Hemington, Hardington
& Foxcote Parish Council

Chairman: M Hanley martinhanley@gmail.com

 Clerk: Jen Gregory 07912177288 clerk.hemingtonpc@gmail.com

**M I N U T E S**

**Of Hemington, Hardington & Foxcote Parish Council**

**Held on Wednesday 12th June 2024 7.30pm at Faulkland Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs Hanley, Biggerstaff, Green, Curtis, Buckwell, Francis.

**Also Present:** Somerset Councillor B Clarke,J Gregory Proper Officer plus 4 Members of the public

 **Public Participation**

Matters raised;

The stocks were in need of repair. The clerk would contact Tony Hucker for assessment.

Accessibility to the bridle path was completed with 8 willing volunteers who opened up the path which is now being enjoyed by many. It was recognised that it wasn’t the best time of year for cutting with nesting birds and this would be reconvened more appropriately. An autumn volunteer cutting group would be organised.

**24/25 016 Welcome and apologies for absence**

Everyone was present and it was nice to see a new inclusive set up for meetings with a very slight increase in numbers.

**24/25 017 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Buckwell to be provided with the Somerset DOI form.

**Resolved: No declarations advised for tonights meeting.**

**24/25 018 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

 To receive the minutes of the meeting held 7th May 2024

**Resolved: Minutes of the previous meeting was signed by the Chairman as a correct record in the presence of the Proper Officer and meeting attendees.**

**24/25 019 To receive County Councillors Report**

Cllr Clarke gave a verbal report as Somerset Councillor advising that there was a big re-organisation taking place at Somerset Council which won’t be completed until March 2025. The Section 151 Finance Officer was leaving with no interim in place.

Road surface re-dressing would commence in July.

There was a Chairman’s Community Award and nominations were encouraged for the Mendip area. Nominations would close 28th June.

**24/25 020 Matters Arising/ Updates**

1. TAG/CSW

During the month of May the CSW group pushed for highlighting traffic issues in Speed Awareness Week. The Group had a new location by the pub. On average 3 sessions were being held a week with 13 sessions a month. Some stats included 150 drivers exceeding the 36 mph threshold with a third of these over 40mph. There was a 5 fold increase in speed partly due to assessment of data, and the group gaining in knowledge. It was stressed that the data from ASW was anonymised. Three additional volunteers have joined and were being trained. A second speed gun was available allowing 2 sessions at the same time The pub was particularly well positioned as it allowed the downhill recordings. The eastern end was difficult because of the bend. More effective work would continue in looking at the application process for better signage.

Paul Buckwell held a meeting with Tim Gibbs of ASW and Cllr Biggerstaff of the TAG group to look at the wider issue of how best to approach the police and highways. Conversations including the configuration of cameras and possibly an additional unit. Liaison would be necessary to look locally at 20mph with other parishes and how this was achieved.

Thanks was expressed to Paul and the CSW Team. It was suggested that the team have Terms of reference as to what that group does, there would be no delegation of powers and anything affecting villagers would be decided by the Council. Cllr Buckwell would draft.

It terms of ASW Cllr Hanley reported that 4 people would carry out the verification process. Himself would continue to submit the necessary emails. It was pointed out that Police were not using intelligence but the CSW was using this to ensure outcomes were acted upon. With speeds of 43 mph a severe letter would be received and with 3 acts in Avon and Somerset an unannounced doorstep visit would be carried out. With ASW being somewhat ignored the question was what can we do? Suggestions including engagement with District Councillors and the PCC who have the power to drive them to do something. It was also felt that villagers should be asked of their view. Given it was an affective CSW the data was driving speed enforcement to turn up more often

1. Banking Arrangements – Cllr Francis to complete this evening. This was now an urgent situation.
2. Play Park

Matting – Idverde were now strimming around the play area as opposed to cutting it with mowers. It wasn’t being used much. Cllr Green had removed the rotten swing.

Septic tank – appeared not to be an issue. There was a lid concreted in. Removal of agenda item as a result.

1. Defibrillator

The Clerk advised the depth as 240mm – this would not be an issue and the defib can now be sourced and purchased .

1. Telephone Box

Painting awaited

**24/25 021**  **Reports**

1. **Chairman’s report**

Cllr Hanley had nothing further to report that wasn’t included in general agenda items.

**24/25 022 Planning Applications for Consideration:**

2024/0398 Chickwell Lane to Wells Road

Holiday Let Cabin

No further communication from Planning or Enforcement at Somerset. Cllr Clarke advised some changes in personnel had occurred.

**24/25 023 Finances**

No statement received in time for meeting. For May however the balance on accounts was £ 35330.80

 To agree schedule of payments as indicated below:

 J Gregory Salary

 HMRC PAYE

 SALC Membership

 Town & Parish Websites Reissue of original cheque

  **Resolved : Finance schedule agreed.**

**24/25 024 Correspondence / Matters referred to the Clerk**

Training – with some new members joining, new roles and possibly the need for refreshers access to SALC was available. This did trigger a non payment of membership for 2022/23 listed above. SALC information to be circulated to all members. Council would pay for any appropriate courses

Community Review - As a result of this being mentioned on the back of the low attendance at the Annual Meeting it was suggested that more engagement might be necessary. The last local Neighbourhood plan was in 2006 – priorities obviously change and it would be interesting to hear what residents have to say. Cllr Buckwell would look into further. The closing date was noted as Oct / November time.

**24/25 025** **Information / Items to Raise for consideration at the next meeting**

Deferred matters from previous meetings for July:

Allocation of Councillor responsibilities deferred to June meeting

Consideration to be given to engagement in other hamlets in Parish with a meeting attendance (preferably in summertime) .

Consideration given to someone within the village jazzing up the website and having responsibility.

**24/25 026 Any Other Business**

Cllr Biggerstaff said there had been a flurry of emails in relation to TAG/ Sara Davis this afternoon. This was in relation to the TAG report where there was some push back from Traffic and Avon and Somerset Police. Residents were encouraged to look at the “near miss” website to make reports. The clerk to advertise this on the website.

 The crossroads at Terry Hill had been partially cut and in a poor state. Clerk to report to Highways

 Idverde seemed to be doing less and less – Clerk to enquire what their brief now was within the village.

**23/24 027 Date of next Meeting**

July 10th 2024

 The Chairman thanked all those present for their time and contribution.

Meeting closed at 8.22pm

A signed copy of the minutes can be viewed by arrangement via the Parish Clerk and a copy provided on its website.