Hemington, Hardington   
& Foxcote Parish Council

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**M I N U T E S**

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

**Held on Wednesday 10th July 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;

**24/25 028 Welcome and apologies for absence**

Everyone was present and members of Council introduced themselves to the meeting.

Before commencement of the meeting proper Cllr Curtis stated that he would need to step down from his Councillor role due to work commitments but stated he was happy to help with bits and pieces in the village as required. An advertisement would be placed on the website, village noticeboards and facebook.

**24/25 029 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Buckwell had returned the DOI Form .

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

**24/25 030 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

To receive the minutes of the meeting held 12th June 2024.

Slight confusion for Cllr Buckwell who stated that perhaps the “matters arising” and some “standing” agenda items needed to be set out clearer. This was agreed with the Clerk actioning as appropriate.

One amendment to state “Cllr Biggerstaff, who represented the TAG group”.

**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.**

**24/25 031 To receive County Councillors Report**

Following the General Election Cllr Barry Clarke stated that he had a short report which mainly covered options for Somerset Council in relation to the Suez maintenance contract which at the present time was continuing at a cost of 47 million over 6 years.

**24/25 032 Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes**

1. Stocks – Inspection carried out and Cllr Hanley addressing with teak oil. Matter ongoing.
2. Defribrillator – payment on tonight’s list
3. Telephone box – ongoing, subject to better weather conditions for painting
4. Community Review – Thanks to TG for sending the 2006 Plan. Enquiries at SALC had drawn a blank with the expressions of interests link being closed – the Clerk instructed to follow up with the contact on the website for further advice.
5. TG would take a review of the website and update as appropriate. Clerk to provide relevant access.
6. Cllr Buckwell had signed into SALC and booked necessary courses.
7. TAG/CSW

Paul Buckwell stated that a “FAST” Group had been set up – Faulkland Action Slower Traffic with Terms of Reference having been prepared and to be discussed and finalised. The group would be connecting with Midford and Buckland Dinham to look and the information that was adopted for their traffic system.

Moving forward the CSW would be requesting a further subscription to ASW to enable an average speed zone. ASW will provide a refurbished speed camera at no further cost, so with signage should have some effect. CSW had now 2 fully trained volunteers from the last meeting. There was no further report on SID’s and out of time for this year, but this would reopen in August – Rex Eastman would be looking at the application to Somerset to ensure that this was robust.

The question was asked of how the data is recognised? Tim Gibbs provided an explanation in that many police forces have adopted ASW but not Avon and Somerset. The question remains as to why it is not and perhaps the additional spend needs justification given its money from the precept. In the meantime independent studies have shown that average speed check plus the signage gets results. The Chair stated that questions of A&S could be made once the data was installed and effective.

Further to the last meeting there was a response from Sara Davis regarding speeding on the A366 - this has now been escalated which was now in the hands of Gary Warren and Nick Cowling Head of Road Safety to look into. Given the email from Sara it eluded to liaison with Faulkland (which was not the case) so some support/co-operation with Norton St Phillip was suggested with all in agreement that the Clerk should write to NSP Clerk with that view.

1. Banking Arrangements – Ongoing with a form from Unity not requiring signatures to find that on submission another form was produced that required said signatures! Somewhat bizarre but matter in hand.
2. Play Park

The Tractor was back installed on the Recreation field. It looked superb and thanks expressed to all concerned in the refurbishment.

Septic tank – No further action required.

**24/25 033**  **Reports**

1. **Chairman’s report**

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

**24/25 034 Planning Applications for Consideration:**

2024/0398 Chickwell Lane to Wells Road

Holiday Let Cabin

A chase was required. Personnel changes noted within Enforcement however work continues on site. Somerset Cllr Clarke would address with Planner Lorna Elstob if required. The Clerk would copy him into the correspondence requesting an update.

**24/25 035 Finances**

No statement received for June however the balance on accounts was £ 35330.80 at 31st May.

To agree schedule of payments as indicated below:

J Gregory Salary

HMRC PAYE

Defribullator

Idverde 2 x grasscutting (May and June)

**Resolved : Finance schedule agreed.**

**24/25 036 Correspondence / Matters referred to the Clerk**

Ducks and Duck Sign

This was a bit of a spin off from traffic matters and the old sign for duck awareness did slow traffic but is looking rather sad. It was suggested that the Duck sign be refurbished. Paul Buckwell would supply this and his daughter (an artist) would provide some artwork for the sign. It was agreed that this be concreted in. Thanks expressed to Paul for his kind offer.

Village Hall Roof

Information regarding the replacement roof costs and ownership was provided by the Hall Chair Suzi Cross. Funds were being raised piecemeal for the roof. Some funding was being looked at. The Clerk suggested, given some Council responsibilities that they look at a grant at the Budget meetings, with the Chair indicating that it would be good to understanding what amounts they are looking at. It was felt that this may be kick-start to other funding as the PC would be a funding partner. Further information therefore required.

Parish Plan

Covered in matters arising (from the minutes).

**24/25 037** **Information / Items to Raise for consideration at the next meeting**

Updates required on Matters Arising / Standing items to be listed separately.

**24/25 038 Any Other Business**

Parish News hadn’t received information for print – suggest that the Clerk circulates minutes promptly for amendments and the minutes then provided for the deadline of the 20th in draft form.

Fire Hydrant opposite Chapel Farm lid damage – Hazard to those walking – Clerk to report.

Strimming at Terry Hill crossroads – Chase

Dog Bin – Bishop Street – Chase

Parked cars on Bridleway – to be monitored.

**23/24 039 Date of next Meeting**

Discussed at length with many people away on holiday. A short meeting to discuss applications for the Councillors role with a short agenda of any urgent matters should be considered. Date of meeting 14th August.

With the Clerk away at the end of August the September meeting would be pushed to the 18th September.

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

Meeting closed at 8.32pm

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