

Minutes of the Ordinary Cutcombe Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 18th June 2024 at the Moorland Hall

Present: Councillors Jon Levenson (Chair), Eric Norman (Vice Chair), Roger Foxwell, Andrew Forward, Oliver Yiend, Sarah Cook, Clair Rooke

In attendance: Liz Stitt – Clerk, Cllr Steven Pugsley, Cllr Frances Nicholson

Item	Minutes	Action
	Public Question Time There were no members of the public in attendance.	
24/85	To receive Apologies for Absence None received.	
24/86	To receive declarations of Interest Cllr Norman Item 24/97 ii)	
24/87	To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of the 21st of May 2024 These were approved and signed.	
24/88	To receive and discuss the clerk's report. This was received by Councillors.	
24/89	To receive the Chair's Report. The Chair reported the following: i) The affordable housing group had much better attendance from other parish councils. [Cllr Foxwell and Cllr Pugsley joined the meeting] Colin McDonald who is the Somerset Council Rural Housing Enabling Officer is going to look into the self-build plots at Meadow Close. He is also looking into a possible site at Timberscombe for affordable housing.	
24/90	To receive reports from Somerset Councillors Somerset Councillors reported the following: i) The council approved the Gravity development today at Puriton, which is the Jaguar Land Rover battery plant outside Bridgwater. There will be ripple effects, of this both good and bad, which will affect Exmoor, so it is worth keeping an eye on this. ii) A discussion was had regarding Magna houses not having a section 106 clause due to them being older properties. iii) Cllr Foxwell has been speaking to a Magna tenant in the parish who has had big problems in her kitchen. Cllr Pugsley will give the contact details to the Clerk for Magna, Cllr Foxwell will give the details of the Tenant to the Clerk who will then contact Magna regarding this issue and copy in the Somerset Councillors.	Cllr Pugsley, Cllr Foxwell
24/91	To consider Highways and Transport Matters i) Cllr Foxwell asked when we are going to get some common-sense approach when dealing with issues and gave examples of what is happening down Thorne Lane, he asked Somerset Councillors to help with these matters. ii) Cllr Rooke raised concerns regarding large vehicles following diversions down small lanes. iii) Cllr Foxwell asked whether we should look at contracting someone to clear verges/hedges on the A and B roads. It was discussed and decided this was the responsibility of Somerset Council and the landowners, but it was decided to add discussing whether to clear around the 30mph areas to the next agenda to discuss further.	
24/92	Update on Moorland Hall & Recreation Ground Football will hopefully be here next season although they also have plans to use the West Somerset College. The showers are still on track to go ahead.	
24/93	Update on the Community Review Project. The questionnaire is now live until the 8 th of July. Cllr Foxwell asked how people could fill in the questionnaire who haven't got a computer, Cllr Yiend said it can only be done online as otherwise there are GDPR issues with doing it other ways. People can go to a place that has got a computer and can fill it in there. Posters will be put on the Noticeboards to advertise the questionnaire.	
24/94	To Consider any planning matters. i) To discuss definitions/guidance of 'principal homes' and 'local homes' with regard to affordable homes. Cllr Levenson circulated draft guidance regarding allocation of affordable homes. He has spoken to the planning consultant of Dunkery View who believes the application will be coming in any time soon, they are just waiting for a report regarding the biodiversity net gain. It was agreed for there to be a public meeting once the application comes through to gain parishioners views and was suggested this could happen one hour before the next Parish Council Meeting on the 16 th of July if the application	

	comes through by then. Cllr Levenson asked a representative from ENPA if they would attend a public meeting, but they felt it wouldn't be appropriate. The developer will also be asked to come to the meeting along with the case officer to give technical guidance. Cllr Levenson explained the new properties have to be principal homes, they cannot be holiday lets. The affordable homes have to have a connection to the area. [Cllr Pugsley and Cllr Nicholson left the meeting]	
24/95	To receive, review and adopt the Financial Regulations and Standing Orders These were received, reviewed and adopted.	
24/96	Grants and Donations Applications: i) To discuss the application from St Johns Church This was discussed and unanimously agreed to go ahead with this donation, as the council has got large reserves and want to support the Church for the community.	
24/97	Finance i) Discuss quotes for the storage shed/lean to, and ground preparation works. Cllr Norman has not been able to gain the quotes. He will chase them and bring them to the next meeting. ii) To receive and approve the schedule of payments and note receipts. These were received and approved.	Cllr Norman
24/98	End of Year Audit 2023/24: i) Internal Audit Report 2023/24 – To receive the Internal Audit Report and resolve any recommendations. This was received. It was recommended to have a risk assessment for the running of the overall council as well as the financial risk assessment that is in place. The Clerk will look into this with the FRWG. ii) Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 – To resolve upon the response to the Annual Governance Statement. The council resolved to agree to these statements. iii) Annual Account Statement 2023/24 – To approve the Annual Accounting Statement. The council approved the Annual Accounting Statement. iv) Confirmation of Public Rights Period – To confirm the dates for the public rights as Monday 1st July – Friday 9th August. The council approved these dates. A round of applause and thanks were given to the Clerk for the hard work in preparing everything needed for the audit.	Clerk
24/99	To note the correspondence which Councillors have received in the correspondence report. This was received by councillors.	
24/100	Items for consideration on the next Agenda. i) Discuss contracting someone to trim the verges/hedges in 30mph areas. ii) Quotes for the lean to/shed. Cllr Foxwell asked about putting more things in the Parish Magazine. Councillors were asked to send anything they want to go in the magazine to the Clerk who can then forward it onto the editor.	

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.42pm

Signed:

Dated:

Appendix:

- i) Clerks Report
- ii) Schedule of Payments
- iii) Correspondence Report