

**MINUTES OF MONTACUTE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON**  
**MONDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2017 IN THE BAPTIST CHAPEL HALL**

**17/033/a PRESENT:**

**Members:** Mr V Baker (Chairman), Mrs J Folkard, Mrs A Gihon, Mrs A Jewell-Harrison, Mr H Marsh, Mr M Sampson, Mrs L Siegle and Mr D Warry

**Others:** Mrs S Moore (Clerk), Mrs J Roundell Greene (District Councillor) and 4 members of the public

**17/033/b APOLOGIES:**

Mrs C Saint (Vice Chairman), Mr M Fysh (County Councillor) and the PCSO

**17/034 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

None declared.

**17/035 PUBLIC SESSION:**

A resident commented that it was good to see the letter to Somerset County Council regarding the 20mph speed limit in the magazine and asked if the parish council would like residents to write to SCC. Cllr Baker said that there was not much that could be done until after the May elections as the parish needs a county councillor to help us. Cllr Baker asked residents to mention the 20mph limit proposal to prospective candidates if they call when canvassing. Cllr Roundell Green agreed with Cllr Baker and reiterated that it would be better wait until after the elections.

A resident asked which bodies concentrate on health and wellbeing in the community. Cllr Baker said that again this is matter which can be raised after the elections.

A resident said that as it is not possible to have a zebra crossing in St Michaels View could the parish council put in a request for a 'children crossing' warning sign. Cllr Baker said that this would be discussed at a later time. The resident also thanked the parish council for the £100 donation towards the Community Speedwatch and said that new signs will be erected shortly.

**17/036 PCSO REPORT:**

No report given.

**17/037 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS:**

**17/037/a Cllr Roundell Greene:**

Cllr Roundell Greene gave her report.

- Council Tax bills have been sent out. Cllr Roundell Greene mentioned that if people do not notify SSDC of their circumstances then they could be liable for a penalty charge
- There will shortly be a parish consultation on the upcoming Boundary review and changes to the Wards.
- Somerset Waste Partnership will be introducing a three weekly waste collection of non-recyclable waste from the autumn and SWP will increase the type of material such as plastics and small electrical items that can be recycled. These items will continue to be collected weekly. SWP will be holding road shows around the district to provide more information to the general public.

**17/037/b Cllr Fysh:**

No report given.

*(Cllr Roundell Greene left the meeting)*

**17/038 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Amendments were made to the following minute references:

*Minute ref: 17/024* – This was change to read ‘Highways have said that this would be on their website by 23<sup>rd</sup> February and should be repaired in April.’

*Minute ref: 17/025/b* – (Cllr Siegle left the meeting) was added to the bottom of this section.

*Minute ref: 17/026* – The spelling of the words ‘Coker’ and ‘March’ were corrected.

*Minute ref: 17/027* – (Cllr Saint left the meeting) was added to the bottom of this section.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were signed and approved.

Proposed: Cllr Gihon    Seconded: Cllr Jewell-Harrison    agreed unanimously

**17/039            MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

**17/039/a            Sporting Facilities**

Cllr Baker commented that the decision regarding the sports pavilion has been escalated further in the National Trust. The Clerk said that she had spoken with Paul Dance about the architect’s drawings and comments and he will contact the architect and explain the background to the project.

**17/039/b            Play Area**

Cllr Siegle said that she is meeting with Rob Parr and the National Trust to discuss the plan. The Clerk said that this has already been carried out and it’s only the playground representatives that need to be contacted to draw up some plans.

**17/039/c            20mph Speed Limit**

This item was discussed under *Minute ref: 17/035*.

Cllr Siegle asked whether councillors were going to discuss the crossing sign that was requested in the public session. Cllr Baker said that this would be discussed at our May meeting.

**17/039/d            Village Hall**

Cllr Jewell-Harrison commented that the hall’s AGM had been arranged. Cllr Baker read out the reply to the parish council’s letter from the chairman of the hall committee. A discussion was held regarding the response. Cllr Baker read out a letter from the Charities Commission; this was a reply to a letter which Cllr Baker had sent personally and not in his capacity as chairman of the parish council. A further discussion was held and Cllr Baker said that he was prepared to be nominated to go on the village hall committee at the AGM. It was agreed for Cllr Baker to be the parish council’s representative.

Proposed: Cllr Gihon                      Seconded: Cllr Folkard                      agreed unanimously

Cllr Folkard referred to the Freedom of Information requests mentioned in the letter and asked that the resident’s names and addresses be redacted as it comes under the Data Protection Act.

It was agreed to send a copy of the hall committee’s letter to Cllr Roundell Greene and to the Charities Commission as the advice appears to be conflicting.

Cllr Sampson asked for clarification regarding the Freedom of Information request and whether it was valid as it had not come from a named individual. The Clerk said that as the letter had not come from a named individual or individual’s address and was not signed, it was not valid. The Clerk said that she would also check the Act to clarify this point.

It was agreed to contact the chairman of the hall committee and ask for a copy of the agenda and the latest audited accounts and, to attend a meeting with the Community Council for Somerset to sort out the governance. It was also agreed that in order to keep the hall committee informed of what the parish council are doing to include in the letter that the parish council are asking the Charity Commission for clarification on the advice given.

**Action Clerk**

**17/040            HIGHWAYS:**

No report given.

**17/041      WORKING PARTIES REPORTS:**

**17/041/a      Allotments**

Cllr Baker said that he had put some hard core down on the track way to level it out. It was agreed for the Clerk to email Cllr Gihon with details of which allotment holders had paid their rent. The Clerk said that reminders needed to be sent before making a plot vacant. **Action Clerk**

**17/041/b      National Trust**

Cllr Jewell-Harrison confirmed that the National Trust will be trialling, this year, a donation scheme for car parking within Montacute House grounds. Cllr Siegle said that this would increase the problematic issue that the village already has with parking.

**17/041/c      Street Lighting**

Cllr Folkard said that the new light in St Michaels View is an LED light.

**17/041/d      Speedwatch**

No report given

**17/041/e      Triangle Trust**

Cllr Warry said that there were no requests for equipment and the next meeting is on 26<sup>th</sup> April.

**17/041/f      Recreation Ground**

The Clerk said that she had received a request for a fun fair to be held on the recreation ground. Cllr Folkard expressed her concerns about this and about a couple of people who were seen 'casing' the grounds. Cllr Baker said that the equipment would not be able to get through the security gate and said that it would not be compatible for the football teams. It was agreed not to allow the fun fair to take place. **Action Clerk**

The Clerk said that she had sent out the tender documents for the grass cutting and was meeting with a prospective contractor later in the week.

**17/041/g      Footpaths**

No report given.

**17/042      CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Cllr Baker asked if there had been any progress regarding the defibrillator. The Clerk apologised but had not had the chance to deal with this yet. Cllr Warry commented that permission would be needed to use the telephone box

Cllr Baker said that he was still looking into the background on the Sheep Wash and was contacting local history groups.

Cllr Gihon asked whether a historical film night could be laid on and to make it into a fund raising event. It was agreed to put it on the next agenda for discussion.

**17/043      CLERK'S REPORT:**

The Clerk said that the County Council elections will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> May and that she had placed a poster on the noticeboard.

The Clerk said that she had received an email from Wales & West Utilities which states that Montacute has been identified as a 'CO Hotspot' which is based on the number of call outs received by residents and would like the opportunity of attending local community centres. It was agreed to pass on the Village Agent's contact details. **Action Clerk**

The Clerk reported that a new Public Space Protection Order have replaced the existing Dog Control Orders. Under previous legislation Town and Parish Councils were able to make their own Dog Control Orders but under new legislation this is no longer possible and should an order be required it would need to be put in place by the District Council. It was agreed for the Clerk to get clarification regarding the play area and recreation ground. **Action Clerk**

**17/044      FINANCE:**

**17/044/a      Matters for Report**

i. Monthly Bank Reconciliation

The Clerk gave the quarterly bank reconciliation as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017:

Current Account	£ 460.00
Business Reserve Account	£ 38,091.94
Sports Project Reserve Account	£ 16,182.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 54,734.69</b>
Outstanding Cheques	(£ 52.50)
Outstanding Credits	£ 182.71
<b>Total as Cash Book</b>	<b>£ 54,604.48</b>

ii. EDF Energy

The bill from EDF Energy for 03/05/16 – 31/01/17 was £2.53. As the readings were estimated the Clerk asked Cllr Warry if he would take a meter reading.

**Action Cllr Warry**

**17/044/b** Cheques for Signature

Sarah Moore	Expenses for February	£ 116.49	Chq 1429
K M Dike Nurseries	Grass Cutting on Rec February	£ 72.00	Chq 1430
Montacute Baptist Chapel	Hire of Hall for Christmas Event		
	February & Allotment Meeting	£ 75.00	Chq 1431
SSDC	Provision of Ranger 2016/2017	£ 3,924.96	Chq 1432
National Trust	Recreation Ground Rent	£ 100.00	Chq 1433
South Somerset Community			
Speedwatch Co-Ordinators			
Group	Donation	£ 100.00	Chq 1434
Friends of Ham Hill	Donation towards CCTV	£ 100.00	Chq 1435
<i>Local Government Act 1972 Section 137</i>			
Yeovil Shopmobility	Donation	£ 50.00	Chq 1436
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,438.45</b>	

Proposed: Cllr Sampson      Seconded: Cllr Siegle      agreed unanimously

The Clerk passed the cheque 1431 for Montacute Baptist Chapel to Cllr Baker.

**17/044/c** Matters for Resolution

None declared.

**17/045** PLANNING:

**17/045/a** Planning Information:

No reports given.

**17/045/b** Report on Applications:

None declared.

**17/045/c** Report on Applications Considered

None declared.

**17/046** CORRESPONDENCE:

None declared.

**17/047** MEMBERS REPORTS:

Cllr Warry mentioned the Highway sign at the top of the link road which shows that there are public conveniences in Stoke sub Hamdon. He asked if this could be removed as there have not been any public conveniences in Stoke sub Hamdon for a few years

Cllr Jewell-Harrison said that a resident has complained about the dray lorries that park in front of the King's Arms and block the road. It was agreed that this was not a parish council matter and that the resident needs to complain directly to the brewery.

Cllr Folkard asked when the dropped kerb in Middle Street was going to be changed and also the installation of the tactile paving near the church. The Clerk agreed to chase these matters up.

**Action Clerk**

**17/048      ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:**

Historic Film Night

'Children Crossing' sign

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10.30pm. The next meeting will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7.00pm in the Baptist Chapel