

BROADWAY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Broadway Parish Council held in Broadway Village Hall on Tuesday 3rd September 2024 at 7.30pm

965. Attendance and Apologies:

Present: Cllrs Neate, Champion, Toms, Preece, Frayne, Jones and Wilkins; Mrs Larsson (Clerk)
Apologies: Somerset Council Cllr Osborne

966. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations: None.

967. Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July 2024

Minutes were approved unanimously by Councillors as a true record of the previous meeting.

968. Planning Applications

- a. Amended Plans / Additional Information - 24/00153/FUL: Land OS 8332 Paulls Lane Broadway Ilminster Somerset TA19 9RB - Change of the use of the land to residential for the erection of 3 dwellings, including access arrangements, new pedestrian footway, landscaping and associated works. Amended site plan with associated vehicle tracking.

The applicant and their agent attended to present information and answer questions on the revisions to the application. Councillors discussed the proposed revisions but felt the introduction of a single passing place did not sufficiently address concerns with regards to access and visibility at the junction of Broadway Road or pedestrian/cyclist safety. Concerns were also raised regarding increased traffic and lack of turning when the ford becomes impassable. A number of possible options were discussed briefly with the applicant and their agent but these will need further investigation before the Council could provide their comments. On this basis, the council RESOLVED to request deferral of submission of comments to SC Planning, pending further discussion with the applicant and their agent on possible measures to mitigate concerns raised. The applicant and their agent were agreeable to this approach.

The Council's full responses to all planning applications are available to view against the respective applications on the Somerset Council planning portal [Link to Somerset Council planning portal](#)

969. Accounts and Financial Information

- a. Financial statement to 31/8/24: RESOLVED to approve the financial statement. The reconciliation with latest bank statements was also checked and signed by Cllr Toms.
- b. Budget 2024/25: The Clerk advised that following a review of the current budget position and anticipated costs, the operational budget is expected to be close to the forecasted budget figures.
- c. Payments requiring authorisation:

The Council RESOLVED to authorise the following payments:

Clerk salary & PAYE to 31/8/24 (restricted information under GDPR)	
Grass cutting	£ 1008.00
Somerset Association of Local Councils membership	£ 246.53
Play park hedge cutting	£ 510.00
Footpath bridge repair	£ 45.00

970. Speed Indicator Device (SID)

Cllr Preece advised that the locations for devices has been approved by SC Traffic Management. Councillors were in agreement that introduction of a SID would be apposite step in addressing speeding through the village and that data generated from a device would be beneficial should other traffic calming measures be considered in the future. Following research and recommendations from other parishes and towns, the Council RESOLVED to obtain a final quote from Elan City for provision of a device with solar battery. The Clerk will obtain the final costs for review at the next meeting.

971. Noticeboards

Addition of notice boards was considered but after discussion and considering the costs, councillors did not feel that additional notice boards were necessary, with those located at the bus stop and Standerwick Orchard being prominently positioned.

972. Parish Volunteering

Councillors were keen for members of the community to become involved in helping maintain the village with tasks like litter picking, sign cleaning and light weeding/clearing of shared areas. It was agreed to organise a community volunteering morning on Saturday 28th September from 8am until approximately 11am, meeting at Standerwick Orchard.

973. Verge Maintenance

A local farmer has been carrying out verge cutting at no charge to the parish. They have confirmed they are happy to continue to do this as a contribution to the upkeep of the village and Councillors expressed their thanks for this which will be passed on to them directly.

974. Standerwick Orchard Hedges

Cllr Neate had inspected the hedges in advance of the meeting and Councillors agreed that they need attending to. The Council's appointed contractor has been asked to carry out a site visit to assess exact works that are required.

975. Kier Enhanced Highway Service (via Somerset Council)

Councillors discussed the scheme, which provide a 2-operative team and equipped vehicle for general works which could include roadside drain clearing, verge maintenance and small road repairs which do not qualify under the highways statutory service provision. Councillors agreed that they were interested in the more specialist services such as drain clearing and jetting to complement the statutory provision and Cllr Neate was obtaining costs for this. The general service will be considered if the need arises.

976. Grant Policy

A draft policy was circulated to councillors in advance of the meeting for review. The purpose of introducing a policy is to ensure a fair and consistent approach to awarding grants and donations, where it is within the Council's powers to do so.

Councillors RESOLVED to adopt the policy, which will be made available on the website.

977. General Updates and Actions

- a. Local Community Network: Upcoming meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th September. More information can be found at the following link: <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/local-community-networks/>
- b. Highways: Cllr Neate met with SC Highways to look at gulleys/drains and some remedial work needed to the road edge near Vardens Pond. The remedials on the highway by Vardens Pond have subsequently been repaired, although there are still some ditches along the edges which highways are not responsible for. Blocked drains have been identified, but action to remedy is constrained by lack of highways budget. The Parish Council will monitor and work with highways for solutions.
Cllr Frayne advised that bridge works are expected to take place on Suggs Lane during 2025 which will involve road closure. This is likely to be following some drainage works (see below).
- c. Flooding: Cllr Frayne reported there are upcoming works on Suggs Lane to address drainage issues. These are anticipated to start in late Spring 2025 and will involve road closure.
- d. Village Maintenance: The works to refurbish the phone box have started. Volunteer day is being arranged as per minute 960.
- e. Rights of Way: Broken slat on one of the footbridges was repaired. Cllr Preece is reporting issues to Somerset Council as they are identified. Residents can report issues direct to Somerset Council using the following reporting tool: <https://roam.somerset.gov.uk/roam/map>
- f. Playpark: Nothing significant to report from the inspections. Quotations to be sought for servicing the roundabout.
- g. Community Group Updates: Horton & Broadway Cricket Club are raising funds for works to the club. The Scout group will be approached regarding assisting with volunteering around the village again.

978. Correspondence/Matters for Report

CLlr Toms advised the monthly defibrillator checks have been completed and the report sent. General correspondence and updates are circulated to councillors regularly. No significant items to report.

979. Items for the next meeting:

- a. Speed Indicator Device
- b. Standerwick Orchard hedge work quote

980. Date of next ordinary meeting: Tuesday 1st October 2024, 7.30pm at Broadway Village Hall.

Exempt Business: The meeting was closed to the public in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, due to the commercially sensitive nature of the business to be transacted.

981. Playpark Fencing

Councillors considered reviewed the revised quotations to ensure they were comparable and RESOLVED to accept the quote from Somerset Landscapes.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.46pm.

Signed

Date