Kilmersdon Parish Council

**M I N U T E S**

Full Council Meeting held 8th October 2024

In attendance:

Cllrs Ham, Lucas, Cook, Hudson

Clerk to the Council Jen Gregory

Public Forum

No members of the public in attendance.

24/25 40 Apologies for absence

 All councillors in attendance.

24/25 41 Chairman’s Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting noting the exceptional rainfall today.

24/25 42 Declarations of Interest

Three members Cllr Hudson, Ham and Lucas declared an interest in Planning matter 2024/1767, dispensation allowed for members to be present in the room as this was “notification only”.

24/25 43 Minutes

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held Wednesday 17th September 2024 were approved as a correct record.

 **Resolved: Minutes duly signed in the presence of the meeting.**

24/25 44. Matters Arising

 Online Storage arrangement (to consider)

 Costs were considered prohibitive for such a service. A google drive would be set up as a trial measure

 Bin Emptying provision by Somerset Council and related costs (For information)

 Bin locations: Near the Church Gate, Ames Lane, Kilmersdon Play Park x3 cost of £46.50 per collection with the aim to collect 70% full bins once a week but admission from Somerset that this was difficult to quantify however the parish Council would aim to monitor as this was a considerable annual cost and would decide frequency.

 Councillors Surgery 22nd October

 An hour workshop from 5.45pm to 6.45pm looking at specific elements such as the Fossefield Road development and hearing concerns from residents generally. The Police vehicle would also be present at the same time. Agreed to arrive early to set up and have prompts. A-Board to be displayed prior to the event.

 Village Shop Grant Monies

 No response made. Cllr Cook would address personally.

Grasscutting strimming and Contract

LSJ said they would work on providing a contract. As for strimming they had made suggestions for metal collars for posts and play equipment and wildflower areas to trees. However, after discussion this was not felt a good idea and perhaps letting the grass grow in these areas would be better. A trial of this would be advised and perhaps consider mulching the trees and planting bulbs.

 Zip Wire Maintenance / Cost

 Cost appeared excessive with questions as a result regarding maintenance given their location and the need/amount of inspections generally. The Clerk would look into and report back

Questions of Planner reference Fossefield Appeal

As an “interested party” we would be advised of any appeal. The process was 6 months so based on information provide was expected around late January / February. The Council discussed the use of consultants (as used by NSP Parish) and would look into costs in preparation of feedback from the Surgery if this was a route residents wished to take.

 Questions of Solicitor reference unbilled work

 A response had been made from the Solicitor. Much of the work was to the underlease, title and registry. The amount was £3k with VAT. Despite some unrest there was little option than to pay it. Invoice awaited.

Banking admin update

Progressing slowly. As a result of enquiries there were several signatory updates made.

24/25 45. Police and Crime Report / Neighbourhood Watch

Councillors did not attend the visit by the police community vehicle. It was suggested if the opportunity arose on the 22nd some of the crime figures would be questioned.

24/25 46. Councillor Items *(which do not appear elsewhere on the agenda)*

 None.

24/25 47. District Councillors Report

No report available.

24/25 48. Finance

1. Approve payments to be made

 Below is a submission of payments to be made this month:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Payee** | **Detail** | **Gross** | **VAT** |
| LSJ Gardening | Grass and hedges | 237.99 | 39.66 |
| J Gregory | Salary August  | 445.90 |  |
| Clarke Wilmott | O/s Legal Costs (shop) invoice expected | 3000.00 | 500.00 |

 **Resolved: Payments agreed as listed above**

1. Cashbook Reconciliation

Reconciliation of cashbook to bank accounts was completed for the month of September with a balance of £50,097.36

24/25 49. Planning

* 1. 2020/1169 6 No. Dwellings Orchid Way. Advice of planning Committee 1st October. The Chair advised that this had taken place on the 1st October. Residents advised at the time of the original planning that road conditions were a concern. A bond was proposed along with restricted hours for traffic movement.
	2. Planning Applications (current)

The Clerk advised that 2 applications had been advised after the agenda had been prepared so an extension could be applied for if needed.

2024/1734 Installation of heat source pump, the Hall, Coles Garden

This was considered at the meeting and plans looked at. All members had no objection but for the installation to be sympathetic to the conservation area in which is sits.

2024/1767 Copper Beech – reduce all branches – Babington House, Vobster Cross. This application was “notification only” with no decision needing to be made.

* 1. Previous applications (last 3 months)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Application** | **Location** | **Works** | **KPC - Decision** | **SC - Decision** |
| 2024/1521/LBC | Charlton Inn Cottage -Charlton Rd to Kilmersdon Hill | Boundary wall repairs and render to side elevation | Recommend approval (decision via email)  | Registered  |
| 2024/1232TCA | Manor Farm Tumblers Bottom | Fell Trees  | Recommend Approval | Pending Consideration |
| 2024/0447/OUT | Land At Old Redhouse Farm | 1 Detached and terrace of 5 | Recommend Rejection  | Rejected |
| 2024/0856/HSE | 4 Silver Street | 2 storey extension | No comment | Approval |
| 2022/1028/FUL | Land adjacent to Sunlea, Fosse Way | Erection of dwelling | No comment | Decided Approval |
| 2024/0923/TPO | Babington House | Copper Beech – height reduction | No comment | DecidedApproval  |
| 2024/0856/HSE | 4 Silver Street | 2 story extension | No comment | Registered |
| 2022/0614/OUT | Land South of Fossefield Road, Fosse Way, Stratton On The Fosse | Application for Outline Planning Permission for erection of up to 180 dwellings | Oppose | Pending - Rejected at Planning Committee 06.08 |

24/25 50 Reports

 The Council continue to review policies with Complaints Procedure having been looked at.

 **Resolved: Policy Updated and scheduled for a review annually.**

24/25 51 Items for Next Meeting

 Surgery Feedback

Budgets – there would be an emphasis on what the parish needs and ongoing costs to consider the precept request for 2025/26 with this in mind the Clerk would liaise with lengthsman about seasonal working hours. The Clerk made an observation that the precept was close to the exemption limits and anything above 25k would result in an external audit with a cost involved.

24/25 52 Any Other Business

 None

24/25 53 Next Meeting Date

 12th November 2024. Cllr Cook gave apologies in advance.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm with all members thanked for their contribution and efforts.

A signed copy of the minutes can be obtained from the Clerk.