

FITZHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting held on 21st August 2019 in the Tithe Barn commencing at 7.15pm.

MINUTES

Present: Katriona Smith (Chair), Alison Kent, Ian Coombes, Wendy Jona & Martin Irish

In Attendance: Jill Loader (Clerk), Cllr Mark Blaker, 2 members of the public

Public Speaking Time: Concerns were raised at the recent wildlife crime around Fitzhead. These had been reported to the police but were not showing on the monthly crime report. It was agreed to keep vigilant and to contact the PSCO Office Louise Fyne when necessary.

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Dave Mansell
- 2. Declaration of Interest/Dispensations:** None
- 3. Minutes of previous meeting:** The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 22nd May 2019 were approved and signed as a correct record. The Chair signed each page.
- 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes:** None
- 5. Defibrillator Update –**
 - 5.1 This had been installed on 14th August and was connected to the ambulance service if you dialed 999.
 - 5.2 Training was being planned for the beginning of September which would be confirmed soon. Anyone who was interested in being trained to contact Sue Webber.
 - 5.3 An ‘opening ceremony’ for the defibrillator was arranged for Saturday 24th August at 10.30. Coffee and cake would be served and a thank you speech etc would be given.
 - 5.4 Agreed to find out how often the defibrillator requires checking and to produce a rota.
 - 5.5 Agreed to check out the app ‘What 3 Words’ as this was a useful app to find people in the rural area who were lost, or injured as it pin points your position for rescue services.
- 6. Tithe Barn Refurbishment Project:**
 - 6.1 The Tithe Barn Committee had received a grant for £10,000 from the National Lottery for All Fund to help towards Stage 3 (£480 + vat) and Stage 4 (£4,800 + vat) of the Tithe Barn Refurbishment Project.
 - 6.2 Levitate Architure – the new contractor had met with the committee. Contracts had been raised and after discussion it was agreed to sign off this contract once Ian Coombes had clarified a couple of points. It was felt this new company would get this work completed and had good contacts and history working with the Diocese.
 - 6.3 Agreed Ian Coombes to provide up to date income and expenditure figures on this project.
- 7. Website update**
 - 7.1 No further update yet on the new Milverton Website and potential joining up with Fitzhead. Costs had not been confirmed but were due soon. Agreed to agenda for next meeting.

8. Play Area

8.1 Weekly Inspections: New rota was agreed:

Ian Coombes	June / July
Martin Irish	August/Sept
Alison Kent	Oct/Nov
Wendy Jonas	Dec/Jan
Katriona Smith	Feb/March 2020

8.2 There were no other problems reported regarding the play area and equipment.

8.3 Play Area Annual Inspection – agreed to arrange this with The Play Inspection Company for a fee of £65.00 + vat. Clerk to make contact and arrange. Due to be carried out between 6 – 10 weeks. Last inspection was October 2018.

9. Highways update

9.1 Agreed to contact Highways again regarding the tree roots causing the road to raise by Rivers Farm to repair.

9.2 The rusting signpost at the top of Tithe Meadow had been replaced.

10. Finances

10.1 It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to pay the following invoices:

Clerk's wages £185.71, Tithe Barn £8.00, HMRC PAYE £46.40, Clerks Expenses £4.98, Helen Dysart (Fingerpost Exp) £131.58, Richard Branfield (Play Area Maint.) £720.00, Fitzhead Cricket Club (Maint. Grant) £825.00, Fitzhead PCC (Maint. Grant) £470.00. Thread Architure – Final invoice paid £1,741.14 (July).

Receipts received: SW&T Maint Grant £1,670.00 & Lloyds Bank £0.40p bank interest, Bank Balance as at 18th August 2019 £16,395.04.

10.2 Bank Mandate – it was agreed to remove David Pink and add Martin Irish to the bank mandate. Clerk and Martin to meet to complete mandate on-line.

10.3 Financial Regulations Review – it was agreed to review this at the next meeting as the clerk had been informed by SALC new Financial Regulations were available.

11. Planning Update – No decisions had been made regarding the two recent planning applications received from SW&T Planning Dept - 17/19/0007 and 17/19/0005.

12. Somerset West & Taunton Councillor's Reports – Cllr Mark Blaker attended the meeting and introduced himself. He was a first time Cllr and an Independent. He shared the District Council role with Cllr Dave Mansell from the Green Party. The new Somerset West & Taunton Council consisted of 60 Cllrs. New ideas were being put in place with a tiered council with generalists and experts. A lot of services were being dealt with under a self-service process on the website which still required working on. The council were now a Lib-Dem Council. Work was required to improve rural broadband services and other common issues. Rural areas should not be forgotten and required support. It was noted that we should respond to any consultations that are available - Community Local Plan and Fire Services proposals. Wiveliscombe were looking at perhaps a Neighbourhood Plan and wanted to know if Fitzhead were interested.

13. Somerset County Councillors Report – none received.

14. Police Report – the report received by PCSO Louise Fyne was on the website.

15. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting

It was agreed to hold the next Parish Council Meeting on 20th November 2019 at 7.15pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.