

Haselbury Plucknett Monthly Parish Council Meeting
held at 7.00pm on Monday 11th April 2022 at the Bible Christian Centre in Haselbury Plucknett

Present - Cllrs, C Simmonds (Chair), M Bryant (Vice-Chair), M Rendall, B Atherton, J Farrant, R Bourne and L Gibbons (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public present: 6

The 100 Club Draw took place; the winners are:

March draw 1st prize – 81 2nd prize – 65 3rd prize – 63

Open session: No items were raised.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs H Williams and J Prunty, D Cllr O Patrick and C Cllr M Keating
- 2. Record of business of last Month 14/03/2022:** Approved and were signed as a true and proper record.
- 3. Matters Arising – None**
- 4. Declaration of Interest:** None
- 5. D Cllr O Patrick's Report:** As circulated.

C Cllr M Keating's Report: None received.

We have been notified of a temporary Road Closure: Swan Hill, Haselbury Plucknett - Commencing 25th April 2022 and is expected to last until 13th May 2022.

All help and information is now available in a single place on the SCC website <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/coronavirus/covid-19-latest-advice/>

6. Planning:

a) Planning Applications: None

b) Planning Applications received after publication of agenda: 22/00781/HOU, 9 Castleton – Erection of single storey side extension to dwelling to replace existing garage. The PC would like the planners to consider putting conditions on the application, regarding the times that construction work is undertaken. The PC has no other objections to this application.

c) Planning applications considered prior to this meeting: None

d) Decisions received: None

7. Finance:

a) Invoices for payment: All payments were approved:

C Simmonds	Bradfords 4 x postcrete	£23.76
L Gibbons	Clerk salary/expenses	£270.24
K M Dike	Ground Maintenance	£144.00

b) Reporting of invoices made prior to meeting: None

c) Annual Accounts and Bank Reconciliation: The accounts have been circulated for Cllrs to review. These were agreed.

d) Approval of the Annual Governance Statement: The Statements from the External Audit document were read, agreed and signed.

e) Approval of Accounting Statement: The details were read, agreed and signed.

f) Agreement to Appoint Internal Auditor: Richard Keylock Accountancy Services will be appointed as the Internal Auditor. It was agreed that he was independent and competent to carry out this audit

g) Agreement to the certificate of exemption (AGAR 19/20). As the expenditure and gross income are under £25k

and all other conditions are met, this was agreed.

8. The Park:

a) Safety checks: BA has circulated the safety checklist. The bin has not been emptied for several weeks. BA will report this to SSDC, via the Ranger and will also inform OP.

9. Road and Footpaths: HW passed on his thanks to the fifteen volunteers from the Village who assisted with the successful Litter pick. All the rubbish has been collected from the Green and the equipment returned to SSDC. He will arrange for another one in June prior to the In Bloom judging.

a) Roads and Highways Working Group: The two safety refuge bollards that were rotted opposite the school, have been replaced.

d) Footpath Working Group Feedback: HW agreed at the last meeting to review with SSDC the replacement of the 2 large litter bin - 1 on the green and 1 at the start of Puddletown. Neither of these bins are being emptied at present as the rubbish in them is not contained in plastic bags due to their size. SSDC quoted circa £400 for new bins and £200 to fit them. HW provided a summary of a smaller bin that will take the black rubbish bag that would allow for normal collection. CS/JF and HW believe that they would be able to fit them rather than pay the fee quoted by SSDC. The PC agreed to give HW authority to purchase one bin to start with (up to £200 inc. vat). This will be placed on the Green.

One more gate has been installed on Leaze Farm. There are three left to be installed.

10. Village Maintenance:

a) Village Ranger: Price increase and scope of work. SSDC have written to us confirming that the hourly rate for the Ranger will be £21.63 wef. From April 2022. They have asked us to confirm what we will require with regards to hours. The PC agreed that we will continue with two days per month. LG to respond to SSDC.

b) SID and Speedwatch: The Sid is working well.

The Speedwatch team has carried out a number of watches, in slightly different locations than normal due to the A30 closure. 1160 vehicles were monitored, which is less than usual. 81 of these were speeding (7%). 6 further watches have happened which the Police have attended, since the A30 has re-opened. They also hopefully have 2 new recruits to the team.

c) Environmental Champion Report:

A Scott previously asked the PC to consider buying a piece of equipment that would measure phosphates in our water ways. This would cost around £58 initially and then testing strips would need to be bought. Julian Brooks has agreed to take on the responsibility of testing our streams and ditches for phosphate pollution. The PC agreed to purchase the necessary equipment. (LG to liaise with AS). Currently there is a sewage overflow in Small Brook, its source is unknown. This has been circulated on facebook. The environmental health department have been informed but say that they are unable to take any action.

AS heard back from the SSDC wildflower give away, after chasing. She had to complete a long survey before collecting the seeds. The seeds provided were inappropriate for our soil, so other seeds were used. The SSDC seeds will be used in other areas.

d) Wildlife and Habitat Group Report: The Five oak trees that were purchased have been planted along with shrubs in the wildflower area. The wildflower sowing event went very well. The weather was good and around 140 people attended the seed planting which was amazing. HW has put in place arrangements to water these if necessary. The compost bins have been placed in Glebefield. The spring addition of the quarterly journal has been produced. The next few months will be spent on maintenance and wildlife surveys.

CS thanked the Wildlife group for all their work in this area.

e) Donation of additional defibrillator:

We have received £2036 from L Dear of Leaze Farm. The BCC has agreed to the 2nd defib being sited on their building. It will be placed on the west side of the chapel as there is electricity available there. The Community Heartbeat quote for a machine to match our current one is :-

Cardiac Science G5 defibrillator with carry case and RescueWrist device,
ShockBox Rotaid cabinet with information backboard (version 2),
Community signage pack
= £1555
In addition - Installation costs (CHT electricians can install and commission for £200 + vat)

LG contacted further suppliers for comparative quotes. These have been circulated.
The PC approved the purchase from Community Heartbeat, as there was very little difference between the costs and it will be a simpler reporting process if both machines are from the same manufacturer. LG to order.

11. Haselbury in Bloom: Nothing new to report.

12. List of Councillors responsibilities: Currently carried out by CS
a. Ranger – To be agreed at the May meeting.
b. SID, Changing Batteries fortnightly – W Hunt will take on this duty.
c. Defib, liaise with Mrs M Banham – MB
d. Jared Gear, Meter Reading and Prepare Bills – JF
e. Park - BA

13. Asset List: This has been updated. CS currently holds the 3m x 3m Gazebo. He would like this to be housed elsewhere if possible.

14. Matters to report: MB updated us on the Jubilee celebrations.
Thursday 2nd June – The beacon will be lit at 21:45. The celebrations will start at 19:00.
Sunday 5th – Jubilee celebration will take place in the park. This will include music and picnics.
MB requested a donation towards the cost of jubilee mugs for the children of the village. This was agreed.
(LG to liaise with MB regarding the order)

Perrott Hill School are looking for jobs for the Children to carry out for two hours on the 24th June. MB will have a group working in the Community Orchard. We will also ask HW if there is anything that can be done to help towards 'In Bloom' preparations.

The BCC has written thanking us for our donation, towards the use of the Hall.

15. Notices Parish News: BA notified us that the report that was submitted from the PC in the last newsletter was amended in an inaccurate manner. The current editor has stood down. We will continue to submit reports but is unsure if it will be published until a new editor is found.

16. Items for next meeting: Co-option of new Councillor (by 23rd June)

CS spoke regarding the success of this PC. There is involvement from many people in the village and success has been achieved in many areas. The workload is shared by all Councillors and a number of other villagers, adding to the sense of community that is felt.
This is evident in many areas in the village.

MB thanked CS for being an outstanding Chairman who has served our village well. CS has recognised the contributions of others and has encouraged others to 'do the right thing' and to get involved. MB presented CS with a gift of framed historic photos from the village.

17. Next Meeting Date: 09/05/2022 at the Bible Christian Centre at 7:00pm.