

- 24/25 /1 **PRESENT** - Cllrs Barnett (in the Chair), Salter, Pople and Hall.
- 24/25 /2 **ALSO PRESENT** - SCllr Munt and 10 members of the public.
- 24/25 /3 **IN ATTENDANCE** - The Clerk to the Council.
- 24/25 /4 **APOLOGIES** - were received and approved from Cllr Thompson.
- 24/25 /5 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND CONSIDERATION OF ANY DISPENSATIONS REQUIRED** - Cllr Pople declared an interest in the Play Area as she is the Council's representative on the committee; Cllr Salter declared an interest in The Crown Inn's planning application.
- 24/25 /6 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** - were confirmed and signed.
- 24/25 /7 **UPDATES ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND NOT LISTED** - none.
- 24/25 /8 **SOMERSET COUNCILLORS' REPORTS - SOMERSET COUNCIL FINANCE LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORKS** - SCllr Munt reported. 15 new speed limits had been approved and paid for by their communities. 25 new electric buses have been purchased and paid for entirely by grants. There is a £316,000 grant for swimming pools. Various other matters including libraries are being updated. With regard to LCNs Cllrs Barnett and Hall reported on a Highways LCN meeting in Street. This was poorly organised with 5 attendees plus 6 Somerset Council representatives. The following day a full LCN meeting was held in Shapwick and 15 parishes were not represented. The speaker was good. There is confusion regarding when the next meeting will be held with a query over July/bi monthly. Both Cllrs Barnett and Hall are disappointed in the operation of the LCN in our area.
- 24/25 /9 **HIGHWAYS:-**
- a. Work promised last year for the Next year - Row of potholes in Langlands Lane; re-lay and repair Little Leaze Lane; Clearing of all drains.
 - b. War Memorial triangle - no update. Clerk will check if this is promised for this year.
 - c. Any other updates and problems arising - Drain at the Lippetts Way crossroads at the end of Scotts Lane keeps overflowing and washing quantities of loose grit in a circle around it creating a 'false pothole'.
- 24/25 /10 **RIGHTS OF WAY/FOOTPATHS** - there was discussion regarding a sign along the Nydon. Agreed to leave the matter.
- 24/25 /11 **PLAY AREA REPORT** - Easter Egg Trail had been quite well attended. Arrangements are in hand for a delivery of free topsoil.
- 24/25 /12 **PLANNING:-**
- a. Any updates on previous applications
 - i. 14/19/00008 - 2 Scotts Lane - Retention of existing building for use as store, garage, workshop and conversion of existing garage to ancillary accommodation - granted
 - ii. 14/23/00005 - Wellfield House - 19 Manor Road - change of use from care home to 18 x bedroom House of Multiple Occupancy - Amelia Elve has been appointed as the officer.
 - iii. 14/24/00001 - Cert. of Lawfulness for Proposed Use/Dev at Little Leaze, Little Leaze Lane - Erection of ancillary outbuilding to be used for studio & home office - no update at 09/04/24
- PRESENT** - Cllr Salter left the room.
- b. 14/24/00002 - 1 The Nydon (The Crown Inn) - erection of 2no. Lodges and associated landscape works - The applicant was present and permitted to speak and answer queries as they arose. Following discussion it was agreed to object to this application. There were concerns over the siting of the entrance and highway safety at that point. It was unclear what would happen with the existing wooden

fence which runs parallel to the road and this should be retained as a matter of safety. It was difficult to assess the size of the project as the figures on the plans and on the written application did not match. In some places the application mentioned 2 lodges but in other parts of the application 3 lodges were mentioned. There was also concern regarding the lack of specific detail which is usually available at this stage. This included fuller information on materials, depth of foundations, soakaway and drainage. There was also concern expressed regarding the logging business carried out at the site because of safety concerns. We were told that this was ceasing to operate at this location but in the interest of safety it would be mentioned in the response. The applicant was present and helpfully answered some questions and agreed that amendments could be made but as the actual application received by the Council stands it was felt it could not be supported and therefore it was agreed to object. The applicant was advised to submit new, professionally produced plans with sufficient information included in order for a better assessment of the likely impact on the vicinity to be made by the Parish Council.

PRESENT - Cllr Salter returned to the room.

c. Any other planning matters

24/25 /13 **PARISH PLOT** - receipt from RPA of next claim has been received

24/25 /14 **THE POUND** - request received from CVA regarding the tidying up of The Pound (there is currently an agreement with Stepping Out to undertake this work but this is a one-off request with particular reference to poisonous plants). This was agreed.

24/25 /15 **THE POUND** - request received from CVA re additional bench in commemoration of Mr & Mrs Wheeler. It was felt that with so many other people worthy of being commemorated it would not be right to permit this in such a limited space as anybody else would need to be turned away. A few other worthy people were mentioned. It was felt that if the Manor Farm development went ahead with a green area included that would be a more suitable place for such a bench. It was also felt that a second bench would leave The Pound looking rather cramped rather than having the open look it currently has.

24/25 /16 **FINANCE**

a. Accounts check - Accounts and bank statements to 31st March were provided and approved.

b. Cheques for signature - Chq.650 Somerset Council (dog waste bin emptying) £257.28; Chq.251 J Marshall (Clerks salary and expenses) £378.15.

c. Internal & External audits - It was agreed to continue to appoint R Young to conduct the internal audit.

d. Any other financial matters - Insurance quotes are not yet available as the renewal has to be due within two months for a quote.

24/25 /17 **CODE OF CONDUCT** - It was agreed to adopt the latest 2020 Code of Conduct.

24/25 /18 **ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING(S)** - maintenance of existing seat in The Pound

24/25 /19 **URGENT CORRESPONDENCE** - none.

24/25 /20 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Tuesday 14th May in Catcott School Hall following the **Annual Parish Meeting** which will start at **6.30pm**