

# HATCH BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Hatch Beauchamp Parish Council held on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.00pm by Zoom video conference**

**Present:-** Ms Christine Scott (Chair), Mrs Caroline Noble, Ms Kate Rufus, Mrs Pippa Fowler, Mr Eddie Reid, Mr David Graham, Mr Tony Murphy

**Members absent :-** None

**Apologies:-** Mr Tony Murphy

**In Attendance:-** Ms Chadwick as Clerk, Mrs Donna Davies, Cllr Ross Henley, Cllr John Thorne, Ms Alison Handel, Mr Kevin Comer

## **Public Forum**

Mr Thorne and Mr Henley presented their reports. Mr Henleys's report noted that the contribution and participation at the Station Road appeal meeting did us proud. There were no questions.

### **1 Apologies**

There were no apologies. The resignations of Mr Goddard and Mr Elliott since the previous ordinary meeting were noted.

### **2 Declarations of interest**

None

### **3 Minutes**

The minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> December were passed unanimously

### **4 Casual Vacancy**

As there were no requests to Somerset West and Taunton for an election it was agreed to co-opt candidates to fill the vacancies. Two candidates had put their name forward for co-option to the Parish Council and had gave a short presentation explaining what they could offer to the Council and the community. Following a vote, Mr Comer and Ms Handel were elected unanimously. Ms Handel and Mr Comer agreed the declaration to accept office, which will be collected by the Proper Officer. Mr Comer declared that he was also on the Village Hall Committee.

### **5 Village Shop Update**

A meeting was held with the trustees of the village hall on 22<sup>nd</sup> December to discuss a potential shop in the snooker room. This has been agreed in principle by the Village Hall Committee but with conditions. It was agreed that a separate building would be the long term solution, ideally at the VH site. The funding application was submitted on 11<sup>th</sup> January and temporary building solutions are being investigated. The Village Shop committee will continue to meet regularly. The next steps are contingent on funding.

13<sup>th</sup> January 2021

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

## **6. Group Reports**

### **6.1 Community Car Scheme**

There have been two journeys since the last meeting. The Car Scheme remains open for essential journeys with suitable Covid precautions.

### **6.2 Improving Living**

The walking group remains suspended due to Covid. It was agreed to pay £65 from the existing funds for a years subscription to the Ramblers Association. The potential of restarting the "Adopt a Path" Scheme was discussed,

### **6.3 A358**

Taylor Woodrow have been appointed.

## **7. Planning**

### **7.1 Station Road Update**

The appeal meeting was heard on 17<sup>th</sup> December and we await the result.

## **8. Neighbourhood Plan Update**

The Parish Clerk reported that Ann Rhodes, Strategy Specialist (Strategy & Planning Policy) for Somerset West and Taunton Council confirmed on the 10th December that the Neighbourhood Plan Area for the Hatch Beauchamp Neighbourhood Plan has been designated and will be published on their website. A locality grant can now be applied for.

## **9. 2021/22 Budget and Precept**

The Council considered the proposed budget circulated with the agenda. It was agreed to leave the grass cutting payment for the Village Hall at £1100 and ask for further quotes to be sought. Parish Clerk to enquire of Somerset West and Taunton for an increase in the grant for grasscutting and burial grounds. It was agreed to add £75 to the budget for supporting Citizens Advice Bureau and £20 for the Remembrance wreath.

A reduction in the annual precept from £6500 to £5700 was proposed and a vote held. 8 Councillors were for and 2 against. Thus the 2021/22 precept was agreed at £5700. The Parish Clerk to circulate a final budget to Councillors and submit the precept demand to Somerset West and Taunton.

## **10. Formal appointment of Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer**

The appointment of Helen Chadwick as Parish Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer was ratified.

## **11. Finance**

### **11.1 Bank Reconciliation**

The Council agreed the bank reconciliations.

13<sup>th</sup> January 2021

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

**11.2 Schedule of Cheques**

The Council approved the Schedule of Cheques. Mrs Noble to supply the final figure for the Parish Christmas card. It was agreed to purchase an annual Zoom subscription as there is a 30% discount available until the end of January. Parish Clerk to action.

**12. Banking arrangements and signatories**

It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should investigate opening a new bank account with Lloyds Bank and appoint Christine Scott as signatory plus a fourth signatory in due course.

**13. Parish meeting date**

A date of the 22<sup>nd</sup> May was agreed for the Parish Meeting and 10<sup>th</sup> March for the next Parish Council meeting.

**14. Agenda Items for next meeting**

It was agreed that footpaths, the parish website and the Christmas Tree would be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

<p>To be signed by the Chair at the next meeting (Wednesday, 10th March 2021):</p> <p>The minutes reflect an accurate record of events subject to any amendments listed below.</p> <p>Signed:</p> <p>Print Name:</p> <p>Date:</p>
<p>Amendments:</p>

Produced by:  
**Helen Chadwick**, Clerk  
hatchbeauchamp.pc@gmail.com

13<sup>th</sup> January 2021  
Signed:..... Dated.....