



BINEGAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2018 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) and Paul Sharp.

1	Apologies for absence There were no apologies for absence.	
2	Chair's Announcements The Chair had three announcements: Mendip District Council consultation: Housing Enforcement Policy The meeting agreed that the Council had nothing relevant for a response to this consultation. Police Report – June The Chair highlighted four incidents relevant to the Parish. Parish Forum The Chair informed the meeting he would be speaking on "Making your Parish Richer" at the Mendip Parish Forum on Thursday 19 July.	
3	Declarations of interest There were no declarations of interest.	
4	Minutes It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the 5 June 2018 be signed as a correct record.	
5	Matters arising from the Minutes 1. Planning applications - 2016/2573/FUL – Alfie's Retreat BA3 4UA The Chair stated that a further letter sent to Mendip's Chief Executive Officer had also met with no response. Councillors noted that an additional building was now being erected on the site. The meeting agreed to ask Cllr Carter to pursue a reason for the absence of a response. 2. Proposed permissive footpath between Binegar Bottom and footpath SM3/16 The Clerk undertook to draft a letter to owners with Parish Council proposals. 3. Five-year inspection of cemetery and graveyard The Chair reported that, of the two memorials needing immediate attention, one was repaired but there was no known family for the other. Given the location of grave 93, the meeting agreed the Parish Council had to undertake the repair. The Clerk undertook to make arrangements. 4. Annual weed control programme Philip reported this had been done. On the Council's behalf, the Chair thanked Philip and Gus. 5. Cemetery water supply The Clerk reported that she had been unable to obtain a quote for mains water from <i>Bristol Water</i> . In light of that, Philip, who had experience of the process, undertook to obtain a price.	RH DA DA PB
6	Local government reports The meeting noted that Cllrs John and Rachel Carter were unable to attend and had apologised.	



7	Planning applications and issues The meeting noted there were no planning applications for consideration.	
8	Financial Matters 1. Financial position The meeting noted the financial position to date. The Clerk reported receipt of the annual VAT reclaim of £5,872. 2. Receipts since the last report £200.00 – ARN Connock & Son – for the Collins family £5,872.41 – HMRC VAT refund 3. Standing order payments noted since the last report £xxx.xx – Parish Clerk – June salary £656.22 – Primrose Garden Maintenance – May grass cutting payment 2/7 £656.22 – Primrose Garden Maintenance – June grass cutting payment 3/7 £35.00 – Community Council Somerset – subscription paid in April 4. Cheque payments authorised £50.00 – Somerset Association of Local Councils – GDPR training £34.80 - D Stone – expenses for paint for playground	
9	2017-18 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) The meeting noted that the Clerk awaited receipt of the external audit report.	
10	Playground The meeting noted the monthly report and the annual RoSPA inspection report. Councillors discussed works proposed by Jon who was authorised to purchase timber and other items. The Council agreed to seek professional advice on the safer surfaces beneath both multiplays. The Clerk reported the RoSPA inspector's recommendation to keep all playground reports for 18 years. It was RESOLVED to amend the policy on document retention accordingly. Cath and Philip undertook to supply the Clerk with the past inspection reports they held.	JA DA RH CL PB
11	Projects 1. A37 road improvements for Gurney Slade Phil was pleased to report that <i>Morris & Perry</i> had ordered an additional weekly hour of road washing to clean all the A37 through Gurney Slade. Village nameplates The meeting discussed the options for the village nameplates and agreed to accept the proposal from Somerset Highways. The Chair undertook to notify Highways Somerset. Pedestrian safety and the collapsed field boundary on A37 The Chair reported no further progress made in contacting the owner and matter was ongoing. Traffic speed and volume information The meeting noted an analysis of A37 traffic speeds and volume during the radar installation in May. Phil reported that he had spoken with Cllr Mike Pullin who suggested the Parish Council install a speed indicator device. Jon undertook to obtain costs.	RH RH JA



	<p>Phil undertook to maintain contact with Cllr Pullen and press him to assist in providing a police safety camera.</p>	PR
	<p>The meeting considered the possibility of relocating the existing (but defunct) police safety camera into the village or erecting a dummy camera.</p>	RH
	<p>2. Binegar Bottom</p> <p>John reported progress with works on the first leaky pond. He and <i>Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group's</i> Ann Langdon planned to meet with R M Penny to discuss reducing the height of the bund, raising the floor of the pool and lowering the leak pipe.</p>	JS
	<p>Concerning the clearance of the drainage pipe under Highcroft Lane, the Chair reminded John that Ann Langdon had undertaken to organise Highways to do this.</p>	JS
	<p>The Chair advised the meeting that an interpretation board would cost some £500.</p>	RH
	<p>3. Drainage ditch by Gurney Slade Stores</p> <p>The meeting discussed how to keep the ditch permanently clear of brambles. The meeting agreed the first step was to clear the ditch and the Clerk undertook to seek a quotation from the Council's horticultural contractor.</p>	DA
	<p>Once cleared, the Chair undertook to arrange for interested parties to consider next steps.</p>	RH
	<p>4. Daffodils on verges</p> <p>The meeting agreed the suggestion to publicise planting of 500 daffodil bulbs on the southbound verge at the north end of the village.</p>	RH
	<p>5. Holy Trinity Churchyard</p> <p>Though there had been no formal contact from the Parochial Church Council (PCC), David reported that the Diocese had approved repair of the gate pier caps.</p>	
	<p>Having consulted the PCC on its specification, the Council RESOLVED to invite tenders for the yew tree pruning. The Clerk undertook to send out tenders to local contractors.</p>	DA
	<p>6. Historic village sites / interpretative panels</p> <p>The meeting noted it covered this item in the Binegar Bottom project.</p>	
	<p>7. Dementia-friendly community events</p> <p>Cath notified the meeting of plans for a monthly, themed event aimed at bringing people together. Cath and Diane stated that they would publicise the plan to seek volunteers. Cath agreed to draft a budget.</p>	CL DA
	<p>8. New website</p> <p>The meeting noted that this was an ongoing project.</p>	
	<p>9. Projects without parish funds</p> <p><i>Playground fence on Binegar Lane</i></p> <p>The Chair reported awaiting the outcome of a <i>National Lottery</i> grant application. The Clerk undertook to apply to the Sperring Trust for additional financial assistance with the project.</p>	DA
12	<p>The Great British Clean up</p> <p>Phil informed the meeting this would take place the weekend of 13–14 October 2018. The Clerk undertook to publicise the date in the September parish magazine.</p>	DA



13	Somerset consultation: <i>Improving lives</i> strategy The meeting noted this consultation, previously circulated by the Clerk. Cath undertook to consider the strategy and respond on behalf of the Parish Council.	CL
14	Archived records The Clerk informed the meeting there were no records for archiving in 2018.	
15	Nomination for awards The meeting considered nominations and Jon undertook to conduct a vote with councillors.	JA
16	Events attended There were no events attended	
17	Highways and rights of way There were no reports.	
18	Dates for the next and future meetings To note the next meeting would take place on 4 September 2018 in the Memorial Hall Future meetings 2018-19: 2 October, 6 November, 5 February, 5 March	

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.40pm