**Corston Parish Council**

**Minutes of Council Meeting 15th September 2021**

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| **Information or Decision** | **Item & Decision Required** | **Lead** |
| Information | **1. The Chairman** opened the meeting at 7.02 pm and welcomed everyone. | JB |
| Information | **2. Councillors present** John Bravin, (JB), John Twist (JT), Susan Charles (SC), Katharine Evans (KE) , Georgina Wynne (GW) and clerk Alan Jenner (AJ) | AJ |
| Information | **3. Apologies for absence received** from Richard Blows for family reasons, Gary Breckon for work reasons and Duncan Hounsell for attending a BANES meeting. Council resolved to accept apologies of all three as acceptable reasons for non-attendance. | AJ |
| Information | **4. Parishioners in attendance** Lindy Leahy and Kevin Shephard (who joined at 7.10pm) | AJ |
| Information | **5. Declaration of Councillor’s personal interests in the Agenda items and Parish Council business**  None | JB |
| Decision | **6. The Minutes of the Corston Parish Council meeting 14.07.2021 were approved and signed by the Chairman** | JB |
| Information | **7. Matters Arising from the minutes not covered in the agenda**  Clerk had circulated a written report in advance of the meeting.  **7.1 Report on conditions of roads.**  AJ has written to Highways requesting a meeting and will report back with the reply. There is a further dip in the road now on Corston Lane opposite where cars park, close to the junction with the A4.  **7.2 Computer check by JB.**  JB has done this and thank you for his work. No problems encountered and no viruses found. Computer has been cleaned up. System for back up including off site back up initiated. AJ handed back up memory stick to JB with contents of One Drive saved this afternoon.  **7.3 Oak Bench in Village.**  Clerk will action this purchase. Family are prepared to contribute £300 to the purchase price.  **7.4 Tree in Valley Field in memory of Raymond John Stevens.** This is being progressed and need no longer be an item on the Agenda for future meetings.  **7.5 New Bank account**  Mandate signed by RB and GB and filed with Bank who will action new account with simultaneous transfer over of all DD.  **7.6 Additional 999 sign for Defib**  Type sourced by AJ from Community Heartbeat and will be purchased.  **7.7 Update on meeting with BANES and Nick Mould of Duchy re recreation ground concerning drain blockage**  Daniel Parr of BANES has indicated the survey team will attend likely week of 27th September for one day in the Rec alternatively the 1st November. AJ to email him to establish which day and also mention that access via Lower Farm Lane may be easier than Meadlands for the vehicle. Replacement of goal on hold until this matter is resolved.  **7.8 Private celebration in the Recreation Ground in August**  No problem reported. | JB |
| Information | **8. Saltford Ward Councillor’s Report**  DH report has been circulated and can be emailed to any Parishioners who would like a copy.  Council noted that Ward Councillors have put forward Corston Lane as their number 1 priority in their ward for road repairs. | DH |
| Information | **9. Community Led Housing Project update**  Lindy indicated that a housing needs survey supported by BANES had been completed which showed a local need for 10-14 homes. There will be discussions now with the Duchy to establish their response to the survey results. | KE |
| Information  Decisions      Information | **10. Clerk's Report**  10.1 AGAR advertised and no questions raised by parishioners.. Filed with external auditors who have made no observations. AJ said accounts to 31.03.2021 are now ~~close~~..closed.  10.2 Financial Position as at 14.09.2021 and budget report. Cash ledger as at 31.08.2021 had been circulated prior to the meeting. With the transfer from the Parish Council bank account of the £1,000 Ward Councillor’s Empowerment Grant to the Corston Community Orchard CIC bank account, the Parish Council’s balance as at 15.09.2021 is approximately £11,100. Purchase of the oak bench will be a non-budget item when it occurs and will come from cash reserves. No other budgetary issues to report.  It was agreed that AJ will provide to JT by second week of October the paper copies of the expenditure shown in the cash register with the half-year reconciliation of cash ledger and bank account to 30.09.2021. JT is a non-mandated Councillor and is part of the internal controls of Finance of CPC.  10.3 The overgrown Slip footpath hedges have received a rudimentary cut back by BANES following a request by a Parishioner. AJ to speak to Curo to explain the situation and request a further cut to complete the hedging including reduction of height.  10.4 Update on order for notices on dog bins. AJ will chase for quote and action.  10.5 Update on reopening the footpaths under the railway near the River Avon. AJ has emailed BANES for update. Longstop date for diversion of pathways ends March 2022.. JB reported some of the paths reopened.  **Decisions Required**  10.6 Governance Documents and Policies resolved to continue unaltered from this meeting until September 2022 meeting with one amendment to Financial Regulations reducing amount of expenditure to £5,000 from £25,000 in the discretion of Council to incur without three tenders being sought. AJ to file document on website recording the resolution to be put with the governance documents.  10.7 Council resolved to approve expenditure incurred since last meeting in cash ledger items 31 and 34-38 inclusive.  10.8 Council considered social media other than the website and GW will discuss setting up a Corston Community  Facebook page which the Parish Council might contribute to but not be responsible for. Clerk to email organisations in the village to assess support for this social media.  10.9. AJ made a safety inspection in the village on September 6th and will make one once a month and keep a record. It was found that erdankers on tables in thechildren’s playground damaged due to forced movement of tables. JT is speaking to Colin re fixing those brackets which are damaged.  Catch on gate to playground bent and Colin will repair.  Three of the old tables relocated to Valley Fields are in disrepair and need immediate scrapping. Colin investigating dismantling these three and removal.  Purchase of three or four new tables with erdankers to be included in the draft budget for approval by Council for the year 2022/23. Estimated figure around £1,000-£1200.  10.10 BANES consultation opened on 27th August and ends 7th October on Local plan update on climate change and also on two policies of Energy Efficiency retro fitting and Transport and Development SPD. Council discussed these documents but considered it did not need to comment on them to BANES.  10.11 AJ will sort out with EDF a smart meter fitting for the Pavilion.  **10.12 Update on Planning Application 21/03742/NMA the Malthouse**  Approved by BANES  **10.13 Update on Planning Application 21/02521/FUL Ashton Hill**  Pending consideration by BANES  **10.13 a added to the Agenda at JB discretion.**  **Planning application 21/04047/FUL Drylease Bath Road Saltford Bristol -installation of balcony to main bedroom applicant Paul Mallon-** no objection by Council**.**  **10.3.b added to the Agenda at JB discretion**  **Planning Application 21/03951/FUK 1 Shorts Cottage Wells Road Corston- erection of garden room extension following demolition of existing single storey timber conservatory. Applicants Ms S Kupta and Mr T Verity.** -no objection by Council.  Clerk to notify planning authority of Council’s decision on above two applications.  10.14 Cross Bow incident in Churchyard. No further action needed by Parish Council. | AJ |
| Information | **11. Village Concerns**  AJ to contact Wessex to pass on concerns of Council members of possible contamination to the Brook evident by white sediment especially by bridge over A39.  Post meeting note: Wessex Water have tested the brook in several locations and confirmed there are no signs of ammonia, nitrate or phosphate pollution. The water flow is currently very low due to silt removal in the upper lake at Newton St Loe.  Council agreed to purchase child protective barriers to entrance to recreation ground from Meadlands in addition to the renewal of the post in ground and Council members will email clerk details of the preferred type to be purchased.  Council thanked SC for looking into this matter and sourcing possible types of barrier gates.  AJ to approach BANES Highways to investigate improved signage on the road surface in Meadlands to encourage and reinforce adherence to the speed limit. This would comprise two 20 (in a circle), signs, one between the Corston Lane tee junction and the entrance to Cottonmead and one at the lower end of Meadlands between the exit from the car parking spaces and the Slip footpath barrier. Also, a triangle showing presence of children immediately outside the entrance to the recreation ground.  Parking in Corston Lane to be an item on the Agenda for the November meeting. | SC |
| Information | **12. Review of meetings attended by Councillors & future diary dates.**  Nothing to report of note. | JB |
| Information | **13. Future meetings and agenda items:**  Wednesday 10th November 2021  Wednesday 12th January 2022  Wednesday 9th March 2022  Wednesday 11th May 2022  Wednesday 13th July 2022  Meeting closed by JB at 9.47pm. |  |
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