

WEST HATCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of the West Hatch Parish Council held remotely via Zoom on Thursday 23rd July 2020

20/01 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Councillors: Read (Chairman), Bray, Harrison-Sleep, Kerr, Lodge, and Middleton

Apologies: Cllr Henley (SWT), Cllr Thorne (SCC), Cllr Knight

Public: One parishioner

20/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests.

20/03 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 28th January 2020, were approved as a correct record and will be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

20/04 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- **Damage to Meare Green Name Plate (19/53)**

The Clerk confirmed that following a meeting with SCC Highways, the sign has now been re-erected in a different location. SW&T Council has not charged the Council for the re-erection costs. 3 verge protector posts have also been installed at a cost to the Council of £150.

- **Memorial to Dougal Clark (19/58)**

The tree in memory of Dougal Clark has been planted in St Andrew's field and a commemoration plaque will be engraved. It is hoped that a commemoration event will be held when Covid-19 restrictions allow. It was agreed that the Parish Council would pay for the tree and plaque.

20/05 PARISHIONERS' FORUM

There were no issues raised.

20/06 TO RECEIVE THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The Receipts and Payments account was circulated prior to the meeting. Income received was £3142, expenditure £2442. It was agreed that the surplus should be used to restore the Parish fingerposts.

20/07 TO APPROVE SECTION 1 OF THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2019/20

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting. The Council approved Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement.

20/08 TO APPROVE SECTION 2 OF THE 2019/20 ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting. The Council approved Section 2 of the 2019/20 Accounting Statements

20/09 TO CONFIRM THAT THE COUNCIL WISHES TO CERTIFY ITSELF AS EXEMPT FROM THE LIMITED ASSURANCE REVIEW.

The Council confirmed that it met the criteria to certify itself as exempt from the limited assurance review. The Certificate of Exemption has been signed by the Chairman and Clerk and submitted to the external auditors.

20/10 TO REVIEW AND CONFIRM THE INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2020

The Council agreed that the insurance arrangements remained adequate for its needs and it was agreed to renew the existing policy on the same terms for a further 12 months.

20/11 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL

It was **resolved** to make the following payments:

a) Clerk's Salary (Jan-June)	£858.00
b) Came & Co - Insurance	£ 218.00
c) SALC – Training	£ 90.00
d) SALC- Affiliation Fees	£ 83.27
e) SWT – Election costs 2019	£100.00
f) SWT – Verge posts	£ 150.00
g) Somerset Wildlife Trust	£ 30.00
h) CPRE	£ 36.00

20/12 PLANNING MATTERS

One planning application has been received:

Ref 47/20/0006 – Erection of single storey extension to the rear of Hillcrest, West Hatch

It was agreed that the Parish Council supports this application.

20/13 CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS OR REPORT FOR INFORMATION

- **Local Government Reorganisation**

Somerset County Council has published its business case for a Unitary Authority for Somerset. Full details can be found at <https://onesomerset.org.uk/>

20/14 TO CONSIDER DATE AND FORMAT OF NEXT MEETING

If the Village Hall has re-opened and regulations allow, it is hoped that the Council will meet physically in September. The Clerk and Chairman will review the situation at the beginning of September and set a date for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm