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 18th September 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 7 Members of the public

 **Public Participation**

Matters raised;

Request for minutes April 24 – agreed to send

Website not showing minutes

Fire hydrant work complete

Defib installed

Question of West Farm Planning

**24/25 040 Welcome and apologies for absence**

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

Before commencement of the meeting proper Cllr Hanley stated that he would be stepping down as Chair, covering the next meeting and staying on as Councillor atleast to the end of the year.

**24/25 041 Declarations of Interest**

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

**24/25 042 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

 To receive the minutes of the meeting held 10th July 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.**

**24/25 043 Chairmans Report**

 Monthly activity report.

**24/25 044 Matters Arising from Previous Meeting**

* + 1. CSW Request (SID grant funding, pole locations as per circulated email P Buckwell)

The cost is £5565 with a grant available for possible £5k.

After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Hanley that Council fund the amount required above the £5k grant, plus installation / ongoing costs, seconded Cllr Francis with a vote taken all in favour with one abstention. Ongoing maintenance costs to be provided. Clerk to check the insurance arrangement.

**Resolved: Council agreed to pay costs above the £5k grant including maintenance, installation and all necessary associated costs.**

* + 1. Defib installation

Thanks expressed to Tim Gibbs for installation of the defib at the Hairdressers.

**24/25 045 Planning Matters for Consideration**

Following the public comment the Clerk was instructed to check in with Planning to ensure that consultations are received and planning have correct contact information.

**24/25 046 Finances**

 To present current financial statement and balance on accounts, no statement received balance as at 31.08.24 £29501.98.

 To agree schedule of payments as indicated below:

 Idverde Grasscutting May 23 £355.30

 Idverde Grasscutting July 24 £355.30

 Idverde Grasscutting August 24 £355.30

 Idverde Grasscutting May 24 £59.22 (originally raised without VAT)

 J Gregory Salary July £238.25

 J Gregory Salary August £238.25

 Mendip Electrical £252.00 (defib installation)

 ASW Batteries £79.99

 Banking update: Manual transfer of funds to Unity following payment of the above, with exception of Mendip Electrical and ASW Batteries

 All members should have received banking log on detail which has been confirmed.

**24/25 047 To receive County Councillors Report**

The Enforcement department of planning at Somerset was now fully staffed with priorities being given to health and safety enforcement. The Section 114 position has been avoided for the current year. The section 151 officer says it is looking better but will be personally taking voluntary redundancy. Somerset are paying back the capitalisation grant and using the money from selling off properties they own.

Encouragement for those on income support to write in and support the consultation to prevent a reduction of payment.

As predicted 4% of the election did not turn out to vote.

Household support grant in place to 31st March.

Van and a man scheme feedback from smaller parishes is that this is not affordable.

**24/25 048 Other business Referred to the Clerk**

 Village Hall Roof Costs (S Cross email circulated)

Discussion brought about a number of questions – new quotations required, grants and from whom. It was felt that some funding could be used either as an upfront amount to kick off partnership funding or as an incentive once grant funding was given.

 Councillor Vacancy (Co-option to be discussed – application circulated)

 Deferred for attendance of individual.

Training Update

Cllr Buckwell had attended training for an introductory module for Councillors. She said the training was useful and would recommend to others.

 ASW Spending (T Gibbs email circulated)

 Agreed under item 046

 Baby Swing

Clerk felt that the nest swing was chosen as the most accessible option. It allows groups, parents and the disabled to access which was the best option to cover this off financially. Cllr Hanley would take this back.

The union jack flag was in tatters. Authorisation given to order a new one. Clerk to arrange.

**24/25 049 Matters for consideration at the Next Meeting.**

Confirmation of insurance for SID

 Co-option of Councillor / Consideration of Chairman position / Cllr responsibilities

**24/25 050 Date of the next Meeting**

## 9th October 2024

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.