

Clerk: Mrs Julia Marshall
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Catcott Parish Councillors are summoned to a meeting of the Council as detailed below

AGENDA - 14th January 2025 - 7pm - Catcott School Hall

1. Present and consideration of apologies
2. Declarations of interest and consideration of any dispensations required
3. Minutes of previous meeting
4. Updates arising from previous meetings and not listed
5. Somerset Councillors' reports
6. Local Community Networks (LCNs) and Enhanced Highway Maintenance (EHM)
7. Rural Affordable Housing
8. Devolution
9. Highways:-
 - a. Bridge refurbishment
 - b. Outstanding highways issues
 - c. Enhanced Highway Maintenance (EHM)
 - d. Road Access Point Drainage - Lippetts Way
 - e. Mini bus parking at School and 30mph repeater signs
 - f. Problems arising
10. Flooding - any update
11. Rights of Way/footpaths
12. Play Area report
13. Planning:- no new applications and no updates
14. Parish Plot - ditch clearance
15. Polden Environmental Network (PEN)
16. The Pound
17. Dog waste bin at The Pound
18. Website
19. Finance
 - a. Accounts check
 - b. Cheques for signature - incl. Clerks salary and expenses;
 - c. Precept setting
 - d. Any other financial matters
20. Items for information, circulation, distribution
21. Items for future meeting(s)
22. Urgent correspondence
23. Date of next meeting - Tuesday 11th February 2025 in Catcott School Hall at 7pm.

Julia Marshall

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.

- 23/24 /165 **PRESENT** - Cllrs Barnett (in the Chair), Pople, Salter, Thompson and Hall.
- 23/24 /166 **ALSO PRESENT** - 5 members of the public.
- 23/24 /167 **IN ATTENDANCE** - The Clerk to the Council.
- 23/24 /168 **APOLOGIES** - none received.
- 23/24 /169 **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 Thompson declared an interest in the CVA as his wife is treasurer and he is the publicity officer.
- 23/24 /170 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** - were confirmed and signed.
- 23/24 /171 **UPDATES ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND NOT LISTED** - none.
- 23/24 /172 **SOMERSET COUNCILLORS' REPORTS** - neither Somerset Councillor was in attendance.
- 23/24 /173 **LCNS AND ANY ACTIONS REQUIRED** - Cllrs Barnett and Hall and the Clerk had attended a recent meeting in Shapwick and a short report was given. No Highways representatives were in attendance but a representative from Kier led the meeting and was informative as far as his side of things went.
- 23/24 /174 **BOUNDARY COMMISSION - ELECTORAL REVIEW** - had been circulated to all councillors.
- 23/24 /175 **RURAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING** - this had been circulated to all councillors. It was agreed that affordable housing for the community would be a good thing. However, it needed land and a developer to bring it about.
- 23/24 /176 **DEVOLUTION** - as far as local devolution is concerned there is still no proper indication of what is on offer.
- 23/24 /177 **HIGHWAYS:-**
 - a. Bridge refurbishment - Cllr Salter reported that the work should be undertaken soon.
 - b. Outstanding highways issues - the drains in Old School Lane are already blocked again with stones and grit having been washed into the pipework. No water can flow down the system at present.
 - c. Enhanced Highway Maintenance (EHM) - Covered under LCNs.
 - d. Mini bus parking at School and 30mph repeater signs - following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the School Transport department at County Hall letting them know that, on safety grounds, it is necessary that the minibuses arrive from 3.40pm and should not arrive before then due to lack of space, on road parking problems for pedestrians and children hidden by the minibuses. She would let the school know of the letter/email.
 - e. Problems arising - a pot hole in Manor Road and a sink hole in Manor Road. A member of the public would send the Clerk a what3words location for both sites. A tree branch causing concern would be reported.
- 23/24 /178 **FLOODING** - There is currently the possibility of some grant aid to assist with flooding problems in villages. Cllr Thompson would draft a grant application for consideration at the January meeting. The Clerk had collected literature relating to flooding when she attended the SALC/SC conference. This was passed to Cllr Thompson.
- 23/24 /179 **RIGHTS OF WAY/FOOTPATHS - TREES ON SCHOOL FOOTPATH** - Cllr Thompson mentioned that a tree not originally identified had fallen on the School field fence. This has already been cleared away.
- 23/24 /180 **PLAY AREA REPORT** - Cllr Pople reported that takings from the Fayre were a bit down this year at £350. The committee will consider alternative events for future fund raising events.
- 23/24 /181 **PLANNING:-**
 - a. Any updates on previous applications

- i. 14/24/00007 - The Four Seasons, Chilton Polden Hill - Removal of Condition 4, and Variation of Conditions 1 & 5 of Planning Permission Application No.14/20/00017 (Creation of a 1.5m high landscape bund and associated landscaping works, erections of walls to vehicular access, amended floorplans, and installation of four roof-lights to north side of the barn conversion.) to amend the plans listed in schedule A, to revise the landscaping scheme and to amend the timing of the planting scheme implementation - granted.
- b. Somerset Local Plan - the Clerk reported that she had submitted the responses agreed at the last meeting.
- c. Any other planning matters - Information on a validation process had been received. This would enable officers to liaise with applicants prior to formal receipt of an applications which it is hoped will speed up the process.

- 23/24 /182 **PARISH PLOT - DITCH CLEARANCE** - it is not known if the ditching has been carried out yet. Cllr Barnett would check.
- 23/24 /183 **POLDEN ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK (PEN)** - no update.
- 23/24 /184 **THE POUND** - This is looking good.
- 23/24 /185 **CHRISTMAS TREE** - erection of the tree had to be postponed due to high winds. Cllrs Barnett and Salter will install it on Thursday. The electrics are already in place.
- 23/24 /186 **DOG WASTE BIN AT THE POUND** - this has been received and Cllrs Thompson and Salter would see to its installation.
- 23/24 /187 **LOCAL BROADBAND PROVISION** - the Clerk had been informed that following a recent survey of residents it had been decided that there is insufficient demand for high speed broadband to justify a firm providing this.
- 23/24 /188 **BUS SHELTER** - looking good.
- 23/24 /189 **SALC AGM - 13TH NOVEMBER IN CONJUNCTION WITH SOMERSET PARISH CONFERENCE** - Cllrs Barnett and Hall and the Clerk had attended this and gave a short report.
- 23/24 /190 **FINANCE**
- a. Accounts check - the Clerk apologised that she had not had time to send the accounts.
- b. Cheques for signature - Chq.684 A Thompson (grit shovel) £6.99; Chq.685 Clerk (Salary & expenses) £445.19; Chq.686 Barnett's Dairy (Christmas tree) £65.00.
- c. Precept setting - for the January meeting to allow any additional information to be received beforehand.
- d. Any other financial matters - notification had been received from the RPA that £794.20 had been paid to our account.
- 23/24 /191 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, CIRCULATION, DISTRIBUTION** - the Clerk said she had put advice from the Fire and Rescue Service regarding storms on the website and would also put information from Wessex Water about drop in on the site.
- 23/24 /192 Items for future meeting(s) - none raised.
- 23/24 /193 Urgent correspondence - none.
- 23/24 /194 Date of next meeting - Tuesday 14th January 2025 in Catcott School Hall at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm and was followed by festive refreshments for all.