

- 24/25/ 75 **PRESENT** - Cllrs Gilbert (in the Chair), Gowing, Heale, Welch and Vine.
- 24/25/ 76 **APOLOGIES** - none received.
- 24/25/ 77 **ALSO PRESENT** - 2 members of the public.
- 24/25/ 78 **IN ATTENDANCE** - The Clerk to the Council.
- 24/25/ 79 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - none declared.
- 24/25/ 80 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** - confirmed and signed.
- 24/25/ 81 **UPDATES ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND NOT LISTED** - none.
- 24/25/ 82 **SOMERSET COUNCILLORS' & LCN REPORTS** - neither Somerset Councillor present. Cllr Welch reported on the LCN. The last meeting was poorly attended. About 20 present. About half of those were staff. New Chair is Bryan Knickerbocker from Street. Vice-chairs are Steve Page from Somerton and Chris Bennett from Meare. There is a lack of impetus. Agreed to hold quarterly meetings focussing on five ideas. Let Julie know any ideas for forwarding on. Somerset Council communication and Gravity groups are possible ideas.
- 24/25/ 83 **HIGHWAYS**
- a. SID - Clerk reported that there is a possibility of places in a Bridgwater Council group. She has made enquiries. Agreed that two representatives from Edington attend whenever something can be arranged.
 - b. Any updates
 - i. Holywell Road/Chandlers Lane water problems - Cllr Gilbert reported still no progress.
 - ii. Any other updates - Following information received that there would be no work other than essential work carried out over the coming year there were no other updates.
 - c. Nidon Lane - Still no progress but Clerk to chase again as it is a safety matter. Find out if it will take place in this financial year.
 - d. Problems arising and any other highway matters - Clerk to include item in Polden Post regarding riparian responsibilities for ditches to be cleared, hedges and verges to be cut for visibility. Copy to Chairman for inclusion on Facebook page.
- 24/25/ 84 **PLANNING** -
- a. 26/23/00007 - Hampden, Broadway - parking problems - the Clerk had written to two addresses but the problem still persisted. Cllr Vine would visit the property in an effort to get the problem brought under control.
 - b. Any other planning matters - none.
- 24/25/ 85 **FOOTPATHS** - no update.
- 24/25/ 86 **DEFIBRILLATOR/CRITICAL BLEED KIT** - Clerk reported that Catcott had paid half the cost to date but the bank had incorrectly processed the cheque by 3p. Electricians are being contacted to enable the electricity box to be moved and the bleed kit to be installed.
- 24/25/ 87 **WORKING PARTY** - a list of jobs would be made, including verge/ditch clearance and finger post refurbishment.
- 24/25/ 88 **TRAINING** - Cllr Gilbert had received the Code of Conduct slides from her training. Cllr Gowing had received the slides from the training she was supposed to attend but had never received a link to join the training.

- 24/25/ 89 **BTMG (BRIAN TILBURY MEMORIAL GROUND)** - Following discussion it was agreed that Cllr Welch would go to see Mr Kennedy with a view to getting as much information as possible and finding out about grants.
- 24/25/ 90 **HOLY WELL AND COMMEMORATIVE SEAT** - It was proposed that a sub committee be set up for the BTMG and the Holy Well site. The Clerk advised that a sub committee required a parent committee and that any committee or sub committee would require properly advertised agendas, minutes and be open to the public. A working party would be better suited. To be discussed again.
- 24/25/ 91 **WEBSITE** - The Clerk has now included the main items previously missing and has also put a few photos up. She would like to include more photos with captions as and when she is able to do so.
- 24/25/ 92 **REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL COUNCILLORS** - following discussion the Clerk was instructed to ask Somerset for permission to have seven instead of five councillors.
- 24/25/ 93 **GARDENING COMPETITIONS** - it was agreed to reinstate the hanging baskets competition to include planted tubs. The addition to be added to the engraving on the existing cup. It was also agreed to start a children's competition for the tallest sunflower with a small prize for the winner to keep.
- 24/25/ 94 **FINANCE**
 - a. Accounts - The Clerk provided copies of the accounts and bank statements. These were approved.
 - b. Cheques for signature - Chq.035 J Marshall (Salary & expenses) £377.3; Chq.036 CPRE (subscription) £40.00; Chq.037 Somerset Council (dog waste collection) £157.87; Chq038 Edington School Room (hire of room for meetings) £220.00; Chq.039 J Marshall (back dated pay rise) £381.34.
 - c. Bank mandate - This had met a snag. The Clerk would restart the process once the required time lapse had passed.
 - d. Any other finance matters - VAT of £199.38 has been received. Stephen Fry had written on behalf of the Village Hall to thank the Council for the solar panels and the grant towards churchyard maintenance.
- 24/25/ 95 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, CIRCULATION, DISTRIBUTION** - CPRE and C&CD.
- 24/25/ 96 **URGENT CORRESPONDENCE** - none.
- 24/25/ 97 **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING(S)** - setting up of committees, sub committees, working parties; Review Standing Orders last updated 2020 (the current ones are the latest version approved by NALC).
- 24/25/ 98 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Thursday 12th September 2024 in Edington School Room at 7.15pm.
- 24/25/ 99 **RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC** in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.
- 24/25/ 100 **MATTERS RELATING TO THE CLERK'S EMPLOYMENT** - following discussion it was proposed by Cllr Vine, seconded by Cllr Gilbert and unanimously agreed to award the Clerk the back dated salary increase for the back dated period April 2023-July 2024 advised in line with NALC/SLCC and the Clerk's contract. It was also agreed to increase her hours to six per week from August.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.