

HATCH BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Parish - Helen Chadwick

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Hatch Beauchamp Parish Council held on Wednesday 12th March 2025 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall

Present: - Kevin Comer (Chair), Pippa Fowler (Vice Chair), Jill O'Connor, Katie Piper, Sue Wright, Annette Cox and Andy Grant plus attendees as below and six members of the public

Apologies: - Jan Walton, Shaun O'Dell

In Attendance: - Ms Chadwick as Clerk, Cllr Wakefield

Public Forum

- A member of the public raised concerns about road signs being left in the village following completion of roadworks. It was advised to report these to Somerset Council for collection.
- The Chair of the village hall trustees advised that the notice board and map in agenda item 7 have been commissioned at a total cost of £2700. The play equipment total cost will be around £20k. A consultation will be done to ascertain the wishes of the community on the play equipment. The parish council has previously pledged monies towards this equipment.
- The Friends of Hatch Beauchamp School are holding an Easter Egg event of 29th March and a jumble sale on 27th April towards School funds. The school has recently won a "Rock Stars" maths award for top ranking in a 30 mile radius.
- Cllr Wakefield's latest Somerset Council report was circulated. The Somerset council tax was raised 7.5% with permission from central government, predominantly to meet the increasing cost of social care. Cllr Henley praised the proposed SEN facility at the school. The clerk raised the issue of improving the turning into Bickenhall Lane as raised by a parishioner, which Cllr Henley will take to Somerset Council Roads and Transport on our behalf.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Shaun O'Dell and Jan Walton. It was resolved that the apologies and the reasons for them be accepted.

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th January 2025 and of the Planning Committee meeting held on 15th January 2025 were both approved.

12th March 2025

Signed: Dated.....

4. Community Updates and Councillor external contact reports

4.1 Greener Hatch Beauchamp

Remaining funds have been transferred to PC due to increased bank charges. June repair café date to be confirmed. A sunflower planting event is planned in April

4.2 Neighbourhood Plan

No further update, working through changes to produce the final consultation report.

4.3 LCN update

No update.

4.4 Footpath update

Pippa and Annette have been surveying footpaths as volunteer Footpath Officers and circulated their report. Offers to help have been received.

4.5 Any other reports

5. Casual Vacancy

Following the resignation of Jill O'Connor, an applicant Nick Bridle was unanimously co-opted to fill the advertised casual vacancy on the Parish Council. The Chair thanked Jill for her work on the Parish Council.

6. Planning

Following the outcome of planning application 19/24/0007, it was disappointing to note the decision given the majority of the community who expressed views on the application were against the application, and contrary to the views of both Somerset Councillors and Somerset Council sustainability policy. It was agreed to appoint a liaison officer under the Neighbourhood Plan Committee to monitor progress.

7. Projects for 2025/26

Updates and costing of proposed project spend for 2025/26:

- **Road signs/ speed indicator device**
Speed indicator device costing sent to Clerk and circulated. Andy to investigate further
- **Noticeboards**
A contribution to the cost advised to the village hall and previously pledged was agreed in principle
- **Youth club**
Nine responses were received to the survey. It is not felt that there is sufficient interest to progress this idea at this time.
- **Drains**
Further review is planned and will be circulated for the next meeting

8. Annual Parish Meeting

It was agreed to plan the Annual Parish Meeting for 7th May 2025 joint with the Village Hall committee subject to confirmation with the Hall Booking Secretary.

9. Village Tidy

The next Village Tidy was discussed and was agreed to be planned for Saturday 3rd May 10am to 12 noon. Clerk to publicise on Facebook. Initial list to include benches, litter signposts and noticeboard clean.

12th March 2025

Signed: Dated.....

10. Finance

10.1 Bank Reconciliation

The Council approved the bank reconciliation.

10.2 Schedule of Cheques

The Council approved the Schedule of Cheques as follows:

Summary of Payments Due						
To pay:						
Clerks wages	3 Jan to 6 Mar 9 weeks			606.15		13.47 x 9 weeks x 5 hrs
Somerset Council	dog bins			37.54		for completeness - approved by email
SALC	inv 1556			75.00		supplementary non - member fee for training 6th June 24
Parsons Landscapes	inv 17789			135.37		
Cheques to pay:				854.06		

11. Agenda Items for next meeting

- None

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

To be signed by the Chair at the next meeting (Wednesday 14th May 2025):

The minutes reflect an accurate record of events subject to any amendments listed below.

Signed:

Print Name:

Date:

Amendments:

Produced by:

Helen Chadwick, Clerk

hatchbeauchamp.pc@gmail.com

12th March 2025

Signed: Dated.....