

- 23/24/ 134 **PRESENT** - Cllrs Heale (in the Chair), Gilbert, Welch, Vine and Gowing. The Clerk asked all councillors to let her know what details of theirs they would be happy to have put on the website. She also asked if everyone was happy to receive agendas via email. They all confirmed they were happy with this.
- 23/24/ 135 **APOLOGIES** - were received and approved from SCllr Martin.
- 23/24/ 136 **ALSO PRESENT** - 4 members of the public
- 23/24/ 137 **IN ATTENDANCE** - The Clerk to the Council.
- 23/24/ 138 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - Cllr Vine declared an interest in planning at Elms Close as he is a neighbour.
- 23/24/ 139 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** - were confirmed and signed.
- 23/24/ 140 **UPDATES ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND NOT LISTED** - none.
- 23/24/ 141 **SOMERSET COUNCILLORS' REPORTS, SOMERSET COUNCIL FINANCES, LCN** - The Clerk reported on SCllr Martin's report to the Catcott meeting. Because of Somerset Council's financial situation there are some significant changes in the offing. In general discussion the following emerged. The Council is now chasing non payers for rates. Parishes are likely to become responsible for footpaths.
- 23/24/ 142 **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. Cllr Heale has contacted an authorised person who has agreed to help install the equipment on the poles and other help is available if required to get the system up and running. With regard to Broadway signage it was agreed that the signs from Chilton Polden into Edington would read simply "No footway". The signs from Edington towards Chilton Polden should read "No footway for 400 yards". There is also a no through road sign at the end of Redlands which needs reinstating as it is lying on the ground.
  - ii. Pothole outside Holywell House - this is still worsening. And another pothole was again reported further along the road.
  - iii. Burtle signpost at junction of chandlers Lane and Holywell Road - no update.
  - iv. Safety of horse riders - no update.
  - v. Holywell Road/Chandlers Lane water problems - Cllr Gilbert reported on her liaison with both Wessex Water and BT. WW need to lift the BT manhole so that dye can be added so to enable establishing whether the water from here is coming up through the road or if that is coming from somewhere else. It is hoped that a soakaway will be installed as well.
- b. Flooding and flood prevention - Following discussion it was agreed that it would be good to have a certain amount of emergency flood equipment in the village. It was agreed that, to start with, two road closed signs and a quantity of sandbags should be purchased. Everything could be stored in a lockable shed somewhere. Other items such as hi viz gear and shovels could also be included. A leaflet drop would be undertaken to ask for people to join a working party and Cllr Heale would get the undergrowth flailed back round the Holy Well corners. All drains and ditches need clearing and regular maintenance throughout the village.
- c. Grit bins - the two new grit bins are now in situ at the bus stop by the crossroads and the bend in Holywell Road by Chandlers Lane.
- d. Problems arising and any other highway matters - part of a wall has collapsed along the Broadway. Cllr Vine would see to this. Some road markers are missing along Holywell Road. There is a fallen tree in the ditch south of Nidon Bridge. This has been reported to Highways several times as needing urgent attention. It was also reported to the drainage board.
- 23/24/ 143 **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. **PRESENT** - Cllr Vine left the room as he had declared an interest.
- d. 26/23/00009 The Elms, Holywell Road - erection to South elevation on site of existing conservatory. New wall to existing East elevation porch - it was agreed to support this application.
- e. **PRESENT** - Cllr Vine returned to the meeting.
- f. Any other planning matters - none.
- 23/24/ 144 **RIGHTS OF WAY, FOOTPATHS** - Mr Olive had let the Chairman know there was nothing to report.
- 23/24/ 145 **DEFIBRILLATOR** - Cllr Gilbert is still doing research regarding the monitoring of the device.
- 23/24/ 146 **SALC AGM** - A report given by Cllr Barnett from Catcott had been incorporated into minute 141.
- 23/24/ 147 **NIDON LAND** - It was agreed that this should be called The Brian Tilbury Memorial Ground from now on (BTMG). There was lengthy discussion regarding the original letter of intent and its problems. The unkempt condition of the ground between the gateway and our own trees was a matter of concern. It was finally agreed that the Clerk should write to Mr Kennedy asking that he arrange for two or three swathes to be cut between the gateway and our trees on an annual basis.
- 23/24/ 148 **COMMEMORATIVE BENCH** - Some suggested wooden benches were looked at and Cllr Gilbert would do further research. It was agreed that the bench should be called "Brian's Bench" and that the wording should be engraved into the back of the bench. It is anticipated that it will cost around £600.
- 23/24/ 149 **FINANCE**
- a. Accounts - The Clerk had been able to update the accounts to include payments to be made this month. This will give the most up to date figures possible prior to precept setting. The accounts and latest bank statements had been emailed to all councillors and hard copies were handed out at the meeting. The accounts were approved.
- b. Cheques for signature - were approved as follows:- Chq.1010 Marshall (salary and expenses) £384.75; Chq.1011 Barnetts Dairy (Christmas tree) £50.00; Chq.1012 Somerset Council (dog waste bin emptying) £167.23. The supply of the new grit bins and grit at approximately £351.70 was also approved for chq.1013.
- c. Bank mandate - It was agreed that Cllr Vine be added as a signature with immediate effect. Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should look into ways to achieve internet banking prior to submitting a new mandate.
- d. Any other finance matters - the Catcott and Edington poppy appeal had raised £1,52.86.
- 23/24/ 150 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, CIRCULATION, DISTRIBUTION** - Consultation on Somerset Council budget setting; upcoming changes to refuse and recycling changes.
- 23/24/ 151 **URGENT CORRESPONDENCE** - none.
- 23/24/ 152 **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING(S)** - Village cleanup; Precept; Fibre broadband to the premises; Code of Conduct.
- 23/24/ 153 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024 in Edington School Room at 7.15pm  
The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed by Cllr Heale on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024