

HATCH BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Hatch Beauchamp Parish Council held on Wednesday 9th November 2022 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall

Present: - Mr Kevin Comer (Chair), Mrs Pippa Fowler (Vice Chair), Mrs Jan Walton, Ms Alison Handel, Mr Shaun O'Dell, Mr Steve Williams, Mrs Sue Wright, Mr Andy Grant plus attendees as below and 9 members of the public

Apologies: - Cllr Henley

In Attendance: - Cllr Wakefield, Ms Chadwick as Clerk

Public Forum

- Cllr Wakefield presented her report on behalf of Cllr Henley. Somerset County Council is forecasting a substantial budget deficit this year and next, due to inflationary pressures and increased social care costs.
- The County Council has been allocated £3.8m to distribute before March 31st 2023 as part of the third round of funding provided through the Government's Household Support Fund. This funding will be used to provide food vouchers worth £10 a week to children eligible for Free School Meals during the school holidays, and enable people to apply for support with a range of urgent essentials including fuel, food, and white goods.
- She also gave details of Somerset Community Foundation's Cost of Living Crisis Appeal fund which will be used to support food resilience, energy projects and the 'Warm Welcome' network of warm spaces.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs Piper. It was resolved that the apology and the reasons for it be accepted.

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 23rd September 2022, with one amendment to the bus service details, were approved unanimously.

4. Councillor sub-committee activity and Councillor external contact reports

The following contacts and subcommittee activity was reported:

Neighbourhood Plan: the group is planning a further discussion with secondary school children following the previous successful meeting. Thanks were expressed to the members of the Neighbourhood Plan subcommittee and to Clare and Tony at the Hatch Inn who have again offered refreshments at cost.

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Signed: Dated.....

Mr Grant reported updates given to interested parishioners regarding the A358, Community Shop and proposed allotments. He has also had discussions with Hatch Green Coaches and Somerset Bus Partnership to be further discussed under agenda point 6. A358 activity is reported under agenda point 5 below.

5. A358

Mr Comer gave an update on the ongoing A358 discussions and reported that two protests had received press coverage and led to engagement with the leader of Somerset County Council, Bill Revans. Thanks were expressed to the organisers and those who attended. A meeting was held with Cllr Revans, Cllrs Henley, Wakefield and Darch where the matter was discussed in more detail and Cllr Revans undertook to follow up. Representatives also met with the prospective Liberal Democrat candidate, Gideon Amos. The next Community of Parishes meeting is on 15th November. It is planned to attend the 23rd November Somerset County Council meeting where questions will be submitted to the meeting by Mr Comer.

6. Proposal on Bus Services

A proposal on the above was circulated by Mr Grant, who proposes trying to reactivate a more regular bus service through Hatch Beauchamp to improve connectivity and reduce carbon footprint as part of the Greener Hath Beauchamp project. Initial discussions have been held with Hatch Green Coaches to “piggyback” on existing services. Demand is proposed to be assessed by questionnaire.

7. Proposal on Community Resilience project

The Council received and discussed a proposal on the above from Pippa Fowler, following her attendance at a Somerset County Council workshop. The idea to have a plan accessible in case of emergency was agreed in principle by Councillors. The definition of vulnerable people was discussed, and it was agreed that this will vary over time and depending on circumstance. The Village Hall was proposed as the central safe space, and permission would be sought from Trustees. The Clerk agreed to act as contact point.

8. Finance

8.1 Bank Reconciliation

The Council approved the bank reconciliations.

8.2 Payments

The following payments were approved by Councillors:

Summary of Payments Due				
To pay:				
Clerks wages	9 Sept to 4 Nov			433.60
Parsons Landscapes	Grass cutting			622.80
Chairs expenses	Wix and printing			121.87
St Johns Hatch Beauchamp	Burial ground grant			250.00
Baptist Church	Burial ground grant			95.00
Cheques to pay:				<u>1523.27</u>

8.3 Half year Financials

The Clerk presented half year summary and forecast outturn to the Councillors. The parish council is on track with its budget.

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Signed: Dated.....

9. Agenda Items for next meeting

The following items will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

A358 update

Play Equipment

Community Resilience project

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm

To be signed by the Chair at the next meeting (Wednesday 11th January 2023):

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

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Signed: Dated.....