

# WEST QUANTOXHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2014

**PRESENT:** Cllr G Tizzard (Chairperson), Cllrs H Ross, & R Hughes. Also WSC Cllr S Dowding, SCC Cllr H Davies, J Mote (Clerk) and Cllr candidates S Sherry & D Litchfield

**APOLOGIES:** Cllrs W Anderson & PCSO Peter Bolton

1. **DECLARATION of INTEREST** (prejudicial) in any matter on agenda – None.

2. **MINUTES** of the P.C. meeting held 14/05/14, previously circulated, were approved and signed.

### 3. **MATTERS ARISING:**

**(i) Councillor vacancy (candidates for Co-option).** 3 parishioners have put their names forward to become Cllrs. Duncan Litchfield, Sue Sherry & Tony Dunn.

Duncan Litchfield was proposed by Cllr Ross & seconded by Cllr Hughes. Sue Sherry was proposed by Cllr Hughes and seconded by Cllr Ross and Tony Dunn was proposed by Cllr Tizzard and seconded by Cllr Hughes. All 3 were unanimously voted on and the chairman declared them to be co-opted onto the Parish Council. SS and DL signed the acceptance of office. JM to contact TD to complete paperwork.

**(ii) Telephone Box.** JM met with Richard Hughes and Mike Sanders from the village hall committee to discuss the plans to move the telephone box to the village hall grounds. Following this meeting the village hall committee have agreed to house the telephone box in their grounds, initially at the kitchen end of the village hall, moving it to a permanent position after Wessex Water have finished laying new pipe work. The cost of the second move would be paid for by the village hall. The village hall would keep the box clean and tidy but will not pay for any maintenance cost. PC will need to pay for the box to be moved and for the lay-by to be repaired. JM reported the box was set in concrete which would need to be broken before removal; also the box needs some repairs to the door and paint work. PC will also need to pay for shelving etc inside the box. JM had received a quote for a complete refurbishment of the box £2,300. Cllrs agreed this was too much money. It was agreed for now to get quotes for the box to be moved then look at the repairs as a second phase. SS to ask Pete Sherrin, JM to ask C Lynch and DL would make other enquires.

**(iii) Bench at Staple Cross.** GT still waiting for a price on the wood, he will chase this up.

**(iv) Bus Shelters.** JM reported that the bus shelters were becoming overgrown inside and needed urgent clearance. DL offered to get them cleared and report back on the condition once cleared, to see if the wood needs staining.

**(v) Notice board at Staple Cross.** JM reported this also needs some maintenance work, the paint is flaking and the wood may be starting to rot. SS offered to ask Ivor Yeomans if he would be prepared to carry out the work as he has recently done an excellent job on repairing the notice board outside the village hall.

### 4. **REPORTS:**

**(i) Police Report:** None as PSCO Bolton was unable to attend.

**(ii) County Council:** Reported by HD.

West Somerset Railway sale is now going to be handled by Cllr John Osman, each station will get a say in the sale as they are all stakeholders. Quantock Hills funding is being reviewed, County are looking to reduce funding, but are also looking at other funding that may be available to the hills. Free school meals are now available from September for pupils in Reception up to year 2. First buses have reduced the fares for children and young people. New computers are being installed in Somerset Libraries. The old Croft House site in Williton was being sold to Knightstone Housing to build 12 affordable units however another developer as now shown an interest in the site and wants to build only 4 affordable units and 8 open market properties, SCC will now need to consider both options. Get Set services are just starting offering more support to families with children under 5, rolling it out to all families with children up to the age of 19 in the coming months, more details will be available from SCC or the children's centres.

**(iii) District Council:** Report by SD:

A date has been set for a meeting about the Quantock Hills funding but Cllrs from WSC are not allowed to attend. Funding from SCC is vital as DEFRA add funding according to the amount given by SCC, so this would also be cut if SCC cut funding. Joint working with Taunton Deane is continuing, Cllrs from both Authorities recently spent a day together at Halsway Manor, some redundancies have been made. Police want to know if anyone sees a white mini bus with a dodgy exhaust in the area. If the Police station in Williton closes the Police may use WSC offices as a base. Fly tipping is happening in the area; please report, especially if you see a white minivan dumping glass. No news on the Williton Supermarket. Flood meeting held this morning talked about a Somerset levy to help towards the cost of flood prevention in the County.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE:** (full list pre-circulated)

**Hinkley Point C. Community Impact Mitigation (CIM) fund:**

Item discussed. PC would like to look into funding towards some sort of crossing for the A39. GT will speak to Highways and JM will then complete the application form. Approximate cost of the scheme will need to be known.

**Village Hall Rep:**

Duncan Litchfield agreed to be the PC rep on the Village Hall Committee. JM to pass on his details to Mike Sanders.

**Top 5 Priorities:**

After discussion the top 5 priorities were amended to:

- 1) Pedestrian Crossing on the A39.
- 2) Children's Play area.
- 3) Telephone Kiosk project
- 4) Hearing Loop for the Village Hall
- 5) Insulation for the Village Hall

**6. FINANCES:**

**(i) Financial Statement:** for 09/07/14:

Petty cash balance at 14/05/14		£ 4.96
Cheque cashed		£70.00
Internal Audit gift	£21.99	
Ink Cartridge	£32.00	
Stationary	£ 2.62	- <u>£56.61</u>
Balance @ 9/07/14		£18.35

Bank balance at P.C. meeting 14/05/14 £3366.40  
Balance (confirmed by bank statement #10)

**(ii) Cheques authorised at this meeting:**

SALC: (Good Cllr guides)	£ 6.00	
HMRC: Clerk's Income Tax	£ 37.80	
Clerks Salary	£152.15	
Village Hall grant	£250.00	- <u>£445.95</u>
Bank balance remaining		£2920.45

**(iii) New bank signatory:**

SS agreed to be a signatory on the PC account along with GT & HR.

**(iv) Village Hall grant:**

Agreed to give the Village Hall a grant of £250 towards the cost of replacing the safety barrier outside the fire escape. Agreed unanimously (RH didn't vote as conflict of interests)

**7. PLANNING UPDATE:**

**(i) Update on earlier planning application:**

3/38/14/004. Single Storey side extension. Tara Staple Lane. Granted  
3/38/14/001 Bio Mass boiler. Staple Farm, West Quantoxhead. Appealed.

**(ii) Planning applications received:** None

**(iii) Notification of future planning applications:** None

**8. HIGHWAY MATTERS:**

RH reported Lorries were using The Avenue / Weacombe Road as a cut through between the A39 and A358. JM to report this to Highways.

**9. FOOTPATHS:** None

**10. ANY URGENT MATTER:** which may be raised with the permission of the chairperson.

**11. FUTURE MEETINGS:**

10 Sep 14, 12 Nov 14, 14 Jan 15, 11 Mar 15 & 13 May 15

