

MINUTES OF HAMBRIDGE AND WESTPORT PARISH COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12th APRIL 2023
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, HAMBRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

23/1001 PRESENT:

Cllr. S. Denley (Chairman), Cllr. P. Masters (Vice Chair), Cllr. R Maidment, Cllr. R Meecham, A. Dance (Unitary Councillor) & Mrs. L. Brooks (Clerk). There were no members of the public present.

23/1002 APOLOGIES:

Cllr G. Hill

J. Roundell-Green (Unitary Councillor)

23/1003 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Nothing to report.

23/1004 MINUTES:

The Minutes from the March meeting had been circulated. They were agreed and signed.

Proposed: Cllr. Masters

Seconded: Cllr. Meecham

Agreed unanimously.

23/1005 PUBLIC TIME

23/1005/a Public Time:

Nothing to report.

23/1005b Unitary Councillor report:

Cllr Dance updated the Parish Council on the latest happenings at Somerset Council. He also updated them on the way planning will be dealt with in the future.

23/1005/c P.C.S.O. Report:

Nothing to report.

23/1006 MATTERS ARISING

23/1006/a Providing a Trophy for the WI Flower Show

Cllr Meecham gave the WI a brochure of different trophies so they could decide what they feel would be most suitable. To be included on the May Agenda.

23/1006/b Town Crier

The Chairman reported that he had received a letter from Roy Palmer who has been the Town Crier for Hambridge and Westport. Mr Palmer is a military veteran who is at The Royal Hospital of Chelsea. He informed the Chair that he would no longer be holding this position.

23/1006/c MUGA

The Parish Council discussed the possibility of providing funding to the HWRT for their proposed MUGA project and they unanimously agreed that the PC would not be prepared to fund the project through any type of loan. Some Parishes have reported issues with MUGAs attracting antisocial behaviour. The Clerk suggested that maybe outdoor gym equipment might be a better idea as many young adults like to keep fit but can't afford gym memberships and it would be a lot cheaper than a MUGA. Many recs have them now and they are well used. The Chairman asked Cllr Dance if there would be any funding from Somerset Council for a MUGA and he informed them there wouldn't be. Cllr Dance said MUGAs started off at £130k and went up to £200k and the cost to maintain them was exuberant.

23/1006/d Ranger Jobs

The Parish Councillors would all send the Chairman a list of jobs that needed doing within the two villages. Cllr Dance informed the Parish Council that this service that SSDC started was likely to be continued under Somerset Council as it was self-funding and many Parish Councils relied on it.

23/1006/e Redundant speed camera – Hambridge

The speed sensor at Underhill was discussed at the meeting. Cllr Dance said it was not a Parish Council issue. It had been installed by Highways many years ago. If it is on private property, then it is the landowner's responsibility to take this up with Highways. If it is on Highways land, then they need to be contacted to ask them to remove it.

23/1006/f Potholes

The website link to report any pothole is:

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/report-a-problem-on-the-road/>

23/1007 **PLANNING:**

23/1007/a Matters for report:

Nothing to report.

23/1007/b Decisions Notified: The Clerk had been notified on the following:

Nothing to report.

23/1007/c Applications for consideration.

Nothing to report.

23/1008 **FINANCE:**

23/1008/a Matters for report

1 End of Quarter Accounts

The Clerk reported on the end of the final quarter accounts for 22-23

Unity Trust Bank Current account £ 25,845.58

Total as cash book £ 25,845.58

A bank reconciliation, bank statement and spread sheet of all transactions was emailed to all Parish Councillors prior to the meeting.

2. End of year audit

The Clerk has now completed the receipts and payments for 2022/23. They had been circulated before the meeting to all the Parish Councillors. The Chairman signed them off as being accurate. The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the accounts will now go to the internal auditor and then the AGAR form for the external audit will be completed ready for sign-off at the Annual May Parish Council meeting.

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to accept the receipts and payments for 2022/23 as being accurate.

Proposed: Cllr. Denley

Seconded: Cllr. Masters

Agreed unanimously.

23/1008/b Matters for Resolution

Nothing to report.

23/1008/c Cheques Payable:

All paid via Unity Trust Bank

PAYMENTS DUE			
Louise Brooks	Salary – February 2023	£	446.70
HMRC	NI & PAYE February 2023	£	95.40
Louise Brooks	Expenses & home office Allowance – February 2023	£	40.00
SSDC	Ranger's hours for February 2023	£	384.14

Proposed: Cllr. Masters

Seconded: Cllr. Meecham

Agreed unanimously.

23/1009 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

All correspondence received, had been forwarded to the Parish Councillors.

23/1010 **FOOTPATHS:**

Clerk reported that any footpath issues to be reported straight to SCC Rights of Way Officer.

23/1011 **MEMBERS' REPORTS/ITEMS FOR NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:**

Members' Reports:

Cllr Maidment enquired about equipment for a litter pick. Clerk explained this is normally organized through SSDC and the equipment is hired from them. She suggested waiting a month to see what is going to happen about this type of thing after the transfer to a Unitary Council.

Items for next Agenda:

Trophy for WI- Cllr. Meecham

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th May 2023 at 7.30 pm in the village hall.

PLEASE NOTE- THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE BEFOREHAND STARTING AT 7.15PM