhood Planning Conference on 25 January 2017 and encouraged members to attend.</p>	<p>JA</p> <p>RH</p> <p>All</p>
3	<p><b>Declarations of interest</b> There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
4	<p><b>Minutes</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Minutes of the 1 November 2016 be signed as a correct record.</p>	
5	<p><b>Matters arising from the Minutes</b> <b>5.1 Highways and footpaths</b> The Meeting noted that street signs listed below had been surveyed by Mendip District Council's Asset Management Team and instructions had been given to I D Verdie to undertake the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Binegar Lane/A37 junction: missing street name (Nov 15)</li> <li>• King's Lane: broken road sign (Jun 16)</li> <li>• Roemead Lane: broken road sign (Jun 16)</li> </ul> <p>The meeting noted the following Highways items were completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whitnell Lane flood between Coldharbour Farm and B3139 (Jul 16)</li> <li>• A37 viaduct south of Old Down blocked gully (Nov 16)</li> </ul> <p>The meeting noted that the following Highways items remained outstanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turner's Court/Emborough Lane junctions: curb edge (Nov 16)</li> </ul> <p>The Clerk undertook to chase the outstanding item.</p> <p><b>5.2 Neville's Batch</b> John reported on discussion with the owner of High Banks. He said that the owner proposed to reinstate the grass on the area used for access but retain a gravel footpath to the house back gate.</p>	<p>DA</p>

	<p>He also planned to distribute the rocks along the side of the access around the perimeter of the Batch and leave the trees he had planted. The meeting asked John to continue contact.</p> <p><b>5.3 Planning applications and appeal</b> APP/Q3305/X/16/3155196 – Old Down Caravan Site BA3 4SA – winter occupation The meeting noted that no decision date had been set.</p> <p><b>5.4 Cemetery: request to place an additional memorial stone on a grave</b> The meeting noted correspondence from the family and after discussion voted against the request.</p>	JS
6	<p><b>Local government report</b> Cllrs John and Rachel Carter reported that a meeting of Mendip’s full Council was scheduled for the following week and that they would bring updates to the next Parish Council meeting.</p>	
7	<p><b>Planning applications</b> <b>13491/001BT</b> – Cott Close Farm, Marchants Hill BA3 4TY – proposed installation of mast The meeting considered this pre-consultation paper from Savills. After discussion, the meeting agreed to highlight that the installation was adjacent to a Grade II listed building and the prominence of the site was unfortunate.</p> <p><b>2016/2573/FUL</b> – Alfie’s Retreat BA3 4UA – Compliance with planning conditions The Chair up-dated the meeting on the current situation including the response submitted by Emborough. Whilst it was agreed there were no issues with the occupants, planning permissions as agreed had not been implemented and the meeting agreed to recommend refusal.</p> <p><b>2016/2784/CLP</b> – Binegar Cemetery BA3 4UG – Construction of cemetery shelter The meeting agreed to support the application for a shelter.</p> <p><b>No reference</b> – Binegar Green BA3 4UF – Proposal to remove public telephone box The Chair informed the meeting that 18 parishioners had responded to consultation on the removal of BT telephone box. After discussion, it was agreed to object to BT’s proposal to remove the box and request the installation of a useable and cost effective service.</p>	RH
8	<p><b>Financial matters</b> <b>8.1 Financial Control</b> The meeting received and noted a summary of the Council’s accounts</p> <p><b>8.2 Receipts since last report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2984.00 – Ralph &amp; Irma Sperring Grant donation (playground)</li> </ul> <p><b>8.3 Standing order payments since last report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £XXX.XX - Parish Clerk salary, November – confidential</li> </ul> <p><b>8.4 Approval of cheque payments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HMRC income tax - £153.00</li> <li>• Cemetery yew tree works - £1,056.00</li> <li>• Annual Return fee - £120.00</li> <li>• D Abbott expenses – Stamps and playground padlock - £25.59</li> </ul>	
9	<p><b>Budget 2017-18</b> The meeting received, considered and <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the budget and precept.</p>	

10	<p><b>Project updates</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Village signposts</b> (PR/DA) Phil and the Clerk informed the meeting they awaited a site visit with Somerset County Council.</li> <li>2. <b>Cemetery Shelter</b> (RH/JA) The meeting noted that the application determination date was 28 December 2016.</li> <li>3. <b>Binegar Bottom planting, clearing and woodland management plan</b> (JS/PB) John updated the meeting on his progress with FWAG including a potential funding stream to create leaky ponds to assist in flood prevention.  The meeting also agreed that action was required to divert surface water running down Roemead lane into the ditch on the South side of Binegar Bottom. The Chair requested David approach Chris Burr to assist with clearance.</li> <li>4. <b>The Fair Field</b> (with DS) The Chair informed the meeting that he and the Clerk had taken professional advice on process and on exchanging land for the Fair Field. After discussion, it was agreed that the Chair should approach the Diocese for a price to purchase the Fair Field. Philip expressed the view that the Council should not divest itself of assets.</li> <li>5. <b>Dementia-friendly villages</b> (with DA) Cath informed the meeting that she and the Clerk would work together to progress the project in 2017, alongside NHS health checks for parishioners.</li> <li>6. <b>Village history plaques</b> The Chair undertook to identify further potential history plaque sites within the villages.</li> </ol>	<p>JS</p> <p>DS</p> <p>RH</p> <p>CL</p> <p>RH</p>
11	<p><b>Playground</b></p> <p>The meeting received and considered a report from the Clerk. Diane stated that all playground inspections had been undertaken and maintenance listed.</p> <p>The Clerk informed the meeting that the application to the Ralph &amp; Irma Sperring Trust had been successful securing £2,984.00 and that John Scadding had secured a further £2,000 from a business donor who wished to remain anonymous.</p>	
12	<p><b>Grass cutting contract 2017-18</b></p> <p>The meeting considered and <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the quotation received from J &amp; K Primrose Garden Maintenance.</p>	
13	<p><b>Shepton Mallet United Charities – Almhouses</b></p> <p>Philip informed the meeting that he had recently met with Village Agent who had highlighted that Shepton Mallet United Charities Almhouses currently had no waiting list and encouraged members to find people to put their names down.</p>	
14	<p><b>Events attended</b></p> <p>There were no reports of events attended.</p>	
15	<p><b>Highways and rights of way</b></p> <p>The following was reported: Roemead Lane, new kerbstones to direct water run off</p>	
16	<p><b>Next meeting and future dates</b></p> <p>Extraordinary meeting 15 December at 6 00 pm, next ordinary meeting 7 February 2017 at 7 30 pm both in the Memorial Hall.</p> <p>2017: 7 March, 4 April, 2 May, 6 June, 4 July, 5 September, 3 October, 7 November, 5 December.</p>	

The Chair closed the meeting 8.52pm.