

## FITZHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

**Parish Council Meeting held on 22 November 2018 in the Tithe Barn  
commencing at 7.15pm.**

### MINUTES

**Present:** Katriona Smith (Chair), Ian Coombes, Alison Kent.

**In Attendance:** Jill Loader (Clerk) & 2 members of the public

**Public Speaking Time:** One member of the public informed the council of the disturbance on the evening of 21 September 2018 which had been reported to the police at the time. This report was acknowledged by the Councillors.

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Wendy Jonas, Cllr Gwil Wren (TDBC)
- 2. Declaration of Interest/Dispensations:** None
- 3. Minutes of previous meeting:** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2018 were approved and signed as a correct record. The Chair signed each page.
- 4. Matters Arising:** a) The pot holes outside Ilex House have been repaired. Ditches have not been cleared yet – D Quick to be contacted. b) Clerk's PC – it was agreed to purchase a new laptop for the clerk at a maximum cost of £200.
- 5. Casual Vacancy Position** – no one had come forward to become a Parish Councillor. It was agreed that Ian Coombes and Katriona Smith would speak to a couple of residents to see if they were interested.
- 6. Tithe Barn Refurbishment Project:**
  - 6.1 The village meeting held on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018 had been a success with many suggestions and ideas from residents. All appeared positive. The Tithe Barn Committee had met to discuss the results and would be pushing for a planning application to be submitted before the end of the year.
- 7. Defibrillator Proposal:**
  - 7.1 The Councillors agreed to proceed with the Ambulance option for the village defibrillator rather than the British Heart Foundation option after further investigation. It was provisionally thought the best position would be in the Tithe Barn porch. The Proposer was busy fund raising and was having a coffee morning soon. Target was £2,300.
  - 7.2 Insurance Costs: The Clerk reported a defibrillator would be no further cost on the insurance premium.
- 8. Wiveliscombe Library – Parishes Meeting**
  - 8.1 After discussion following the recent emails from the Wiveliscombe Library Support Group, and inviting the local parishes to attend. It was agreed the Councillors would not make a decision until after SCC and the Community Library Partnership had got together to agree a way forward. It was agreed no formal response regarding financial support could be given until more information and details were known. This would be discussed again in February.

## **9. Highways Issues:**

9.1 Fitzhead sign outside Crooks Orchard had gone missing. Agreed to contact TDBC for a new one.

## **10. Play Area**

10.1 Agreed monthly inspections as follows: Ian Coombes Oct/Nov; Alison Kent Dec/Jan; Wendy Jonas Feb/March; Katriona Smith April/May.

10.2 Thanks went to Wendy for the smart play area signs now purchased and installed.

10.3 The new maintenance contractor was going to be Richard Branfield, a local man. Agreed to cut the grass, hedge inside and out and maintain the play area for £600 per year, starting from mid- March. Clerk to be given contact details.

## **11. Finances**

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

Clerk's wages £194.03, HMRC PAYE £48.60, Clerks Expenses £31.14, Play Inspection Company £90 once inspection had been completed. Architechtural Thread invoice had been paid - £2,385.00. **Receipts received:** Bank interest £1.04, Tithe Barn Project £1,987.50.

11.2 Bank Balance as at 14 November 2018 £12,631.65.

11.3 Precept for 2019/20 – after discussion it was unanimously agreed to set the precept for 2019/20 at £3,750.00. Clerk to send documents to TDBC by 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019. The council also acknowledged the notification of the formation of Somerset West and Taunton Council.

11.4 Annual Return 2017/18 – this had been completed at no cost to the council due to its size.

## **12. General Data Protection Regulations:**

12.1 The clerk was still working on a Privacy Policy and Security Incident Response Policy.

12.2 ICO – Annual Data Protection Fee – this was agreed and the Direct Debit form duly signed. Clerk to action enrolment and send off form. Cost would be £35 per year.

**13. Planning Update** – there were no current planning applications to discuss.

**14. Fitzhead Inn** – The clerk had sent a letter to the Enforcement Officer at TDBC. This issue was currently be investigated by the Legal Team. No further information was available.

**15. Taunton Deane Councillor's Report:** Report sent by email as follows:

Briefly TDBC is winding down towards the birth of the new Council on 1st April 2019 and the new Council Somerset West and Taunton is slowly coming to life.

A Shadow Authority consisting of WDC and TDBC members is guiding the establishment of the new Council and will vote on a Budget in the New year. A Chief Executive has been appointed from 1st January 2019 and there will be elections in May.

The refurbishment of Deane House continues and the Police are due to take up a tenancy of part of the building shortly.

There are continuing arguments about Firepool and the future of Taunton but as yet no real consensus is emerging and I suspect that the new Council will have to bed in before anything significant happens. Bear in mind that the centre of Taunton is unparished and there is no Town Council so it remains to be seen how the whole of the new Council will engage with the town.

**16. Somerset County Councillor's Report** – no report received.

**17. Police Report** – the report received by PCSO Louise Fyne would be put onto the website.

**18. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting:** Thursday, 21 February 2019 at 7.15pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm