



MINUTES OF MONTACUTE PARISH COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 15TH JANUARY 2025
IN THE PAVILION

	Action
<p><u>25/001/a PRESENT:</u> Members: Mrs C Saint (Chairman), Mr A McFarlane (Vice Chairman), Mr T Harper, Mr M Myram, Mr B Owen, Mrs H Stokes and Mr D Warry Others: Mrs S Moore (Clerk), and 4 members of the public</p> <p><u>25/001/b APOLOGIES:</u> Mr J Davies, Mrs L Drayton, Mrs S Richings, Mr Mike Hewitson (Unitary Authority Councillor) and Mr Oliver Patrick (Unitary Authority Councillor)</p>	
<p><u>25/002 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> None.</p>	
<p><u>25/003 PUBLIC SESSION</u> A representative of the village hall committee said the committee needed new members and asked for a parish council representative on the committee. The representative also made a request for a grant. The Clerk said that a grant application had already been forwarded to the chairman of the village hall committee. Once this had been returned, councillors will consider the request. A resident mentioned that the hedge behind houses in Lower Hyde Road was overgrown and asked for it to be cleared. Councillors asked if the hedge belonged to Abri, and if so, Abri would need to get this cut back. The resident mentioned that Abri was conducting a walk round on 17th January and asked for a parish council representative to attend. Members of the Plymouth Brethren mentioned that they have a charity team, Rapid Relief, which can give emergency help, and that the Plymouth Brethren are looking to support the community.</p>	
<p><u>25/004 UNITARY COUNCILLORS</u> No report given.</p>	
<p><u>25/005 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</u> There was an amendment to the title of the minutes as it was held in the Pavilion and not the Village Hall. There was an amendment to <i>Minute ref: 24/133/a (ii)</i>. The word 'correctly' should read 'incorrectly'. It was RESOLVED to approve and sign the Minutes of the October Parish Council meeting.</p>	
<p><u>25/006 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES</u> <u>Review of Actions List</u> The action list was reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trees Near Allotment Entrance: It was agreed that these need to be trimmed back - ongoing Raised Grassloc tile under swing: This is to be monitored. Reinstate benches by the pavilion: Ongoing 	<p>Cllr Harper</p> <p>Cllr Harper Cllr Harper</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noticeboard refurbishment: The key was given to Cllr Harper. • Interactive map of verge cutting schedule to be forwarded to the Clerk • Security barrier adjustment: - Ongoing • SID: A replacement key is needed. Ongoing • Montacute Memories: Information to be forwarded to the Clerk. Ongoing • Bleed Kit: Cllr Harper agreed to install the kit. • Electrical Test Certificate for the Pavilion: Chase electrician to provide the certificate. Ongoing • Future Firework Displays: it was agreed to formally write to the National Trust. • Crime & Anti-social Behaviour: it was agreed to ask the PCSO to attend a parish council meeting. • Highway Issues: Contact Traffic Management at Somerset Council • Visibility Splay in Yeovil Road/Parking: it was agreed to formally write to the primary school 	<p>Cllr Harper Cllr Hewitson Cllr Harper Clerk Cllr Davies Cllr Harper</p> <p>Cllr Harper Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Myram</p> <p>Clerk Clerk</p>
<p>25/007 SPORTS & LEISURE</p> <p>25/007/a <u>Play Area & Recreation Ground</u></p> <p>i. <u>Play Area</u> Cllr Stokes said there were no issue to report.</p> <p>ii. <u>Recreation Ground</u> No report.</p> <p>iii. <u>Pavilion</u> Cllr Harper reported that the inspection cover for the drain to the pavilion had been damaged. This had now been replaced. Also, one of the shingles had come off during the recent inclement weather. Cllr Harper mentioned that there were still some minor works to be carried out before the pavilion is complete, and a vacuum cleaner needs to be purchased. It was RESOLVED to spend £100 on the vacuum cleaner.</p> <p>25/007/b <u>Any Other Issues</u> None declared.</p>	<p>Cllr Harper</p> <p>Cllr Harper</p>
<p>25/008 VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>25/008/a <u>Allotments</u> The Clerk and Cllr Harper are to liaise in updating the allotment holder list and plot map. The allotment holder meeting is scheduled for 22nd February in the pavilion.</p> <p>25/008/b <u>Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour</u> The report for October and November from the Police.UK website was circulated to councillors.</p> <p>25/008/c <u>Footpaths</u> No report.</p> <p>25/008/d <u>Ground Maintenance</u> No report</p> <p>25/008/e <u>Highways & Transport</u></p> <p>i. <u>Speedwatch</u> Cllr Myram gave his report. It was stated at the quarterly Speedwatch meeting that the teams will not get as much less support from the police in the future</p> <p>ii. <u>Road Closure</u> Ham Hill Road at Odcombe will be closed on 27th January for 3 days for Wessex Water to carry out works.</p> <p>25/008/f <u>National Trust</u> The National Trust have completed the work on St Michaels Hill. The works in Hollow Lane are ongoing. The road maybe closed at some point whilst the work is being carried out.</p>	<p>Clerk/Cllr Harper</p>

<p><u>25/008/g</u> <u>Street Lighting</u> The streetlight in the Borough has now been fixed. The lights in Bishopston were reported to Somerset Council at the beginning of January but these still need repairing.</p> <p><u>25/008/h</u> <u>Triangle Trust</u> The AGM will be held on 22nd January at the All Saints Hall in Stoke sub Hamdon. The Christmas bazaar made £500 which will go towards equipment for the surgery.</p> <p><u>25/008/i</u> <u>Any Other Issues</u> The Clerk reported that Somerset Council have stated that they will be charging for the emptying of litter and dog bins that are not on Highway land after April 2025. The provisional costs for this per bin, per collection is £6.50 +VAT. Therefore, a single bin, emptied once a week, will be charged at £338 + VAT a year. The total cost to the parish council could be in the region of £2,000 + VAT a year. However, the actual cost is not known until Somerset Council have approved these charges at their Full Council in January.</p>																																											
<p><u>25/009</u> <u>MEMBERS' & CLERK'S REPORTS</u> Cllr Saint mentioned that she had been contacted by Stoke sub Hamdon parish council asking for an informal meeting with the Chairs of Stoke sub Hamdon, Odcombe and Norton sub Hamdon to discuss how the councils are planning to deal with Somerset Council's devolution of services.</p>																																											
<p><u>25/010</u> <u>FINANCE</u> <u>25/010/a</u> <u>Matters for Report:</u> i. <u>Monthly Bank Reconciliation</u> The Clerk gave the monthly bank reconciliation as of 30th November 2024:</p> <table> <tr><td>Current Account</td><td>£ 250.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Business Reserve Account</td><td>£ 68,815.15</td></tr> <tr><td>Pavilion Reserve Account</td><td>£ 35.55</td></tr> <tr><td>Total</td><td><u>£ 69,100.70</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Plus Outstanding Deposits</td><td>£ 0.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Less Outstanding Cheques</td><td><u>£ 2,072.51</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Total as Cash Book</td><td><u>£ 67,028.19</u></td></tr> </table> <p>The Clerk gave the monthly bank reconciliation as of 31st December 2024:</p> <table> <tr><td>Current Account</td><td>£ 250.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Business Reserve Account</td><td>£ 68,377.49</td></tr> <tr><td>Pavilion Reserve Account</td><td>£ 35.59</td></tr> <tr><td>Total</td><td><u>£ 68,663.08</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Plus Outstanding Deposits</td><td>£ 0.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Less Outstanding Cheques</td><td><u>£ 1,881.34</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Total as Cash Book</td><td><u>£ 66,781.74</u></td></tr> </table> <p>Ring-Fenced Amounts:</p> <table> <tr><td>Sports Pavilion</td><td>£ 9,358.72</td></tr> <tr><td>Play Equipment</td><td>£ 6,038.82</td></tr> <tr><td>Asset Management</td><td>£16,559.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Allotment Rent & Donations</td><td>£ 2,326.60</td></tr> <tr><td>Allotment New Plot Deposits</td><td>£ 612.50</td></tr> <tr><td>Allotment Gate Key Deposits</td><td><u>£ 440.00</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Total</td><td><u>£35,335.64</u></td></tr> </table>	Current Account	£ 250.00	Business Reserve Account	£ 68,815.15	Pavilion Reserve Account	£ 35.55	Total	<u>£ 69,100.70</u>	Plus Outstanding Deposits	£ 0.00	Less Outstanding Cheques	<u>£ 2,072.51</u>	Total as Cash Book	<u>£ 67,028.19</u>	Current Account	£ 250.00	Business Reserve Account	£ 68,377.49	Pavilion Reserve Account	£ 35.59	Total	<u>£ 68,663.08</u>	Plus Outstanding Deposits	£ 0.00	Less Outstanding Cheques	<u>£ 1,881.34</u>	Total as Cash Book	<u>£ 66,781.74</u>	Sports Pavilion	£ 9,358.72	Play Equipment	£ 6,038.82	Asset Management	£16,559.00	Allotment Rent & Donations	£ 2,326.60	Allotment New Plot Deposits	£ 612.50	Allotment Gate Key Deposits	<u>£ 440.00</u>	Total	<u>£35,335.64</u>	
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Budget Working Capital		£31,446.10	
ii.	<u>Monthly Direct Debits</u>		
	The monthly direct debits paid in December		
	HugoFox	£ 23.99	
	National Trust	£ 29.17	
	Eon Next	£ 22.17	
	Total	£ 75.33	
	The monthly direct debits paid in January		
	HugoFox	£ 23.99	
	National Trust	£ 29.17	
	Eon Next	£ 13.16	
	Total	£ 66.32	
25/010/b	<u>Invoices Payable</u>		
	<u>Invoices payable</u>		
	Sarah Moore	November & December	
		Expenses & Reimbursements	£ 487.57 Chq 1928
	Evis Ground	Grass Cutting for November &	
	Maintenance	December	£ 1,151.08 Chq 1929
	HMRC	PAYE Period 7-10	£ 486.00 Chq 1930
	Somerset Council	Lengthsman for November &	
		December	£ 799.20 Chq 1931
	Christine Saint	Reimbursement for items for	
		Christmas Event & Voucher	£ 162.31 Chq 1932
	Terry Harper	Reimbursement for items for	
		the pavilion	£ 68.96 Chq 1933
	Total	£ 3,155.12	
It was RESOLVED to approve the payments.			
25/010/c	<u>Other</u>		
i.	<u>To approve the budget for 2025/26</u>		
	The budget information and finance minutes had been circulated to councillors.		
	The Clerk explained the budget. It was RESOLVED to approve the budget for 2025/26		
ii.	<u>To approve the precept for 2025/26</u>		
	The Clerk explained that the Tax Base had gone up from last year, so the Band D rate had gone down. The Clerk explained that due to rising costs and the devolution of services from Somerset Council the Finance Committee are recommending increasing the precept to £51,253. It was RESOLVED to approve the precept recommendation of £51,253		
25/010/d	EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC		
	<i>Resolve to exclude the press and public from the meeting in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted</i>		
	It was RESOLVED to exclude the press and public to discuss a grant application		
25/011	PLANNING		
25/011/a	<u>Parish Planning Working Party Feedback on Applications:</u>		
	24/03504/LBC – discharge of condition 5 (pointing) of planning application		
	22/03504/LBC – 5 South Street, Montacute, TA15 6XD – awaiting decision		

<p>24/02293/LBC – install a steel gate within the doorway at the base of the tower to prevent unauthorised access (implemented) – St Michaels Tower, Bishopston, Montacute – no observations</p> <p>25/011/b <u>Planning Decisions and Reports</u></p> <p><u>Decisions:</u></p> <p>24/02808/TCA – notification of intent to carry out tree surgery works to no. 4 trees and to fell no. 1 tree within a Conservation Area – Montacute All Saints C E V A Primary School, Yeovil Road, Montacute TA15 6XG - decided</p> <p>24/00577/FUL – S73A application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of 24/00577/FUL to allow for revised external wall material for the potting shed – Ridsdale, Townsend, Montacute TA15 6XH - approved</p> <p>24/01483/LBC – to replace the rear porch, replace the roof covering over the rear additions – 5 South Street, Montacute TA15 6XD - approved</p> <p>24/02635/DOC1 – discharge of Condition 5 (Pointing) of planning application 22/03504/LBC – 5 South Street, Montacute TA15 6XD – conditions discharged</p> <p>24/02525/TPO – application to carry out tree surgery works to no.1 tree as shown within the SSDC (MONT 1) 1994 Tree Preservation Order – 43 Bishopston, Montacute TA15 6UX - approved</p> <p><u>Reports:</u></p> <p>24/01233/FUL – the proposed change of use to a children’s farm includes the conversation and reuse of 2 existing agricultural buildings/barns together with a small extension to barn A, the provision of a parking area, the upgrading of existing field gate access onto/from Montacute Road, and the formation of a new access track leading from the upgraded access to the parking area and lane out viewing paddocks – Stoneshells Farm, Montacute Road, Tintinhull, Yeovil BA22 8QD – awaiting decision.</p> <p>24/00750/FUL – conversion of existing agricultural building to create a single dwelling with garaging and associated works as well as demolition of existing buildings – Land at Icicle Barn, Lower Town, Montacute – awaiting decision</p> <p>24/00125/COU – change of use of land to extend the residential curtilage of the property Lochindorb – Lochindorb, Montacute Road, East Stoke, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6UQ – awaiting decision</p> <p>25/011/c <u>Other</u></p> <p>The Clerk reported that she had been contacted by a developer regarding a potential development in Stoke sub Hamdon. The developer has asked for a meeting with both Stoke sub Hamdon and Montacute parish councils to gauge their opinions before they submit an application. Councillors agreed to attend a meeting.</p>	Clerk
<p>25/012 <u>GOVERNANCE</u></p> <p>None declared.</p>	
<p>25/013 <u>CORRESPONDENCE</u></p> <p>A request for a grant has been received from the village hall committee. A discussion was held. The Clerk said that an application has already been sent to the Chairman of the village hall committee.</p>	
<p>25/014 <u>ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS</u></p> <p>VE Day 80 Commemorations.</p> <p>Village Hall Grant</p>	
<p>25/015 <u>DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING</u></p> <p>There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 21.16pm. The next meeting will be held at the pavilion on Wednesday, 19th February 2025.</p>	