

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHOSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 13th
JULY 2023

Present: Ian Cannock (Chair), Fiona Crockett, Tricia Wastvedt, Anthony Lewis (Vice-Chair), David Cradock and Lisa Coles and Jean Fossaceco (Clerk)

Also Present: 12 members of the public

1. **Apologies:** Fiona Gourley and Matt McCabe (Ward Councillors)
2. **Declaration of Interests for this meeting:** None declared
3. **10 Minutes public participation: Cycle route** - Several members of the community attended the meeting to discuss the B&NES/WECA consultation exercise regarding the proposed quiet routes and a re-routing of the national cycle route in Shoscombe Vale some of which would be potentially over private land. Many had attended the meeting in Radstock on Wednesday 12th July and were able to express their concerns to B&NES officials. The main issues included the way the matter had been handled with a lack of information in a timely fashion, land being referred to as 'derelict' which was not so, the potential impact on property values if the proposed routes go ahead and possible health and safety problems of the proposed quiet routes. It was reported that at the meeting on the 12th July B&NES officials acknowledged that lessons had been learned, that fear had been instilled by the lack of forewarning to residents affected and that trust would need to be regained. It has been suggested this was an aspirational plan for the future but worries were voiced that these proposals would remain online indefinitely. B&NES mentioned removing the aspiration rerouting map but if they are planning on a cease-and-desist action, they would need to be crystal clear and remove all mention of this initiative from the websites and the internet. The 'Quite Routes' initiative would not appear to be viable along the roads proposed and it was reported that no physical visits had taken place by those proposing these ideas to assess their suitability. It was agreed all community members wishing to object should do so individually copying the B&NES local councillors. The Parish Council also resolved to submit objections.

School staff parking – the school's Head Teacher reported that the school is very likely to lose the lease of their parking area next to the school from the 28th November 2023 onwards. All efforts to resolve this situation have been explored with the landowner for the moment but should an alternative be found, it will be actively pursued. Suggestions that staff could use the Village Hall car park were discussed including the drawbacks which included the practicalities of staff carrying large quantities of books/equipment etc. some distance and the resulting lack of car park spaces for people attending events at the Hall such as Souper Tuesday.

4. **Minutes of the last Meetings:** All in order.

5. Clerk's Report	ACTION	TIMELINE
Report distributed. It was confirmed one of our residents will open the Hall and set up the screen for the defibrillator training on Monday 14 th August.	JF	14/8/2023
6. Ward Councillor Reports		
None submitted.		

7. Financial Matters		
ICO Annual Payment - £40.00 (already paid) New defibrillator pads - £135.15 (already paid) Clerk's salary - £730.00 HMRC – £182.50 Clerk's expenses - £59.33 Proposed – IC and seconded - DC. All in favour		
8. Somer Valley/WECA residents' consultation exercise – already discussed at Item 3 – A collective Parish Council response will be forwarded with regard to the way this was handled/ Health and Safety/the viability of Quiet Routes	DC/IC/JF	By 6 th August
9. Shoscombe School Staff parking - already discussed at Item 3		
10. Planning		
Green Spaces Review – The Recreation Field has been identified as the only suitable designated space and the completed pro-forma has been distributed by the clerk to all councillors. JF will forward this to B&NES by the deadline of 5.00 p.m. on Friday 14 th July. Somer Valley Planning Workshop – Wednesday 26 th July 4.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.	JF DC	By 14 th July
11. Climate, Nature and Sustainability Working Group		
Report distributed - TW 1. Update on survey into the potential installation of public electric charging points – no further progress as no contact with B&NES; this is ongoing. 2. Planting of the oak tree on the Recreation Field. This will take place in October. 3. Community Garden – after consultation with those with experience of this, it has been decided to postpone plans for the moment. 4. Update/Feedback on No Mow May/June – there was a tremendous amount of support for this initiative from the community as well as some concerns raised. These will be taken into consideration next year as the Working Group is conscious this is a public amenity for all and it is a question of getting the balance right. A consultation exercise, possibly in March next year, is being considered. It was decided the current retained wild areas will be cut once a year at the end of August/beginning of September. Following TW attending an online forum, it was confirmed there are funds available from the West of England Local Nature Recovery Strategy to support climate and nature projects. 5. A river litter pick took place on 3 rd June.	TW	All ongoing
12. Councillor Reports		
A) Village Hall – minutes and agenda already distributed. B) HELAA/JSP/Local Plan – work on the Local Plan is proceeding and we are kept well informed. DC will attend a meeting on Wednesday 26 th July in Midsomer Norton. Any progress on the HELAA will be closely monitored. C) Public Rights of Way – there has been no further progress on the issue of the drainage from Braysdown Lane. AL will keep us informed. D) School – the issue with the parking has been covered.	DC AL	26 th July As and when information is received

<p>E) Highways – DC will make enquiries about the possibility of extending the mandatory 20 mph Stoney Littleton to Wellow. He will also ask Highways to replace the green 20 mph sign by the school to red. The re-surfacing of Single Hill will now not take place until 2024.</p> <p>F) Burial Board – the wall has now been repaired at the cemetery but the gate is still be re-attached.</p>	DC	When a meeting between the Highways Inspector and DC takes place
13. Defibrillator Training		
<p>This will take place on Monday 14th August at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. A nearby resident has kindly offered to set up the screen etc. Water will be provided but as the session is short, no further refreshments.</p>	The Council	14/8/2023
14. Tribute for Queen Elizabeth 11		
<p>TW sent the clerk and the Council a suggestion of a suitable tree for this commemoration – an Amelanchier. DC has offered to collect this from Chew Valley Trees nearer the time with the location and size to be finally confirmed. **Agenda Item The area near the play area benches along with further down the field are both being considered. A date has been set for the planting as the afternoon of Saturday 14th October and we will offer tea and cakes. JF will mention this in the newsletter and let the Village Hall know.</p>	DC JF JF JF	In the Autumn **Agenda Item By next newsletter ASAP
15. Feedback from DRT/Dial a Ride bus services		
<p>The only feedback the Council has received concerning these services is that they are busy so it can be difficult to book a slot but also, with regard to the DRT bus, we have been told by others that the driver sometimes has to go off route to collect additional passengers which can impact on the existing ones if they are attending appointments.</p>		
16. Restoration of Finger Posts		
<p>Report distributed. It was agreed by all that the first 3 items in the proposals would be implemented by the working group. All in favour.</p>	JF to inform Working Group	ASAP
17. Asset Register		
<p>This was approved with the amendment of White Hill Storage Shed to Barn Hill.</p>		
18. Risk Assessment		
<p>All agreed this was suitable and had no need for amendment.</p>		
19. Wellow Brook Water Quality		
<p>A meeting will take place at Wellow Village Hall on Monday 4th September at 6.00 p.m. with Wessex Water, Wellow PC and Wellow Brook Fishing Syndicate.</p>	Council if available	4/9/2023
<p>Dates of Next Meetings:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> 14th September – Parish Council 25th September – Bathavon Forum 18th October – Parish Liaison 16th November – Parish Council 11th January 2024 – Parish Council 7th March 2024 – Parish Council </p>		