BINEGAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 3 April 2018 in the Memorial Hall at 7:30 pm

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

In attendance: Diane Abbott (Clerk), Cllr John Carter, Cllr Mike Pullen and 5 members of the public.

The Council heard parishioners speak on First Bus, Route 173. The raised concerns of recent rumours that the route would shortly not run through the villages of Gurney Slade and Binegar.

1	Apologies for absence It was RESOLVED to accept apologies from Cath Law.	
2	Chair's Announcements The Chair undertook to take item 15 after item 4. There were no other announcements.	
3	Declarations of interest Jon declared an interest in item 18.	
4	Minutes It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the 6 March 2018 be signed as a correct record.	
5	 Matters arising from the Minutes 1. Highways and footpaths The meeting noted that the work to replace broken road signs was complete. 2. Planning applications 2016/2573/FUL – Alfie's Retreat BA3 4UA The meeting noted that the status had changed from 'registered' to 'awaiting decision'. 2018/0255/OTS – Development of 15 dwellings west of Flowerstone The meeting noted the application was pending decision. 2018/0225/FUL – Detached dwelling, The Batch, Highcroft Lane, Binegar, BA3 4PT The meeting noted the application was pending decision. 3. Proposed permissive footpath between Binegar Bottom and footpath SM3/16 Phillip reported that he had forwarded a proposal to David and John for consideration. 4. Protection of verges The Clerk informed the meeting that she had met with Sara Davis from County Highways who had surveyed the areas of concern but did not think they warranted edge markers. 5. A37 Street Cleansing Phil informed the meeting that weekend cleansing had not been consistent. It was agreed approach Brian Perry with a request to wash both sides of the A37 each weekend. 	PB
6	Local government reports Cllr Mike Pullen reported that the County had received £80 million towards infrastructure. Cllr John Carter gave positive news of a balanced budget at Mendip.	
7	Planning applications and issues There were no planning applications for consideration.	

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8 Financial Matters

1. Financial position

The meeting received and considered accounts for the year to 31 March 2018. It was **RESOLVED** that the Chair and Clerk sign the accounts.

2. Receipts noted since the last report:

- £260.00 J Saunders land rent (2 years)
- £906.50 P Coombs land rent
- £100.00 − J E Emery − T Burr

3. Standing order payments noted since the last report:

£xxx.xx – Parish Clerk – March salary

4. Cheque payments authorised:

- £163.80 HMRC income tax January to March 2018
- £18.00 D Abbott mileage SID briefing
- £6.72 D Abbott 12 x 2nd class stamps
- £50.00 Mendip Community Transport donation

9 **2017-18 Financial year-end arrangements**

The meeting received and **RESOLVED** to approve for signature a Statement of Internal Controls for the year.

The meeting noted receipt of the statutory *Annual Governance and Accountability Return*. The Clerk advised next steps were to complete the financial parts of the *Return*, submit it for internal audit and meet the external auditor deadline for submission of 11 June.

10 Annual meeting with parishioners – 10 May 2018

The Chair invited members to look back at the Parish Council's achievements for the year. The Clerk undertook to highlight these in a display at the Annual Meeting.

DA

11 Speed indication devices (SIDs)

The meeting received an update from Jon on the options available to continue monitoring traffic speed on the A37. This included an option to create *Community Speedwatch Area.* After discussion, it was agreed that a meeting be arranged with the police to discuss the *Speedwatch* scheme, Phil, and Jon undertook to do this.

PR JA

12 **Projects**

1. A37 road improvements for Gurney Slade

The Chair informed the meeting that Sara Davis from Somerset Highways had visited and had discussed matters of concern to the village:

Speeding along the straight through the village

Sara undertook to install a radar for a 10-day period between Tellis and Binegar Lanes. It would measure the vehicle volume and speed. The data would help inform what other measures (SIDs, speed cameras, speedwatch etc.) might be best to control the issue.

Village signs

Sara viewed the existing signs and confirmed that the County would replace them. She pointed out that signs with gates behind or mounted on decorative posts would incur a cost for the parish both at installation and for maintenance. Sara undertook to supply the relevant legal and cost information. There were additional issues with which to cope including a County rule that signs bear the name of no more than one village and the location of new signs relative to speed limit signs. The position of the current signs was between the 40 and 30 mph limits.

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	Following John Law's advice to avoid pastel shades, the meeting agreed to darken the background blue of the crest.	
	Footpath	
	The meeting noted that no progress had been made in identifying the owner of the field with the broken wall adjacent to the footpath on the A37. David stated that he would check with a local contact about ownership.	
	Following her visit, the Chair stated that Sara Davis undertook to consider how to manage the issue of lorries mounting the pavement.	JS
	2. Binegar Bottom	13
	John informed the meeting that the provisionally scheduled date for start of drainage improvement works was 16 April.	
	The meeting agreed the suggestion from Ann Langdon of the <i>Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group</i> that, to help prevent vandalism, an explanatory sign be put in place.	
13	Playground The meeting received and noted the playground report.	
14	Five-year inspection of cemetery and churchyard memorials The Chair informed the meeting of the Council's policy to carry out an inspection once every five years (giving the public 28 days' notice) and to keep records of inspection results. He suggested a brief training session preceding the inspection and agreed to circulate dates to members.	
15	First bus: route 173	
	The meeting discussed concerns raised by parishioners. Cllr Mike Pullen undertook to follow up with Somerset County Council, as did the Clerk.	
16	Events attended Jon and the Clerk attended the Speed Indicator Device briefing in Somerton.	
17	Highways and rights of way The following were reported:	
	Car regularly parked on the pavement adjacent to the A37. The Clerk undertook to inform the local PCSO and provide Phil with her contact details.	
18	Staff appraisal The meeting received a report from the Chair (circulated to members) and RESOLVED to alter the Clerk's remuneration as set out in the Chair's report.	
19	Dates for the next and future meetings	
	To note the next meetings were 1 and 10 May 2018 in the Memorial Hall	
	Future meetings 2018-19: 10 May Annual Parish Meeting, 5 June, 3 July, 4 September, 2 October, 6 November, 5 February, 5 March	

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.30pm

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