

Haselbury Plucknett Parish Council
Notice of Annual Meeting and Monthly Parish Council Meeting

Meeting held at 7.00pm on Monday 17th May 2021 at the Bible Christian Centre in Haselbury Plucknett

Present - Cllrs, C Simmonds (Chairman), M Bryant (Vice-Chairman), M Rendall, B Atherton, J Prunty, H Williams, J Farrant, D Whitmarsh and L Gibbons (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public present: Four

Open session: A Concern was raised about Small Brook. In particular that the bank is crumbling and being pushed into the water by increasingly heavy traffic. L Norman of SCC Highways has arranged to inspect the area to see if anything can be done to stop the situation getting worse.

The Annual Meeting

- 1. Election of Chairman:** Chris Simmonds was nominated and was elected unanimously
- 2. Election of Vice-Chairman:** Matthew Bryant was nominated and was elected unanimously
- 3. Declaration of acceptance of office for Chair and Vice-Chair:** CS and MB signed the declarations.
- 4. Allocation of Councillor areas of special responsibility:** These were agreed as below.

PPLO	H Williams	
Park	B Atherton	J Farrant
Planning	J Farrant	H Williams
100 Club	D Whitmarsh	M Bryant
Footpaths and Rights of Way	H Williams	(Roger White)
Roads and Highways	J Prunty	H Williams
SID	C Simmonds	J Farrant
Defibrillator	(M Banham)	M Rendall
Ranger	C Simmonds	B Atherton
Standards and Policies	J Prunty	D Whitmarsh
Media and Village Communication	J Prunty	H Williams / D Whitmarsh
JGA (inc. Gas meter reading)	M Rendall	C Simmonds

- 1. Apologies for absence:** D Cllr O Patrick and C Cllr M Keating
- 2. Record of business of last Month 12/04/2021:** Approved and will be signed as a true and proper record.
- 3. Matters Arising:** CS asked if Councillors with signatory powers had arranged their Online Banking access. They promised to attend to this so that we can start to make payments by bank transfer where possible.
- 4. Declaration of Interest:** None
- 5. D Cllr O Patrick's Report:** As circulated

C Cllr M Keating's Report: As circulated

HW requested that the Clerk ask our County Councillor for confirmation that once the bridge works in Misterton are completed, the current temporary 18ton weight limit will be removed.

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 received
 - b) Planning Applications received after publication of agenda:** None received

c) **Planning applications considered prior to this meeting:** None received

d) **Decisions received:** None received.

7. Finance:

a) **Invoices for payment:** All payments were approved:

Came and Company	Insurance premium	£925.58
K M Dike	Grass Cutting (Mar)	£72.00
SSDC	Ranger Mar	£519.48
L Gibbons	Clerk salary/expenses	£264.22
K M Dike	Grass Cutting (Apr)	£269.00

£1306.21 Vat reimbursement has been claimed and received.

b) **Bank reconciliation:** Was agreed.

8. The Park:

a) **Safety checks:** BA has circulated the safety checklist. There is little change. The hole left by the old bins has had the ballast removed. This needs to be filled and turfed. The Ranger will be asked to help.

A working party is being arranged to do the re-painting in conjunction with the Ranger, when the weather allows.

The top panel of the climbing wall has de-laminated badly. LG has provided BA with details of the manufacturer, so that we can investigate the cost of a replacement panel. Details will be circulated.

9. Road and Footpaths: a) A30 Tunnel: OP reported the preferred option is an SSDC compulsory purchase order. He has received advice from Vicki Dawson (Lead Specialist - Service Deliver) who has conducted extensive feasibility work on this project. In summary:

- The District Council has a high degree of confidence that it does have the power to undertake a compulsory purchase
- Total cost is likely to be in the region of £50,000
- Officer time and financial resources are currently very limited due to the pandemic and existing funding pressures
- To progress this further the District Council requires compelling evidence of need, such as:
 - Evidence showing the Parrett Trail's usage levels (is it a popular route? Who uses it?)
 - Monitoring the risk posed by the A30 to pedestrians (eg traffic speed, traffic volume, video evidence etc)
 - Gathering letters of support from individual users of the Parrett Trail, as well as community groups, wildlife groups etc.
 - Can the project garner wider support? Ramblers Association, for example? Spread the petition far and wide: <https://www.change.org/parrett-trail>

OP asked if the PC be interested in setting up a working party to help collate evidence to make the case for action.

He would also look to involve representatives from Merriott PC. HW and MB agreed to speak to OP about arranging this.

b) **Roads and Highways Working Group:** The signage we requested was placed, very quickly, at both ends of Swan Hill advising that fact that the route is not appropriate for HGVs.

Repairs to a number of drains has taken place, where they have been damaged by increased heavy traffic through the village, due to the Misterton diversion.

c) **Footpath Working Group Feedback:** Nothing new to report. MR reported that the stile at the end of Stonage Lane was difficult to climb over. CS advised that the only gates we have left are likely to be too large, this will be reviewed when the Foot Path working party resumes work.

10. Village Maintenance:

a) **Village Ranger:** CS has a long list of work, now that the grass and weeds are growing fast. Along with the work at the park, there is now plenty to do.

b) **SID:** For the last few weeks the Speed Indicator Device has been behaving erratically. The display has ceased to function for a period of time, [with no indication that the batteries are in need of replacement]. It has then returned

to normal service before failing once again. The batteries are in good condition and replacement with a set of newly charged batteries does not correct the fault.

On the last occasion that he moved the SID from its mounting position, a large quantity of water flowed out of the casing when it was lifted from the support post. We are therefore concerned that the electronic circuitry has been damaged by the ingress of water into the housing and that this is responsible for the faulty behaviour. JF is investigating this with the help of W Hunt, who has the diagnostic software. This will be followed up with the manufacturer to ascertain what the options are for its repair.

c) Tree planting in Claycastle Lane: A Scott advised us that she has discussed the tree planting scheme with the landowner and have since amended the plans to plant the trees within the existing hedge line. She is still awaiting plans from the arborist before final approval is sought.

11. **Plan for 100 Club 2021:** DW presented her proposals for the re-launch of the 100 club. LG will apply to SSDC for a lottery licence. A publicity campaign will be launched in July. Councillors will sell ticket during July and August and the first draw will take place in September. Application for grants from the fund will be welcomed at any time.
12. **Haselbury in Bloom:** Judging will take place on the 1st July. The doorstep challenge will take place in June and the judging will culminate in a community picnic at the Church. Wildflower seeds are being grown on as plugs, so that they can be planted out nearer the summer.
13. **Litter pick / Litter between HP and NP:** HW has arranged a litter pick for Sunday 6th June, starting on the Village Green at 9:30am. HW has arranged to obtain the Council litter picking equipment and will carry out a risk assessment. He has informed North Perrott, who contacted the PC about the issue of litter. Volunteers are not allowed to pick litter on the main A3066 as there are no pavement and it is not considered safe, especially with the increased volume of traffic due to the current Misterton diversion.
14. **Correspondence:** CS has been given an envelope of photos and drawings that were collected in 2004 when several residents of HP were considering creating a village plan. These are available for anyone who is interested. Keep Britain Tidy have launched a 'Great British Spring Clean campaign'. HW has volunteered to organise this event. He will confirm a date, when he has acquired the safety equipment from SSDC.
15. **Matters to report:**
An election is to be held for one Councillor for the Haselbury Plucknett Parish Council.
Forms of nomination paper may be obtained from the Returning Officer, The Council Offices, Brympton Way, Yeovil BA20 2HT.
Copies of the nomination papers can be downloaded from www.southsomerset.gov.uk Copies can also be requested by telephoning 01935 462462 or by emailing elections@southsomerset.gov.uk
Nomination papers must be delivered to the Returning Officer, The Council Offices, Brympton Way, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 2HT between 9.00 am and 4.00 pm on any working day after the date of this notice (excluding Bank Holidays) but not later than 4 pm on Thursday 27 May 2021.
If an election is contested, the poll will take place on Thursday 24 June 2021.

What will go where?

With new items collected in the **Bright Blue Bag**, what goes into which recycling container is changing.

Once Recycle More starts, this is how recycling should be sorted.



Black box



Green box



Blue bag



Food waste bin



Carrier bag

'Recycle More' will commence at the end of June. Full information can be found at <https://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycle-more/>

16. **Notices Parish News:** We will publicise 'The Great British Spring Clean' litter pick on Sunday 6th June, meet at the Village Green at 9:30am. All volunteers welcome.
17. **Items for next meeting:**
18. **Next Meeting Date:** 14/06/2021 at the Bible Christian Centre at 7:00pm.