



## A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022, at 7.30pm, Winscombe Community Centre, Main Hall

Those present at the meeting:

**Present:** Cllrs Tom Adams, Zak Aravantinos, Mark Boddy, Archie Forbes (Chair), Kevin Joyce (Vice-Chair), Iain Kilpatrick, Gerald Lloyd, Tom Nicholson, Lynne Stephens (Vice-Chair), Jack Taviner, Larry Van Haaren, and John Witcher

**NSC Ward Councillors:** Cllr Karin Haverson

**Clerk:** Lynne Rampton (via zoom)

**Members of the public:** Two

**Parish Cllrs Absent:** Cllrs Emma Buckland, Chris Lomas, and Paul Watkins

**110. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** (*Agenda item 1*) Apologies had been received from Cllrs Buckland, Lomas, and Watkins along with NSC Ward Cllr Harley.

**111. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (*Agenda item 2*). A non-pecuniary interest had been declared by Cllr Joyce in Agenda item 12a as a relative of the person supplying the quotation

**112. TO CONSIDER & DECIDE UPON ANY REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION FROM MEMBERS TO ALLOW THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN A DISCUSSION OR VOTE ON A MATTER IN WHICH HE/SHE MAY HAVE A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY OR NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST** (*Agenda item 3*).

*Dispensations are granted to Parish Councillors under section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 and the Parish Council delegated the power to grant dispensations (s 101 of the Local Government Act 1972) to the Clerk or appointed Deputy (see PC meeting 23.07.12 min 52 iv.).*

Dispensation was granted to the member for this meeting only to speak but not vote on the matter.

**113. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2021** (*Agenda item 4*) **The minutes to the meeting were approved as a correct record.**

Proposed: Cllr Z Aravantinos                      Seconded: Cllr I Kilpatrick

All members present at the last meeting were in favour.

**114. MINUTE UPDATE FROM THE NOVEMBER PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES ALONG WITH THE DECEMBER AND JANUARY CLERK'S REPORTS – Annex 1** (*Agenda item 5*)

*Min 100. Ward Cllr update.* The signage on Sandmead Road had been drawn to the attention of NSC. They subsequently advised that signage had been incorrectly re-installed after NG work to speed limits in the area. NSC intended to carry out speed monitoring in the New Year.

*Min 109. Road condition of parish lanes.* Cllr Boddy had agreed to the deferral of this item until a later meeting. Road repair works would be agreed between National Grid and NSC

**115. TO RECEIVE A CRIME REPORT FOR THE LAST MONTH PERIOD** (*Agenda item 6*)

A report had been received for the previous month period. This was read to the meeting by the Chairman.

**116. RESPONSE TO MATTERS RAISED DURING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL** (*Agenda item 7*) With all matters raised having been addressed there were none.

**117. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** (*Agenda item 8*) *The Chairman suspended the meeting to allow public participation and stated that this was the only time during the meeting members of public present would be allowed to address the Council.*

**Speed watch Coordinator.** In response to a question regarding speed survey results, the parishioner was advised that an update regarding the 20mph scheme was awaited from NSC. It was also asked if NSC owned the land on which the proposed Southern Link Road (part of the Banwell Bypass proposals) would be built? The Parish Council was not aware of land ownership for the area.

**Greener Church Road Group.** The group leader reported of a positive meeting that had taken place today with NSC representatives from the Banwell Bypass Team, their contractors and Cllr Nicholson (on behalf

of the PC) to consider issues that could arise for Church Road and Winscombe Hill as part of the Banwell Bypass proposals. The group had submitted suggested mitigation measures for the roads directly to NSC. *With no further members of the public wishing to speak, the Chairman re-convened the meeting*

**118. TO RECEIVE A WARD COUNCILLOR & NSC PARISH LIAISON OFFICER UPDATE** (*Agenda item 9*)

Ward Cllr Haverson updated the meeting on NSC related matters. These included:

- Measures in the emerging Local Plan to 2035 for housing numbers, and the difficulties in locating these in areas with planning constraints.
- Due to the valuable contribution played during the height of the pandemic, 'NS Together' would continue in a facilitator role as 'Empowering Communities' connecting those in need with local support groups.
- The Banwell Bypass would have an impact on surrounding villages, and it was considered important that mitigation measures were adequate. An opportunity existed through this to reduce use of vehicles as transportation and promote a more sustainable form of travel through walking and cycling.
- Ongoing concerns regarding the Church Road/Woodborough Road junction. It was requested the Cllr Haverson include the PC in any talks with NSC on this matter.
- There was little to report on the Churchill Academy home to school transport situation, with a decision on the withdrawal of this service still to be made.
- The future of Churchill Sports Centre was unclear, with NSC to take a loan to carry out repair works, but no funding available to subsidise ongoing running costs.

Cllr Harley had submitted a written report in advance of the meeting that was read by the Chair. This mainly focused on a forthcoming public consultation about the Local Plan to 2035, and it was the members opinion that the parish would be better protected against future housing development with a Neighbourhood Plan in place.

**119. TO AUTHORISE BILLS FOR PAYMENT. Annex 2** (*Agenda item 10*)

Direct payments, cheques, direct debits, and standing order payments as detailed totalling £14,950.21 (incl. vat) were authorised for payment along with an internal transfer between accounts of £12,844.88.

Proposed: Cllr G Lloyd                      Seconded: Cllr L Van Haaren                      All in favour

**120. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM A MEETING OF THE EMPLOYMENT, FINANCE & POLICIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 17<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022 AND TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THAT MEETING** *Cllr L Stephens Annex 3 (Agenda item 11)*

**a. To approve the minutes of the committee meeting held on 17th January**

The minutes to the meeting were approved as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr J Taviner                      Seconded: Cllr L Van Haaren

All those present at the meeting were in favour

**b. To approve contributions, donations and grant applications as included in 2022/2023 budget proposals.** Grant applications, contributions and donations as listed in the approved budget were agreed for inclusion and payment in 2022/2023

Proposed: Cllr T Nicholson                      Seconded: Cllr J Witcher                      All in favour

**c. To approve the committee recommendations, budget and to set a parish precept demand for 2022/23**

Following a period of public consultation in 2021, overwhelming public support had been received from those responding to the on-line and newsletter public survey to financially support a new build community centre in Winscombe. This had equated to a 7.6% increase on the parish precept alone, and therefore members were mindful when considering other requests from community groups, as well as PC committed outgoings and suggested projects.

A late request from NSC for a significant amount of funding that would require an ongoing commitment in future years to allow Churchill Sports Centre to reopen had been carefully considered by the committee. Whilst there was some support for the reopening of the Churchill Leisure Centre, not enough time had been given to allow the parish council to consult with residents. Members were aware that the current building required significant maintenance/improvement works and there was a lack of a business plan/financial planning available to the PC at this time. For these reasons, the request for £24k annually had not been included in budget proposals.

The projected forecast figures (2021/22) and the proposed budget (2022/23), as considered by the committee were detailed to the meeting. This would result in a recommended precept demand figure for the next financial year to be increased from £155,000 to £174,000 and would mean a Local Council Element

of Headline Council Tax per D Band property increase from £73.33 to £80.25 which was equivalent to a 9.4% increase rise per 'D' band property on the current financial year.

**It was proposed that the 2022/2023 budget is approved and the Parish Council precept demand to NSC for 2022/2023 be set at £174,000**

**Proposed: Cllr K Joyce                      Seconded: Cllr J Witcher                      All in favour**

**d. Regular payments already made by direct debit or standing order – to reaffirm for 2022/23**

Payments as detailed in the committee meeting minutes were reaffirmed.

Proposed: Cllr J Witcher                      Seconded: Cllr J Taviner                      All in favour

A Cllr attending a meeting of the EF&P committee for the first time commended on the care and discussion that took place during the budget and precept planning.

*The Parish Council Chairman conveyed his thanks to the Committee Chairman and Clerk for the manner in which the budget meeting had been conducted and for works in the budget preparation.*

**121. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM, AND TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM A MEETING OF THE CEMETERY & ALLOTMENT WORKING GROUP HELD ON 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021 (Agenda item 12);**

**a. A quotation had now been received to insert two RSJ posts into the new entrance pillars and carry out works to extend the entrance gates by 1.5m in width. Works cost £1,000 and this was recommended to the Parish Council for agreement from cemetery earmarked reserves.**

Funding for the works was approved from cemetery earmarked reserves

Proposed: Cllr Z Aravantinos                      Seconded: Cllr J Witcher                      11 in favour

*Cllr Joyce, having previously declared an interest in this item abstained from the vote.*

**b. With the fruit trees now becoming more mature, it was recommended that the canopies to these were reduced to make the fruit more accessible as well as not to cause future problems with roots and overshadowing for both cemetery and allotment areas.**

Additional works to the fruit trees at a cost of an extra £60 was approved

Proposed: Cllr L Van Haaren                      Seconded: Cllr J Witcher                      All in favour

**122. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM, AND TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MEETINGS OF THE CHAIRMAN'S COMMITTEE HELD ON 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021 AND 6<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022 (Agenda item 13)**

**a. 6<sup>th</sup> December meeting. Works had been authorised and instructed for the emergency replacement bracket and lantern to a parish streetlight on Homefield Close – 1 column at a cost of £570 plus vat**

The minutes to the meeting were approved as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr J Witcher                      Seconded: Cllr K Joyce                      10 in favour, 2 abstentions

All those present at the meeting were in favour

**b. 6<sup>th</sup> January meeting. Works had been authorised and instructed for the repair and replacement of manhole covers at the Recreation Ground at a cost of £1,500 plus vat**

The minutes to the meeting were approved as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr K Joyce                      Seconded: Cllr J Taviner                      10 in favour, 2 abstentions

All those present at the meeting were in favour

**123. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM A MEETING OF THE BANWELL BYPASS WORKING GROUP THAT TOOK PLACE ON 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021 AND TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL FUTURE GROUP/PUBLIC MEETINGS (Agenda item 14)**

NSC presentation slides from the BB Community Group meeting had been circulated to members on 9<sup>th</sup> December. With it being anticipated that the next round of NSC public consultation would start mid-February, the following PC meetings had been scheduled to consider bypass proposals:

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 7.30pm – PC BB WG public consultation meeting via zoom

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm - NSC BB Team to attend and present to the February PC meeting

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 7.30pm – PC BB WG meeting to consider comments from the public meeting and to formulate a PC response to the NSC consultation to be finalised no later than 7<sup>th</sup> March.

The PC had previously supported proposals for a Banwell Bypass, but only with adequate mitigation measures to protect our parish. Comments would be welcomed from local groups as well as parishioners on traffic and environmental mitigation measures that were considered necessary, and these would include improvements for active travel and cycling.

Aside from data requested in a FOI request to NSC, in meetings the local authority had previously been asked to provide information on the carbon impact of the bypass, information on protected species as well as requesting air pollution readings especially on the A368 through Sandford near the primary school. The data collected in the PC commissioned 2021 speed surveys in the parish would be considered at the next meeting of the working group and form part of the response to the forthcoming bypass public consultation for mitigation measures.

124. **TO CO-OPT CLLR ARAVANTINOS ONTO THE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE** (*Agenda item 15*) Cllr Aravantinos was duly co-opted as a member of the Planning Committee  
**Proposed: Cllr G Lloyd                      Seconded: Cllr L Van Haaren                      11 in favour**  
*Cllr Aravantinos abstained from the vote.*
125. **OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER.** *March edition to be cancelled due to lack of content (Agenda item 16)*  
The next edition of the newsletter would be delivered early June 2022.
126. **MAP BOARDS ON THE STRAWBERRY LINE. PC to consider taking ownership of three boards that have planning permission and advertising consent until September 2023.** (*Agenda item 17*)  
Refuse: The Parish Council had not previously engaged in any form of advertisement and did not wish to take responsibility for the boards that required renewal of a planning consent and were sited on the NSC owned Strawberry Line. Members saw little benefit in taking ownership of the boards.  
Proposed: Cllr M Boddy                      Seconded: Cllr K Joyce  
10 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention
127. **To receive an update on plans and proposals from the Churchill and Langford Minibus Society including the potential creation of an Older Peoples Support Service** (*Agenda item 18*)  
A report of the meeting had been circulated to members along with meeting papers. This included plans to employ a Community Development Worker for a potential Older Peoples (telephone) Support Service Project, paid for through grant funding for a period of six-months. Members commented that this may be duplicating existing services already provided through NS Together, WREN and Community Connect. A further meeting of the CLMS Group would take place on 26<sup>th</sup> January to consider this project further.
128. **MATTERS FOR INFORMATION** (*Agenda item 19*)
- **Award land.** Tree planting of English Oaks would be taking place on 25<sup>th</sup> January as part of Jubilee celebrations for 2022.
  - **Churchill Sports Centre.** Cllrs Stephens and Joyce would represent the parish council in discussions with neighbouring parishes regarding the future of the centre.

With no further business, the meeting concluded at 8.35 pm

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date.....

*Winscombe and Sandford Parish Council acknowledge the general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (age, race, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status, religion & belief, pregnancy & maternity and disability) Crime and Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.*