

CHURCHSTANTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES/ACTION NOTES

Name of meeting:	Churchstanton Parish Council Meeting
Date meeting held:	Wednesday 12 th June 2024
Meeting location:	Churchinford Village Hall
Present:	Cllr. Firth, Cllr. Foxwell, Cllr. Pearson, Cllr. Sparks, Cllr. Carter
In attendance	County Councillor Sarah Wakefield
Chair	Cllr.Firth
Clerk	Julie Wardle
Public Participation Time	
Reports from County Councillors, Neighbourhood Watch & Police	<p><u>SCC County Councillor Update – County Councillor Sarah Wakefield</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The structure of SCC is currently under review with a voluntary redundance package currently being applied. The aim is to create a smaller but more efficient council.- There have been concerns regarding phosphates in the water. Water quality is the responsibility of the water companies and not the council with the exception of when considering planning applications.- The planning team are currently concentrating on a backlog of applications but will hopefully be back up to date again soon. <p>Cllr. Firth raised a concern amongst several residents of Fairfield Green regarding the use of a property for commercial use by a gamekeeper to keep approximately 10 working dogs.</p> <p>In addition, Cllr. Firth asked if it was possible to obtain an update on the current status of the Breeding Kennels at Fairfield Stud.</p> <p>Cllr. Wakefield agreed to investigate both of these and report back to the Parish Council.</p> <p><u>Taunton Policing</u></p> <p>Taunton Police have started a new monthly newsletter, which will be published on Facebook & the Parish Council website and a hard copy pinned inside the village hall. 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. Phillips, County Councillor Ross Henley
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 Annual meeting of CPC held on Wednesday 22 nd May 2024 - Approved & Signed.
5. Casual Vacancies / Co-option	A vacancy has been published with a closing date of Wednesday 11 th June 2024. No applications have been received. The vacancy will be continue to be published and advertised.

Agenda Item	DISCUSSION AND NEW ACTIONS	Action by Whom	Action Date												
6. Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balance of Accounts as at 7th June 2024 <table border="1" data-bbox="589 472 1574 703"> <tr> <td colspan="2"><u>Balance of Bank Accounts</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Current Account</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1270.22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deposit Account</td> <td style="text-align: right;">38,704.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Sub-total</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>39,974.82</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk Salary – May 2024</td> <td style="text-align: right;">421.63</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Total BALANCE Remaining</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>39,553.19</u></td> </tr> </table> • Approval of payments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scribe Payments List - Approved - Clerk Salary – May 2024 – Approved for payment • Scribe Net position Report – The clerk discussed the final costs of the recent village celebrations which had been an enormous success. All expenditure remained within the agreed budget thanks in part to a £1000 grant from the Blackdown Music Trust as well as many volunteers who offered their time and costs for free. 	<u>Balance of Bank Accounts</u>		Current Account	1270.22	Deposit Account	38,704.60	<u>Sub-total</u>	<u>39,974.82</u>	Clerk Salary – May 2024	421.63	<u>Total BALANCE Remaining</u>	<u>39,553.19</u>		
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7. Planning Applications	The clerk had received an email from a prospective buyer of Gradounvia, Church Road. They were making enquiries with regard to the view of the Parish Council should they wish to remove part of a stone wall to create off road parking. The Parish Council commented that they could not comment at this stage but would consider this in detail once a planning application was submitted.														
8. Climate Change	No update.														

<p>9. Highways / PPLO Update / Outdoor Space</p>	<p><u>OSMG</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>The Quarry</u> – Cllr. Sparks will assist Cllr. Firth with the moving of the toilet. ➤ <u>Community Field</u> – No update <p><u>Traffic Movement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>Community Speedwatch</u> – No update ➤ <u>Purchase of Speed Indicator Devices</u> – One device has been installed on Taunton Road by Cllr. Phillips & Cllr. Sparks. We are still awaiting the installation of the new post on Honiton Road by SCC in order to install the 2nd device. Heavy duty padlocks have been purchased for both. Feedback from the initial installation has been very positive. <p><u>Public Paths Liaison Officer (PPLO)</u> – No update. The Clerk will liaise with Steve Reed on progress.</p> <p><u>Signage</u> – Following the recent road closures for the parish celebrations, it was agreed that the clerk may purchase three additional signs for future events. Unfortunately, one was missing after the event and two are in need of replacement.</p> <p><u>Road Closure Charges</u> – Cllr. Firth questioned the need for the Parish Council to consult SCC and therefore pay the fees to SCC for road closures for our parish events. The clerk will make enquiries with SALC and review the Local Government Act to clarify if the Parish Council have the authority to do this in future and simply inform SCC that we are doing so thus avoiding the fee.</p>		
<p>10. Policy Review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding Policy – The Parish Council will review the Safeguarding Policy in order to meet the minimum requirements of Somerset Community Foundation – Cllr. Firth to action. • Grant Awarding Policy - Reviewed and approved with the following addition <i>‘No grants will be awarded to individuals’</i> to the policy & appendix (application form). 		
<p>11. Local Community Network</p>	<p>Next meeting date: Wednesday 3rd July 2024. Due to commitments, apologies will be sent from Churchstanton Parish Council.</p>		
<p>12. Correspondence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The clerk had received an email from the Barn Close Residents Committee regarding the possibility of the Parish Council sharing the cost of emptying the bin in the children’s playground on the Community Field once the estate has been adopted. The Parish Council advised that if the bin could be moved on to adopted ground, the clerk will arrange for this to be emptied regularly as part of the parish collections. - A donation of £69 was received for Cream Teas served at the recent 80th Anniversary of D-Day celebrations in Churchinford. It was agreed that bearing in mind the nature of the event, this should be donated to the Royal British Legion. 		

	- SCC Chairmans Award 2024 – Cllr. Sparks nominated an individual within the Parish for this award which was agreed by the Parish Council. Cllr. Sparks will complete the nomination form and forward to the Clerk for submission.		
13. Items of Future Business for the next Agenda	None		
Date of Next Meeting	Due to holiday commitments, the next meeting will take place one week later on Wednesday 17th July 2024		