

Minutes of the Kilmersdon Parish Council
held at Coles Garden Meeting Room
at 7:30 pm on Monday 3rd April 2017



PRESENT: Councillors, S Gibbs, D Hudson, A Joliffe, K Lewis and R Morse, County Cllr Harvey Siggs, Ward Cllr E Drewe and the Clerk.

The Clerk was present for around half an hour at the beginning of the meeting at which point he left with Councillor R Morse. Councillor Morse returned at 8:40 pm.

IN ATTENDANCE: One member of the public.

Min No

1. APOLOGIES:

503 Apologies were received from Cllr R Butt.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

504 There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES:

505 The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th March 2017 were approved and signed. The Clerk advised he would upload an electronic copy to the Parish Council website in the next two weeks. *Action: Clerk*

4. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

506 A member of the public advised that he would be standing in the forthcoming Council elections and outlined his background and ties to the local community.

507 The Parish Clerk advised that now he had returned to work he would be aiming to complete the Financial returns within the prescribed timescale and then would resign effective 31 July 2017. He would place a note in the Parish Bulletin inviting expressions of interest in the Kilmersdon Parish Clerk role. *Action: Clerk*

508 The Clerk suggested contacting SALC and SLCC for the position of Kilmerson Parish Clerk. *Action: D. Hudson*

509 County Cllr Harvey Siggs stated that after serving for 12 years, during which he had held the HR, Highways & Transport and Resources & Finance portfolios, he would not be seeking re-election. He highlighted that there was money available for small improvement schemes up to £50,000 e.g. a pedestrian crossing, footways, signage and each council can apply for two when the window opens. Donald Hudson will include in the summary for the Parish News. *Action: D. Hudson*

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510 Ward Cllr E Drewe advised that Mendip had increased council tax by 1.9% and have been authorised to borrow up to £40 million and are planning to build council houses to rent.

511 Cllr Drewe suggested contact existing BANES and Mendip Clerks for an expression of interest in the Kilmersdon position. *Action: D. Hudson*

5. 512 MATTERS ARISING:

The passwords had been obtained for the PC website but as the Clerk was starting back in role, it was agreed that he would undertake the uploads.

6. PLANNING MATTERS

513 Permission had been granted for 2017/0379/TCA, trimming of trees related to Kilmersdon Pumping Station.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

514 The Clerk had undertaken a bank reconciliation and provided a hard copy to each councillor.

515 Grant Thornton will now be conducting the external audit for 2016/2017 following negotiations with the Government over the final year of its five-year contract. The Clerk undertook to advise Grant Thornton that the Council may not meet its statutory dates because of the Clerk's absence. *Action: Clerk*

516 The electricity contract had increased from £132 to £149. This was felt to be the best that could be achieved with publicised rises and was agreed. The Clerk will complete a return confirming acceptance of the new rate. *Action: Clerk*

517 The sums of £526-76 for the Clerk's salary and £78 for SLCC subscription were approved.

8. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

518 The Clerk had been telephoned by Jeff Bunting from the Highways Department concerning overtaking on Kilmersdon Hill and had explained the problem.

519 The Clerk had contacted County Cllr Harvey Siggs with regards to the 30 mph sign at the eastern entrance to Kilmersdon and subsequently sent a note to Jeff Bunting to follow up on progress.

520 Cllr Harvey Siggs advised that before departing, he had targeted the provision of double white lines and relocating the speeding sign to the 'correct' position. *Action: Cllr H Siggs*

521 An improvement had been noted in Silver Street with some residents cutting back foliage. A. Joliffe had spoken with a non-resident owner and he had advised that he would travel down to look at his his plot. Cllr S Gibbs will advise property which has a particularly unruly hedge and Cllr D Hudson will write to that address. *Actions: S.Gibbs/D. Hudson*

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522 E. Drewe will raise the issue of Silver Street with Mendip and DH will include a reference in the Parish News. *Actions: E.Drewe/D. Hudson*

9. PLAYING FIELD:

523 The contractor had been contacted but not yet provided a price to repair the timber on the access to the slide on the small engine.

524 SJH Services will be asked about cleaning the black matting under the swings. *Action: R. Morse*

525 S. Gibbs had purchased 'Pick-it Up' signs to discourage dog fouling. The Chairman will install them through the village. *Action: R. Morse*

526 The PCSO had been contacted about the issue of dog fouling but advised that he could only act if pictures were provided.

10. LITTER AND MAINTENANCE:

526 A price had been obtained for a replacement second bin of £400 which the Council considered prohibitive. The Chairman would continue to explore alternatives including suggestion by E. Drewe to contact Somerset Waste Management. *Action: R. Morse*

11. FOOTPATHS:

527 The Clerk mentioned that £1,000 had been allocated for cleaning streams and an agreement had been made previously to take a further £1,000 from reserves. The subject would be considered later in the year when the ground was firmer and would enable vehicle access.

12. PCSO REPORT:

528 There was no report to discuss. It was noted that the next PCSO meeting would be held in Beckington.

13. CORRESPONDENCE:

529 A letter had been received from the Village Hall requesting the Playing field be used as an overflow car park for an event to be held there. It was agreed in principle that part of the field could be used if it could be controlled and R.Morse would discuss arrangements with the Village Hall. *Action: R. Morse*

530 A follow up response had been received by Frances Horler in respect of parking in the village Hall. A. Joliffe, in his capacity as Landlord, had advised on review of one of the leases, that "It seems unlikely that a prescriptive right to pass or park there will come about as the clause is drafted." The subject was discussed at the meeting and A. Joliffe had no objection to cars parking overnight and did not require the Parish Council to address the matter. A response would be sent incorporating the above. *Action: K. Lewis*

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14. MATTERS OF REPORT & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

531 Recruitment of a new Parish Clerk.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

532 **The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 8th May 2017 at 7.30pm in Coles Garden First Floor Meeting Room.**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9:35 pm.