

- 23/24/ 171 **PRESENT** - Cllrs Heale (in the Chair), Welch, Vine and Gowing.
- 23/24/ 172 **APOLOGIES** - were received and approved from Cllr Gilbert and SCllr Martin.
- 23/24/ 173 **ALSO PRESENT** - 7 members of the public.
- 23/24/ 174 **IN ATTENDANCE** - The Clerk to the Council.
- 23/24/ 175 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - none declared.
- 23/24/ 176 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** - were confirmed and signed.
- 23/24/ 177 **UPDATES ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND NOT LISTED** - none.
- 23/24/ 178 **SOMERSET COUNCILLORS' REPORTS, SOMERSET COUNCIL FINANCES, LCN** -
in the absence of SCllr Martin Cllr Welch gave an update on our LCN.
- 23/24/ 179 **HIGHWAYS**
- a. Any updates -
- i. SID poles, Broadway signage, Broadmead Lane unsuitable for HGVs and outstanding issues
- The correct SID poles have now been installed. We are awaiting help from an outside source who is temporarily unavailable. It is understood that the other matters will be dealt with in due course.
 - ii. Pothole outside Holywell House - this is now in a diabolical state. The Clerk would tell Highways and the public were urged to report it on line.
 - iii. Burtle signpost at junction of chandlers Lane and Holywell Road - in progress.
 - iv. Safety of horse riders - a member of the public now felt that this matter should concentrate on pedestrians. Two possible routes from Chilton Polden, through Edington, to Catcott were possibilities. It is understood that the Lutrell Trust is the landowner who would need to be consulted with.
 - v. Holywell Road/Chandlers Lane water problems - Cllr Gilbert was not present to update the meeting.
 - vi. Road edge on Nidon Lane - the floods had washed away the bank at one point leaving the tarmac edge of the road unsupported. The Drainage Board had been notified of the tree blocking the watercourse and Highways had been notified of the dangerous state of the road. Nothing had so far happened and the Clerk would chase this up again.
- b. Flooding and flood prevention - residents from Chandlers Lane who had been affected by flooding were at the meeting and a letter had also been received via email and forwarded on to all councillors. It was agreed that the main problem was the blocked drain at the entrance to Burnt House Farm which needs to be cleared to allow the water to continue on its rightful course. The Clerk had ascertained that where there is a property with a ditch, drain or culvert, whether piped or open then the riparian owner is responsible for keeping that waterway clear of obstruction and free running if the highway is on the other side of the ditch. The Clerk would contact the owner in an effort to get the problem solved before more damage to other properties occurs. Some idea of the costs involved in setting up a working party had now been obtained. It was agreed to accept the kind offer of a lorry body for the storage of equipment. The purchase of equipment and materials would be an ongoing matter but would start with sandbags. A working party would need to have an organiser.
- c. Problems arising and any other highway matters - the Clerk would again ask for the drains to be cleared. She would ask Highways to jet at the Burnt House Farm culvert. The Clerk has written

twice to Highways letting them know that the No Through Road sign at the Redlands junction needs reinstating.

23/24/ 180 **PLANNING -**

- a. 26/22/00003 & 26/22/00005 - Full application and listed building application - erection of dwelling with works to existing gardener's hut at the Walled Garden, Broadmead Lane - no update
- b. 26/23/00007 - Cert of Lawfulness at Hampden, Broadway - no update.
- c. 26/23/00009 The Elms, Holywell Road - erection to South elevation on site of existing conservatory. New wall to existing East elevation porch - no update.
- d. Any other planning matters - none.

23/24/ 181 **RIGHTS OF WAY, FOOTPATHS - no update.**

23/24/ 182 **DEFIBRILLATOR - the addition of a critical bleed kit had been suggested.**

23/24/ 183 **VILLAGE CLEAN-UP -** It was agreed that the Clerk would produce a leaflet. Meet at Holywell House at 10:00am on Sunday 25th February. Cllr Vine would look into the provision of equipment and bags. The Clerk would see if insurance will now allow older and younger people to participate.

23/24/ 184 **MEMORIAL LAND (Brian's Patch) -** The Clerk had not written to Mr Kennedy over the holiday period but would do so shortly.

23/24/ 185 **COMMEMORATIVE BENCH -** Cllr Vine reported that a purchased plinth would cost about £330 plus VAT for a 3m x 2m concrete base. A smaller footprint would result in less cost.

23/24/ 186 **FINANCE**

- a. Accounts - The Clerk had been able to update the accounts to include payments to be made this month. The accounts were approved.
- b. Cheques for signature - were approved as follows:-
- c. Bank mandate - The Clerk had written to Nat West and spoken to the internal auditor and other clerks. She would continue to look into the matter of internet banking.
- d. Set the Precept - Following discussion it was agreed to set the precept at £10,000 which it is hoped will enable some of the services which County are threatening to drop to continue under parish authority.
- e. Any other finance matters - none.

23/24/ 187 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, CIRCULATION, DISTRIBUTION - none.**

23/24/ 188 **URGENT CORRESPONDENCE - none.**

23/24/ 189 **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING(S) - Code of Conduct.**

23/24/ 190 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING -** Thursday 8th February 2024 in Edington School Room at 7.15pm

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed by Cllr Heale on 8th February 2024