

MINUTES OF MONTACUTE PARISH COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER 2022
IN THE VILLAGE HALL



22/124/a PRESENT:

Members: Mrs C Saint (Chairman), Mr J Davies, Mrs L Drayton, Mr A McFarlane, Mr M Myram, Mr B Owen, Mrs S Richings, and Mr D Warry

Others: Mrs S Moore (Clerk), and two members of the public

22/124/b APOLOGIES:

Mr T Harper, Mr Tony Capozzoli (District Councillor), Mr Mike Hewitson (County and Unitary Authority Councillor) and Mr Oliver Patrick (County and Unitary Authority Councillor)

22/125 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr McFarlane declared an interest in planning application 21/03731/FUL & 21/03732/LBC

22/126 PUBLIC SESSION

A resident was concerned that there was nothing on the recreation ground for the young people in the village and the grounds were not being used at its full potential.

A resident mentioned receiving information from fibre optic companies and were the council aware of this. Cllr Saint said that it was on the agenda for discussion later in the meeting.

The resident asked what was happening with the Transport Strategy Group. The Clerk said she was still collating the data received and the other residents who wish to help still had to be contacted. It was agreed that Cllrs Warry, Davies Owen and Myram would head the working group.

The resident asked for the results of the Speedwatch session to be published. Cllr Myram said he would need to contact the police in the first instance to check the legality of this.

22/127 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

22/127/a District Councillor

No report received.

22/127/b County Councillor

No report received

22/128 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was RESOLVED to approve and sign the Minutes of the September Parish Council meeting.

22/129 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Review of Actions List

- Dangerous parking in Yeovil Road: The school has sent a letter to parents. It was suggested that perhaps the school could reintroduce the flexible drop off times, and the National Trust put a 'no parking' sign on the wall. The situation will be monitored. **Action Cllr Saint**
- Wessex Water Funding information to be forwarded to Cllr McFarlane **Action Clerk**
- Station Road Footpath: Highways need to apply for a 'Stop-Up' Order to put a gate across the footpath
- 'A' Board in the Borough: The board belongs to the village hall

22/130 EMERGENCY PLAN

Cllr Saint said the council needed to move forward with the Emergency plan. It was agreed to change the title to Business Continuity Plan and Cllrs Davies, Drayton and Richings agreed to look through it and come back with their findings at the next meeting. **Action Cllrs Davies, Drayton & Richings**

22/131 SPORTS & LEISURE

22/131/a Play Area & Recreation Ground

i. Play Area

Cllr Richings inspection report had been circulated to councillors.

The surfacing for the roundabout and seesaw have now been replaced. The Clerk said the Play Inspection Company will be carrying out the annual playground inspection. The lead time for this is between 12 to 16 weeks and will cost £115.

ii. Pavilion Project

The Clerk reported that the updated Arborcultural report had been submitted to the Planning Department and the Discharge of Conditions have finally been approved. The Clerk said the National Trust have confirmed that the new Cedar trees will be planted week commencing the 14th November.

The Clerk said that the Pavilion Working Group met to discuss the next steps for the project. It was agreed to put a programme of works together and obtain quotes from contractors to do the job as a whole instead of getting quotes for the separate areas of work.

A discussion was held regarding the project and whether the village needed the pavilion. It was agreed that facilities were needed, and it was RESOLVED to continue with the project and to promote and engage the community.

22/131/b Any Other Issues

A discussion was held about the Christmas Tree event. It was agreed to go back to the village hall for refreshments instead of staying in the Borough. A discussion was held about the size of the tree, and it was agreed to purchase a larger tree. It was RESOLVED to purchase a 20ft tree and to purchase some new white lights.

Action Clerk

Cllr Saint said she was trying to get hold of the resident who supplied the electric for the tree last year to see whether they would be willing to do this again.

Action Cllr Saint

It was agreed that all councillors would donate some mince pies for the event.

22/132 **VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT**

22/132/a Allotments

The Clerk mentioned that discussions had been held between South Petherton Allotment Committee and Martock Flood Warden about putting a pond in their allotments and asked whether this might be something Montacute allotments could have. A discussion was held, and it was agreed that it would not be feasible for this site.

A discussion was held about an additional trough, and it was agreed that this would be an expensive job.

It was agreed that the draft rules and tenancy agreement would be brought to the next meeting for approval.

Action Clerk

22/132/b Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour

No report received.

22/132/c Footpaths

The Footpath report had been circulated to councillors and it was agreed to forward it onto the Footpath Officer at Somerset County Council.

Action Clerk

22/132/d Ground Maintenance

Cllr Saint asked councillors to decide whether the lengthsman should replace the plants in the planters with winter bedding plants. The bedding plants cost £1.75 each and last year 42 plants were planted. If the same amount of plants are used, the total cost would be £73.50. It was RESOLVED for the lengthsman to continue with the planting.

22/132/e Highways & Transport

i. Speed Indicator Device/Speedwatch

Cllr Myram gave his report on Speedwatch. Speedwatch sessions are currently being carried out once a week and around 220 vehicles have been reported since February. Cllr Myram said the police are trialling a device which has automatic number plate recognition. If this is successful, then it could be available for parish councils to purchase.

ii. Transport Strategy Group

This item was discussed under *Minute ref: 22/126*.

iii. Fingerpost Training

The Clerk said that Somerset County Council are running a Fingerpost training course on 10th November so that individuals can carry out condition surveys and undertake certain maintenance and refurbishment work. Somerset County Council require a minimum of three people per PC attend and the cost is £50 per person. Cllr Owen agreed to attend.

22/132/f National Trust

No report

22/132/g Street Lighting

No report

22/132/h Triangle Trust

No report.

22/132/i Any Other Issues

- i. The Clerk reported that Gigaclear were planning to include Montacute in their upcoming network build. Letters were sent out to residents by Gigaclear inviting them to attend the online community event on Tuesday 25th October explaining what works were being carried out. The Civil works are due to commence at the end of January 2023/beginning of February 2023.
- ii. The Clerk mentioned that SSDC Democratic Services have asked the parish council to provide information on whether there is anywhere in the village that can provide 'Warm Spaces' for those in need this winter. Cllr Saint said she has made enquiries in the village and has completed the questionnaire.
- iii. It was agreed to set up a working party in preparation for the King's Coronation. It was agreed for Cllrs Saint, Drayton, Richings and Warry to meet and discuss what celebratory event could take place.

22/133 MEMBERS' & CLERK'S REPORTS

None declared.

22/134 FINANCE

22/134/a Matters for Report:

i. **Monthly Bank Reconciliation**

The Clerk gave the monthly bank reconciliation as of 30th September 2022:

Current Account	£ 250.00
Business Reserve Account	£58,677.48
Pavilion Reserve Account	<u>£21,278.63</u>
Total	<u>£80,206.11</u>
Outstanding Deposits	£ 0.00
Less Outstanding Cheques	<u>£ 3,772.87</u>
Total as Cash Book	<u>£76,433.24</u>

Ring-Fenced Amounts

Sports Pavilion	£41,854.16
Play Equipment	£ 4,241.42
Asset Management	£11,059.00
Allotment Rent & Donations	£ 475.47
Allotment New Plot Deposits	£ 475.00
Allotment Gate Key Deposits	£ 430.00
Defibrillator Accessories	£ 143.30
Spring Bulbs	<u>£ 26.50</u>
Total	<u>£58,704.85</u>

Budget Working Capital **£17,728.39**

ii. **Quarterly Budget Comparison Report 30th September 2022**

The quarterly report compares the actual spend against budget. At the second quarter accounts, the expenditure is on budget.

iii. **National Trust Direct Debits Payment for Recreation Ground**

The monthly invoices for October totally £29.17 each for the recreation ground lease had been received. This is paid by direct debit.

iv. VAT Refund

The VAT refund of £6,077.68 had been received. It was RESOLVED to move £3,555.43 the play equipment reserve, £78.82 to the allotment reserve and the remaining £2,443.43 into the pavilion reserve.

22/134/b Invoices Payable

Invoices Payable:

Sarah Moore	September Expenses	£ 219.79	Chq 1764
Evis Ground Maintenance	Grass Cutting September	£ 388.88	Chq 1765
HMRC	PAYE Period 4-7	£ 486.00	Chq 1766
<u>LGS 1972 s.137</u>			
The Royal British Legion	Donation towards the Poppy Appeal	<u>£ 35.00</u>	Chq 1767
	Total	<u>£ 1,129.67</u>	

It was RESOLVED to approve the payments.

22/134/c Other Items for Resolution

None declared.

22/135 **PLANNING**

22/135/a Planning Information

None declared.

22/135/b Parish Planning Working Party Feedback on Applications:

22/02798/DOC1 – discharge of Condition 4 (external walls) of planning application 21/03730/HOU – 20 Townsend, Montacute TA15 6XH – awaiting decision

22/135/c Planning Decisions and Reports

Decisions:

None.

Reports:

21/03731/FUL & 21/03732/LBC – conversion of the former piggery to dual use as a self-contained residential annexe to the principal farmhouse and a holiday let – Abbey Farm, Bishopston, Montacute TA15 6UA – awaiting decision.

20/00991/OUT – Outline application with all matters reserved save for access for the residential development of land for up to 17 no. dwellings – Land at Mason Lane, Montacute –awaiting decision.

22/136 **GOVERNANCE**

No report given.

22/137 **CORRESPONDENCE**

None received.

22/138 **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

Grass cutting contract

22/139 **DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 21.17pm. The next meeting will be held in the village hall at 7pm on Wednesday, 16th November 2022.