

## HATCH BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Hatch Beauchamp Parish Council held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall

**Present:** - Mr Kevin Comer (Chair), Mrs Pippa Fowler (Vice Chair), Mrs Jan Walton, Mr Shaun O'Dell, Mrs Sue Wright, Mrs Jill O'Connor, Mrs Katie Piper and Mr Andy Grant plus attendees as below and twelve members of the public

**Apologies:** - Cllr Henley

**In Attendance:** - Cllr Wakefield, Ms Chadwick as Clerk

#### Public Forum

- Cllr Wakefield circulated her report, including an update on the Somerset Council budget gap and financial emergency, including c.£70m social care shortfall. It is likely parish and town councils will be asked to fund some discretionary services next year.
- A member of the public requested clarification on use of CIL monies and requested an amendment to the minutes, which was agreed to be actioned

#### 1. Apologies

None.

Stephen Williams has resigned as councillor since the previous meeting. Thanks were expressed for his contribution. The Clerk will post the casual vacancy.

#### 2. Declarations of interest

None

#### 3. Minutes

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were approved with one amendment and the minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were approved.

#### 4. A358

The Councillors received an update on the A358 from the parliamentary representative of Rebecca Pow MP, who confirmed that Ms Pow is in discussion with the Roads Minister representing the views of parishioners as is meeting with the Chair of West Hatch PC on Friday next. Those present reiterated the views that there is an opportunity for considerable financial and environmental cost saving if the scheme is reconsidered. The position statement circulated was agreed.

#### 5. Community Updates and Councillor external contact reports

##### 5.1 Greener Hatch Beauchamp

A repair café was held last Saturday, thanks to all those involved. Tree planting funding is available, locations are being investigated.

##### 5.2 Village Hall

8<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Signed: ..... Dated.....

The Clerk will contact the Village Hall treasurer to discuss the grass cutting contribution due and expected withdrawal of Somerset Council grant funding next year.

### 5.3 Community Shop

An update was circulated by email to confirm that the Community Benefit Society will not be taking this forward.

### 5.4 Neighbourhood Plan

No update

### 5.5 LCN update

The second meeting was held last week to explore the topics and areas of interest for the group

### 5.6 Footpath update

A report on footpaths was circulated. A stile and footpath and bridleway have been cleared.

### 5.7 Any other reports

None

## 6. Update on Bus Proposal

The Council received an update on trial bus service, ways to extend this service are being investigated including potentially the Slinky Bus.

## 7. Freecycling Location in the Village

Following discussion, it was agreed to trial a freecycle table outside at the Farmers Market as a potential solution to the issue of parishioners using the bus shelter for excess/unwanted goods

## 8. Finance

### 8.1 Bank Reconciliation

The Council approved the bank reconciliation

### 8.2 Schedule of Cheques

The Council approved the Schedule of Cheques as follows:

Summary of Payments Due						
To pay:						
Clerks wages	8 September to 2 November	473.60				11.84 x 8weeks x 5 hr
Clerks expenses	wreaths	79.96				
	stamps (8 x 2nd)	6.00	559.56			
Chairs expenses	website (50% to be reclaimed from VH)	108.00				
Parsons Landscaping			1133.32			inv 17085
Somerset Council			31.52			inv 30031401
SALC			169.15			inv 2507
Baptist Church			95.00			
St Johns			250.00			
Cheques to pay:			2346.55			

### 8.3 Summary of Financial Year to date

The Council reviewed the Summary of Financial Year to date and Forecast Full Year vs Budget

## 9. Agenda Items for next meeting

It was agreed to add the bus, budget, casual vacancy and village tidy to the agenda for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

8<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Signed: ..... Dated.....

To be signed by the Chair at the next meeting (Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024):

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

8<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Signed: ..... Dated.....