

## ***BINEGAR PARISH COUNCIL***

Minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2017 in the Memorial Hall at 7:30 pm

**Present:** Jon Abbott, Philip Blatchford, Richard Higgins (Chair), Cath Law, Phil Roberts, John Scadding and David Stone.

**In attendance:** Diane Abbott (Clerk), Cllrs John and Rachel Carter and Paul Sharp.

1	<b>Apologies for absence</b> There were no apologies for absence.	
2	<b>Chair's Announcements</b> The Chair made the following announcements: <b>1. Mendip Local Plan</b> The Chair reported receipt of a letter confirming the playground and Neville's Batch as green spaces to be included in the pre-submission consultation from 2 January to 12 February 2018. <b>2. Police Report from Sheila Thompson</b> The Chair informed the meeting that the Parish Council had now received two monthly reports and proposed keeping a crime list on the website. <b>3. Removal of cemetery fencing</b> The Chair thanked David and John for removing the cemetery fencing.	
3	<b>Declarations of interest</b> There were no declarations of interest.	
4	<b>Minutes</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Minutes of the 7 November be signed as a correct record.	
5	<b>Matters arising from the Minutes</b> <b>1. Grass cutting contract 2018-19</b> The meeting received and <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept a quotation from Primrose Garden Maintenance. <b>2. Binegar Lane and Station Road public benches</b> The meeting noted the completion of refurbishment. <b>3. A37/Tape Lane traffic island refurbishment</b> The meeting noted that work on the traffic island had been completed. <b>4. Highways and footpaths</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Binegar Lane/A37 junction: missing street sign (Nov 15)</li><li>▪ Roemead Lane/Binegar Bottom: broken road signs (Jun 16)</li><li>▪ King's Lane: broken road sign</li></ul> The meeting noted that Mendip scheduled the work for December. <b>5. Planning applications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ 2017/1797/FUL – Land to rear 5 Dalleston – proposed dwelling</li></ul> The meeting noted that Mendip had refused this application.	
6	<b>Local government reports</b> Councillors Rachel and John Carter wished Binegar Parish a happy Christmas.	

7	<p><b>Planning application 2016/2573/FUL – Alfie’s Retreat BA3 4UA</b></p> <p>The Council noted that it had recommended refusal on three previous occasions. Having considered the latest plans sent out for consultation, it concluded that there was no reason to change that recommendation.</p> <p>Members were as concerned at the handling of the application by the planning authority. They considered it unacceptable that years had passed and that the planning authority appeared poised to approve an application that failed to address the conditions that the planning authority itself had set.</p> <p>The Chair undertook to draft a response.</p>	RH
8	<p><b>Financial matters</b></p> <p><b>1. Current financial position</b> The meeting received a report and noted the financial position to date.</p> <p><b>2. Receipts since the last report</b> The meeting noted the following receipts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ £1,000.00 – Land Rent – A Selway</li> <li>▪ £30.00 – Andrew Wrintmore – Engraving</li> <li>▪ £60.00 – Class Motor Services - Wayleave</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Standing order payments since the last report:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ £649.37 - Primrose Garden Services - grass cutting payment (7/7)</li> <li>▪ £xxx.xx – Parish Clerk – November salary</li> </ul> <p><b>4. Cheque payments authorised</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ £450.00 – The Woodworker – public bench refurbishment</li> <li>▪ £163.80 – HMRC – income tax, October-December 2017</li> <li>▪ £657.60 – Primrose Garden Maintenance – Traffic Island work</li> <li>▪ £175.00 – Binegar Memorial Hall – Annual room hire</li> <li>▪ £100.00 – 1st Mendip Scout Group – Donation</li> <li>▪ £50.00 – Dorset &amp; Somerset Air Ambulance - Donation</li> </ul>	
9	<p><b>Binegar Cemetery</b></p> <p>The meeting considered a review of fees and arrangements for scattering ashes. Following discussion, members agreed to raise fees, simplify the fee structure and include a fee for ashes. The Chair undertook to draft a new set of fees.</p>	RH
10	<p><b>Budget and precept 2018-19</b></p> <p>The meeting received and considered a budget and precept for 2018-19. Following discussion, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept the budget and set a precept of £9,000.</p>	DA
11	<p><b>Proposal or a permissive footpath</b></p> <p>David briefed the meeting about creating a permissive footpath along the old Oakhill Brewery railway track. It would run from Binegar Bottom to join footpath 316, which ran from the Horse and Jockey. After discussion, David (and John) agreed to arrange a walk for Councillors to help decide next steps.</p>	DS
12	<p><b>Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue – risk management plan</b></p> <p>John briefed the meeting on the risk management plan highlighting key points. He confirmed that the plan benefitted parishioners and undertook to make a response for the Council.</p> <p>Members noted that the information would be of value to parishioners and Cath suggested arranging an information session for villagers.</p>	

13	<p><b>Projects</b></p> <p><b>1. A37 road improvements for Gurney Slade</b>  <b><i>Ditch by Gurney Slade Stores</i></b>  The meeting noted that Jon and John would assess the requirements to maintain the ditch.</p> <p><b><i>Road safety and signage</i></b>  The meeting noted with sadness that County Councillor Pullin had not supported the Council's bid for a highway <i>Small Improvement Scheme</i>. In addition, it noted the negative response from Highways to Cllr Carter's proposals to improve road safety.</p> <p>In the circumstances, the meeting was clear that there could be no safety improvements without a strong supporting case and agreed to enlist the help of villagers.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the meeting noted an improvement for mobility scooters allowing access along Woodside footpath. It agreed to pursue further improvements, including the vegetation overgrowth on the footpath between Stone Edge and Myrtle Cottages. The Clerk undertook to notify Highways.</p> <p><b>2. Binegar Bottom</b>  John updated the meeting on flood prevention measures and a quotation received from R M Penny. He undertook to arrange a meeting between Anne Langdon of the <i>Farming &amp; Wildlife Advisory Group</i>, who had designed the scheme tendered and R M Penny who had proposed a different scheme.</p> <p><b>3. Cemetery improvements</b>  The Chair informed the meeting that the installation of estate fencing would take place from 8 January 2018.</p> <p><b>4. Churchyard improvements</b>  John advised the meeting that he had received a recommendation to defer work on the yew trees for 12 months to allow some regrowth. The Chair suggested that tenders be invited in a year's time.</p>	<p>J/J</p> <p>DA</p> <p>JS</p> <p>RH</p>
14	<p><b>Playground</b>  The meeting noted the playground report. The Clerk informed the meeting that resurfacing work should start during the week commencing 18 December.</p>	DA
15	<p><b>Events attended</b>  There were no events attended.</p>	
16	<p><b>Highways and rights of way</b>  Philip requested the removal of a Highways temporary road closure sign along Tape Lane. The Clerk undertook to inform Highways.</p>	DA
17	<p><b>Dates for the next and future meetings</b>  To note the next meeting: 6 February 2018 in the Memorial Hall</p> <p><b>Future meetings</b>  6 March 2018 and 3 April 2018</p>	

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.43pm