**Broadway Parish Council**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Broadway Village Hall on 4th July 2023 at 7.30pm.

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**804 Attendance**: Councillors Gregory (Chairman), Preece, Champion, Frayne, Neate and Clerk Fiona Mckenzie. Cllr Sue Osbourne and 6 members of the public.

**805 Apologies**: Cllrs Toms and Driskell.

**806 Public participation:**

1. A resident of Standerwick Orchard raised the issue of overgrown hedges encroaching into her garden where there used to be narrow pathway behind her wall. She said that she was happy to trim herself if the council were happy for her to do so. The Council agreed they had no objection to this and would look into cutting the hedge back as a more permanent solution;
2. Another Standerwick Orchard resident enquired about the land around the attenuation pond on the management of which the Council had canvassed residents’ opinion last year. The Chairman advised there was little consistent response from residents at the time so the Council had agreed to leave the management of the area as it was.
3. Cllr Osborne reported on the first meeting of the Crewkerne and Ilminster Local Community Network and also advised the meeting of a possible waste service strike, talks on which are being caried out.

**807 Declarations of interests:** None.

**808 Approval of the minutes:** The Council approved the minutes from the meeting held on 6th June 2023 as a true record to be signed by the Chairman.

**809 Matters arising:**

1. A report had been received from the Environment Agency which confirmed that the Ding was not being polluted. The discolouration of the water was a natural phenomenon, probably related to the recent lack of rainfall;
2. Cllr Gregory had spoken with Richard Baker’s family to ask their consent for some sort of plaque as a memorial to Richard. The Council thought perhaps a tree would appropriate. The Baker family are to consider;
3. It was noted the resident on Broadway Road contacted by the Council had trimmed their hedge which was encroaching onto the highway.

**810 Planning:**

1. **19/03070/FUL: 28 houses behind the Bell Inn:** Introducing the discussion of this revised application, the Chairman said that the Council had to agree on its view of the amendments made by the applicant. He said that these had been discussed at a meeting between himself, the applicant’s agent and a Planning Department officer. He reminded the meeting that the principle of development of this site had already been established by the Planning Inspector’s decision in 2017 on an earlier application. The amended plans for the site now included, at the request of the Council, 24 parking spaces for villagers and visitors and improvements to the footpaths, especially to facilitate access to Neroche Primary School via Lamparts Lane. After a thorough discussion of all the issues involved, the Council **RESOLVED** to support the application on the basis of the amended plans, which now provided benefits to the village. However, the Council was particularly concerned about the impact on the village, especially Broadway Road near the proposed site, of the movement of construction traffic. It made a number of suggestions to alleviate this potential problem, including the provision of temporary off-street parking and consultation with the Parish Council on the transport management plan if consent were granted. The Chairman agreed to draft a response to the Planning Department, including all these suggestions;
2. **23/01091/FUL:** **4 glamping pods: Forest Mill Lane:** To note that the Council sent an objection to this application;
3. **Enforcement: 1 The Lane: T**he Council had not received an update on the separate garage and the quality of the stonework which had been requested of the Planning Department since the last meeting. Cllr Osborne offered to follow this up on the Council’s behalf.

**811 Engaging with the Village:** The Council discussed the usefulness, design and cost of its website and agreed that it was not fit for purpose. It agreed that this should be the subject of a review. Cllr Neate offered to conduct this and to report back later in the summer.

**812 Horton Speed Indicator Device (SID)**:

1. The Chairman reported that at a recent informal liaison meeting with the Chairman of Horton Parish Council he was asked if Broadway would have any objection to Horton Parish Council erecting a SID on the Broadway side of the bridge over the Ding on Pound Road. The Council agreed that this would be a sensible idea and asked the Chairman to confirm that to Horton PC;
2. He also reported that Horton have offered to loan a SID to Broadway Parish Council to test whether one would be of benefit in the village. The Council agreed to explore this idea and Cllr Preece undertook to discuss the idea with Horton Parish Council and report back.

**813 Councillors’ reports**: Cllr Gregory reported that, following discussions with the Parish Council, Somerset Council had improved footpaths CH2/1 and CH2/3 by replacing stiles with gates. The footbridge over the Ding below Hare Lane had also been reopened.

**814 Finance**:

1. Payments were approved for the Clerk’s salary chq 343 £284.84, HMRC chq 344 £35, Woodland Garden Services chq 345 £312;
2. The Council agreed to review in September how much of its remaining reserves of Standerwick Orchard commuted monies could be invested.

**815 Accounts** – The Council approved the accounts for 2022/23 and signed AGAR section 1.

**816 Accounts** – The Council approved and signed AGAR section 2 for the external auditors.

**817 Date of next meeting:** 5th September 2023.

Signed………………………………………………………

Date…………………………………………………………