WEST HATCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of the West Hatch Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 26th July 2016

**16/21 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

**Councillors: Biccard, Harrison-Sleap, Knight, Lodge, Middleton, Nicholls and Read**

**Public: 2 parishioners**

**Apologies: Cllr J Williams (TDBC)**

**16/22 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

 **There were no declarations of interests**

**16/23 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting, held on 17th May 2016, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**16/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

* **Flood Prevention schemes (15/84)**

**The Clerk circulated a draft letter which will be sent to the main landowners in Meare Green, and the contents were approved by the Council.**

* **Replacement/repair of finger posts (15/77)**

**SCC is in the process of compiling a guidance document in respect of the repair/refurbishment of finger post signs as several parishes in the county are looking to take responsibility for the future maintenance of the signs. It was agreed that the Council would await the guidance instructions before considering the matter further.**

* **Tree felling (raised at Annual Parish meeting)**

**The Clerk had contacted the TDBC Tree Officer who was unaware of the felling. He will visit the location when next in the area.**

**16/25 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

**The Council were reminded that the finger post at Meare Green had not been repaired and this was noted.**

**Concern at the inappropriate speed of vehicles travelling along Higher West Hatch Lane was again raised as there have been several occasions recently of ‘near misses’. It was agreed to contact SCC once again to request that consideration be given to implementing a speed limit.**

**16/26 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

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

1. Clerk’s Salary £257.40
2. Clerk’s Expenses £ 20.00
3. CPRE £ 36.00
4. West Hatch Village Hall £250.00
5. CCS £ 40.00

**16/27 PLANNING MATTERS**

**The Council has been advised that TDBC has approved the following application:**

**47/16/0002 Single storey extension at Fairacre, West Hatch**

**16/28 BROADBAND VOUCHER SCHEME – UPDATE**

**Neroche Parish is looking into the possibility of using the Broadband Voucher scheme to provide broadband coverage to eligible properties. Approximately 10 properties in West Hatch would be interesting in joining in with the scheme.**

**16/29 REPORTS OF PARISH COUNCIL WORKING PARTIES**

**Report from Footpaths leader : Cllr Nicholls advised the Council that he wishes to step down as PPLO as he has now moved away from the Parish. Cllr Biccard agreed to take over the role.**

**Report from Trees/Conservation leader: In light of the previous agenda item regarding tree felling, Cllr Harrison-Sleap suggested that the Council could ask for Tree Protection Orders to be registered against trees that the Council wished to protect.**

**Report on Highway matters: The broken verge at Griffin Lane is still awaiting repair. A large pot hole near to Slough Green Caravan Park has developed and this will be reported.**

**Report from SALC representative : No matters to report**

**16/30 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION AND MATTERS OF REPORT**

* **Update on BT Broadband cabinet**

**Following flooding problems with the BT cabinet at Meare Green, the Clerk has been advised that it is intended to move the cabinet to the other side of the road to prevent future problems.**

* **Electoral Review of TDBC**

**The consultation period for the Electoral Review of Taunton Deane has opened and continues until 5/09/2016. It is proposed to reduce the number of borough councillors to 43 and the consultation is asking for suggestions with regard to the new ward boundaries. Details are available at** [www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

* **SCC – Listening, Learning, Changing**

**SCC is currently seeking views as to which priority areas the Council should allocate its budget. The Parish Council has been asked to contribute to the consultation. The Clerk will circulate details and the Council will consider the matter further at its next meeting.**

* **Queen’s 90th Birthday celebrations**

**It was reported that this was a very successful event with a good attendance. The Council wished to place on record its thanks to the Village Hall committee for organising the event.**

**16/31 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Tuesday 27th September 2016**

**The meeting closed at 8.30 pm**