

TALATON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **MEETING OF TALATON PARISH COUNCIL** held on **WEDNESDAY, 3rd JANUARY 2024** at **7.30pm**. The meeting was held at the **PARISH HALL, TALATON EX5 2RG**

PRESENT: - Cllrs P Lenehan (**Chair**), G Hawkins (**Vice-Chair**) K Walker, M Gray, S Wood, A Peters, R Bos; EDDC Cllr R Jefferies and the Clerk (Mrs C McIntyre)

PUBLIC FIFTEEN-MINUTE OPEN FORUM

EDDC Cllr R Jefferies who is the Assistant Portfolio Holder Culture, Leisure, Sport and Tourism provided a report. He spoke about several matters including car parking; his portfolio; National Landscapes. A question was raised about various planning applications relating to Escot/Wildwood which it was believed had still not been determined. Cllr Jefferies would look into these issues. He also spoke about planning in general

24/01/01

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies

24/01/02

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF 6TH DECEMBER 2023 AND TO APPROVE THE SIGNING OF THE SAME BY THE CHAIR AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes from the meeting of 6th December 2023 be approved as a true and correct record. They were signed by the Chair *Proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by the Vice-Chair*

24/01/03

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were none`

24/01/04

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 (PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST BY REASON OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED): TO AGREE ANY ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH AFTER THE PUBLIC AND PRESS HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED

It was **AGREED** that Item 10 (Grounds Maintenance Tenders) be discussed in Confidential Session

24/01/05

FINANCE: CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF ITEMS I – III

i. Approval of accounts for the period 1st – 31st December 2023 including Petty Cash

NAME OF ACCOUNT/PETTY CASH	BALANCE
Community (Current)	£233.27
Business Premium (Reserve)	£13623.78
Un-presented Cheques	£60.00
Petty Cash	£22.40

ii. Approval of the January 2024 Payment Schedule

CHEQUE NO/BACS/DD	PAYEE	DETAILS	COST	VAT	TOTAL
Bacs	HMRC	Income Tax	79.00		79.00
Bacs	Employee	Salary Dec/Jan (Net)	316.46		316.46
Bacs	Mr & Mrs Tucker	Allotments Rental	5.00		5.00

Initials.....

DD	ICOS	Information Commissioner`s Annual Registration	35.00		35.00
Bacs	Talaton Parish Hall	Room Hire	80.00		80.00
Bacs	M Kingdon	Annual cost of Cutting of the Moor	625.00		625.00
Bacs	Mrs C McIntyre	Repayment of administrative supplies (ink cartridges; plastic files and suspension files)	50.82		50.82
		TOTALS	£1191.28	£0.00	£1191.28

iii. Transfer of funds (£1500) from the Business Premium to the Community Account

It was **RESOLVED** to approve Items 1 – iii *Proposed by Cllr Gray and seconded by Cllr Walker*

iv. Barclays Bank Update

Cllr Walker reported she had not made any progress with Barclays regarding her difficulties in making on-line payments. She would persevere with trying to get the problem resolved.

24/01/06

CORRESPONDENCE

a. The following correspondence had been received and noted by councillors

- i. Dalc – advising of 24/25 subs fee - £187 but figure may be subject to change to reflect updated electoral figures
- ii. DCC – Road from Larkbeare Cross to Talaton Farm Cross will be closed on 29th Feb for cabling works
- iii. E-mails of thanks received from the PCC and Tale Valley Trust for the grants awarded by the Council
- iv. EDDC – Confirmation that the application from West Hill PC to designate a new Neighbourhood Area to exclude Ottery St Mary had been approved
- v. EDDC – Warning of rain and potential floods
- vi. EDDC – Precept Letter
- vii. Peninsula Transport was opening a public consultation on its draft transport strategy

b. Items of late correspondence

There were no items of late correspondence

24/01/07

ALLOTMENTS - UPDATE ON WATER PROVISION; TENANTS; SITE MAINTENANCE AND ANY OTHER ALLOTMENT MATTERS AND TO MAKE DECISIONS RELATING THERETO (AS APPROPRIATE)

Three tenants had now signed their new tenancy agreements and had made their rental payments. One tenant had terminated her half plot tenancy. Allotment plots 3, 5A,5B and 6 were now available to rent. The plots had been advertised on the notice boards, Calendar and social media. A non-parishioner was interested in having an allotment. The Council **AGREED** that if there was availability (if not enough parishioners took up the allotment plots) then a plot could be offered to the non parishioner. The Clerk had not yet received an invoice from the contractor re the strimming of two plots. The plots still required to be covered in plastic sheeting to prevent weed growth and it was assumed that once the contractor had carried this out he would submit his invoice. The Clerk had chased up SWW again regarding the water provision equipment but was still waiting to hear.

24/01/08

THE MOOR (VILLAGE GREEN) – UPDATE RE RENTAL PAYABLE

The Clerk had asked the solicitor acting for the estate to send bank details and a reference number to enable her to pay the Council`s annual rental payment. She was still waiting to hear. She will chase up again. Without the information she was unable to make the payment

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24/01/09

TO APPROVE 24/25 BUDGET AND PRECEPT AMOUNT

After much deliberation and consideration it was **RESOLVED** to have a budget of £11620 and a precept of £9140 *Proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Bos*

The Council then went into Confidential Session

24/01/10

CONSIDERATION OF GROUNDS MAINTENANCE QUOTES AND TO APPOINT CONTRACTORS IF APPROPRIATE

Tenders had been received. After much deliberation it was **RESOLVED** to award the three year grass cutting contract of the Moor (Village Green) to Matt Kingdon in the sum of £2250 and the three year grass cutting of the verges to Andy Hazeldine in the sum of £3360.

Proposed by Cllr Bos and seconded by the Vice-Chair

The Council then resumed Public Session

24/01/11

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY; CHAIRMAN'S ALLOWANCE POLICY AND DISPENSATION PROCEDURE AND DISPENSATION REQUEST FORM

It was **RESOLVED** to approve all the proposed policies, procedures and form and it was further **RESOLVED** to set the Chairman's allowance at £100

Proposed by Cllr Wood and seconded by Cllr Walker

24/01/12

TO DECIDE DATE FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING IN APRIL 2024

It was **AGREED** that the meeting should take place on Wednesday 24th April 7 - 7.30pm. It was suggested that there should be a re-think as to the format of the meeting and that if invited persons were unable to attend, that written reports should still be submitted. The length of reports was also discussed

24/01/13

PARISH MAINTENANCE: ITEMS REQUIRING ATTENTION AND UPDATE ON ITEMS REPORTED AND TO AGREE ANY FINANCIAL PROVISION (IF APPLICABLE)

Network Rail had advised that the overgrown vegetation would be removed from the railway bridge at the start of the 24/25 financial year (when funds would be available). The Chair advised that Mr Jackson was willing to carry out the work to the wall at Orchard Close on a voluntary basis. There were a number of potholes in the vicinity of Escot that required filling in; surface water from the fields was making the problems worse. It was understood that the issue had been raised on social media (Talatan Talk) and that a parishioner had emailed CCllr Iain Chubb with evidence of the issues. The car (which may have been abandoned) was still in situ at Hillside. The re-positioned sign at the Newtown junction was again in the wrong position (it appears the wind may have blown it out of the correct position). The Clerk would report these issues to the various authorities. However with regards to highway matters she suggested that she contact Meg Booth (Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport) as the highway officer covering the Talaton area had either stepped down or was about to very shortly.

24/01/14

TO REPORT ANY DELEGATED DECISIONS MADE BETWEEN COUNCIL MEETINGS

After the December meeting a further £200 was transferred from the Council's Business Premium to its Community Account in order to have sufficient monies to pay a grant. This was agreed between the Chair and the Clerk

24/01/15

CLIMATE AND ECOLOGY BILL

Last month, the decision of the Council, was to support the Bill. However information from Simon Jupp MP had caused some concern amongst some councillors as to whether the decision of the Council should be re-visited. After some deliberation it was **AGREED** that there was no reason for the Council to alter its previous decision

Initials.....

24/01/16

TELEPHONE BOX – UPDATE ON THE UNMETERED ELECTRICITY SUPPLY AND ANY OTHER ISSUES AND TO MAKE DECISIONS AS APPROPRIATE.

Utility Aid had confirmed that it was exploring the market to see if it could source a cheaper energy price for the box. They would contact the Clerk in due course with their findings. It was **RESOLVED** that the proposed shelving works to the telephone box should be carried out by Mr Jackson on a paid basis. *Proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by the Chair*

It was reported that a catch was required on the door in order that it could shut properly and to ensure that the contents of the box were protected from the elements; the box required to be repainted and consideration would need to be given in the first instance to the specific paint required and costs etc. Gravel near the door required clearing and a paving slab put in situ

24/01/16

UPDATE ON GOVERNMENT DOMAIN

The Council’s request to be considered for a government domain had been acknowledged. The Clerk would listen to an on-line presentation on 16th January to understand what was involved

24/01/17

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY OR DISCUSSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

The defibs had been checked. It was **AGREED** that further training on the Code of Conduct would take place after the Drop - In session on the 27th January at the Parish Hall (the Clerk; Chair and Cllr Walker to oversee). The Clerk had contacted EDDC’s Planning Enforcement Officer regarding works at Lashbrooke Farm to obtain clarity on whether planning permission was required (or not). The Clerk was currently waiting to hear from the Enforcement Officer. The Clerk had received a response from the Parish Hall Secretary regarding the grant monies paid over by the Council for Village Day in 22/23. The Secretary had advised that it was the intention to run Village Day in 2024 and the Village Day Ctte would be meeting in the next few weeks to discuss the event. If the Ctte decided not to proceed then the monies would be repaid to the Council

24/01/18

MATTERS OF URGENCY: ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE CHAIRMAN’S DISCRETION:

There were none

24/01/19

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7th February 2024

24/01/20

CLOSE OF MEETING

21.16

SIGNATURE OF THE CHAIR	
DATE OF SIGNATURE	

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