

## CHURCHSTANTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES/ACTION NOTES

<b>Name of meeting:</b>	Churchstanton Parish Council Meeting
<b>Date meeting held:</b>	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
<b>Meeting location:</b>	Churchinford Village Hall
<b>Present:</b>	Cllr. Firth, Cllr. Foxwell, Cllr. Pearson, Cllr. Phillips, Cllr. Sparks
<b>In attendance</b>	County Councillor Ross Henley, CS
<b>Chair</b>	Cllr.Firth
<b>Clerk</b>	Julie Wardle
<b><u>Public Participation Time</u></b>	<p>CS attended the meeting to talk to the Parish Council about concerns amongst parents of children over the age of 8 years old, who have been advised that the <u>free</u> school bus from Churchinford to Churchstanton Primary School will be withdrawn at May half-term. Children will still be able to use the bus but there will be a charge of approximately £1000 per child per school year. The County Council have stipulated that a safe walking route – 2.654 miles has now been found that, in their opinion, these children could use to walk to school. Children over the age of 8 years old will only be entitled to a free school bus if the safe walking distance exceeds 3 miles.</p> <p>Concerns with the designated safe walking route are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- No street lighting.</li><li>- No footpaths</li><li>- National Speed Limit applies.</li><li>- Heavy Farm Traffic</li><li>- Time taken to walk the route is approximately 1.5 hours each way.</li><li>- Affect on children’s wellbeing, tiredness and ability to learn.</li></ul> <p>All parents affected by this decision will appeal. Appeals must be in on time.</p> <p>The Parish Council expressed their serious concern with this decision and agreed to also write an appeal to SCC – Parish Clerk</p>
<b>Reports from County Councillors, Neighbourhood Watch &amp; Police</b>	<p><u>SCC County Councillor Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Cllr. Henley has been assisting a resident with an application for a disabled parking bay outside their home.</li><li>- Plans for improvements to the Culmhead crossroads will be published next week.</li></ul> <p><u>Taunton Policing</u></p> <p>Taunton Police have started a new monthly newsletter, the first of which has been published on Facebook &amp; the Parish Council website. If anyone would like a hard copy, you can request this directly from the Parish Clerk.</p>

1. To resolve to exclude members of the press or public	None
2. Apologies	Cllr. Carter
3. Declaration of Interest	None

NB: Those present at this meeting should be aware that their names will be listed in the notes of the meeting which may be released to members of the public on request.

**Approval/amendment of minutes of previous meeting –**

4. Approval and sign off draft minutes of previous meeting	Minutes of the meeting of CPC held on Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 - <b>Approved &amp; Signed.</b>
5. Casual Vacancies / Co-option	A vacancy has been published with a closing date of Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June 2024. Prospective Councillors are encouraged to attend the next Parish Council Meeting & Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024.

Agenda Item	DISCUSSION AND NEW ACTIONS	Action by Whom	Action Date
6. Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Balance of Accounts as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024</b></li> </ul>		
	<b><u>Balance of Bank Accounts</u></b>		
	Current Account	4296.35	
	Deposit Account	14601.04	
	<b><u>Sub-total</u></b>	<b><u>18897.39</u></b>	
	Minus unrepresented payments	0.00	
	<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>18897.39</u></b>	
	<b><u>Minus Restricted Grant Funding (Balance remaining)</u></b>		
	Climate Emergency Fund – <i>Invoice due for final balance</i>	12.73	
	OSMG Grant Funding - <i>Now transferred to OSMG</i>	121.86	
	<b><u>Total BALANCE Remaining</u></b>	<b><u>18762.80</u></b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Approval of payments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Scribe Payments List - <i>Approved</i></li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Scribe Net position Report – <i>No concerns - Approved</i></b></li> <li><b>Certificate of Exemption – <i>The 2023-2024 accounts are not eligible for exemption from outside audit due to the total expenditure exceeding £25k</i></b></li> </ul>		
7. Planning Applications	Two new planning applications have been received by the Parish Council – Cllr. Philliips will visit these and report to the Parish Council at their next meeting in May. An extension of time has been requested from SCC Planning Team.		

<b>8. Climate Change</b>	Councillor Firth and Councillor Pearson will attend the Hydro Commissioning Celebration on Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> April, to mark the official opening of the hydro electric generator installed on the Otterhead Estate. The generator will provide a zero carbon, fully renewable electricity supply to the Coach House. This project was made possible following a successful grant application to the Climate Emergency Fund.		
<b>9. Highways / PPLO Update / Outdoor Space</b>	<p><b><u>OSMG</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A toilet has now been installed at The Quarry</li> <li>- 2 x Noticeboards have now been ordered, paid for by Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)</li> <li>- New trees have now been planted with protection from Deer</li> <li>- The space has now started to be used by the community</li> <li>- A public open day would be useful now for further input from the community</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Traffic Movement</u></b></p> <p><u>Community Speedwatch</u> – No update</p> <p><u>Purchase of Speed Indicator Devices</u> – 2 Devices have now been ordered from ElanCity. The installation will be carried out by the Parish Council. The devices will be set to only activate over 25mph in order to prevent any startling of horses. We are still awaiting the installation of the new post on Honiton Road by SCC.</p> <p><b><u>Public Paths Liaison Officer (PPLO)</u></b> – No update. The Clerk will liaise with Steve Reed on progress.</p>		
<b>10. Policy Review</b>	<p><b>None</b></p> <p>The Code of Conduct will be reviewed &amp; adopted at the Annual Meeting of Churchstanton Parish Council in May</p>		
<b>11. Local Community Network</b>	Next meeting date: Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2024		
<b>12. Charities</b>	Andy Crabb is happy to continue as a Parish Council nominated Trustee for the School Allotments Charity. The Parish Council ratified this for the nominated period of time.		
<b>13. Correspondence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An email had been received via the website regarding the increase in Parish Precept for 2024-2025. The Parish Clerk has responded.</li> <li>- Communication from the LCN had been received regarding publicising and encouraging an interest in, and increasing numbers involved in, these meetings.</li> <li>- Following communication with the Village Hall regarding availability, the date of the Annual Parish Meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 8pm, immediately following the Annual Meeting of Churchstanton Parish Council at 6pm on the same date.</li> </ul>		
<b>14. Items of Future Business for the next Agenda</b>	None		
<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024</b>		