

# Kilmersdon Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Weds 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30 pm**

*(These minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting)*

**In Attendance:** Councillors Lucas, Cook, Ham, Hudson, 1 members of the public, Cllr Robbins (SC) & the clerk.

<p><b>Apologies</b> none</p>	
<p><b><u>Election of Chair</u></b> – Following the resignation of Ken Hutton, Cllr ham was elected as chair for the remainder of the 2023-24 municipal year. Cllr Hudson was elected as vice-chair, the position being made vacant by Cllr Ham stepping up.</p>	
<p><b><u>Chair’s welcome and introduction – co-option of councillors</u></b> Cllr Ham thanked both Ken Hutton &amp; John Clayton, who have resigned as Parish Councillors, for their work with the PC. There are now 3 vacancies, all of which have been notified to Somerset Council electoral services. As there has been no petition for an election, these can now be filled by co-option. It was agreed that these will be advertised on the noticeboard, on the website as well as being included in the clerks report to the Parish News.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b><u>Dates of meetings 2024-25:</u></b> As Coles House will soon not be available for meetings, if planning consent is agreed, the clerk has approached the Village Hall to enquire about availability. Mondays are not available, so it was agreed to continue on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Weds of the month in the evening. The PC will move location when they get notice from the current landlord.</p>	
<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest by Councillors in items on the Agenda</u></b> None.</p>	
<p><b><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u></b> The minutes of October 2023 meeting were agreed as a correct record.</p>	
<p><b><u>Police &amp; Crime</u></b> There have been newsletters for the Avon &amp; Somerset PCC circulated. The local PCSO has been in touch, wanting to arrange to meet, to discuss local issues. The clerk will get in touch to identify some suitable dates &amp; times, then doodle poll councillors for an agreed date. Clerk is also to research the cost of installing a ‘smiley face’ speed camera, with a discussion about potential locations in the village.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b><u>Public Forum</u></b> A local resident updated about the campaign opposing the Persimmon Fossefield housing development, which could build up to 180 new houses. # Other local parish &amp; town councils who are affected are being contacted by the campaign group. This is one of a number of developments on the borders of Midsomer Norton &amp; Westfield, which are adding up to overdevelopment. # The landowner &amp; the previous campaign group, who launched the successful judicial review, have also been spoken to.  # Residents have been in touch about a broken sign at Jack &amp; Jill Hill. The clerk has informed SC, but councillors felt this may be a responsibility of the Ammerdown Estate. Clerk to contact.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b>          <b>Clerk</b></p>

<p><b><u>Councillors items</u></b></p> <p># The Lime trees in the village orchard need trimming &amp; are a responsibility of the Ammerdown Estate. Clerk to contact.</p> <p># There was a discussion about the siting of a memorial bench in the recreation area, as requested by a resident. The initial discussion at the PC some months ago suggested that a wood rather than a metal bench would be more appropriate, but the placing under a tree was agreed. Since then there has been family discussions as to whether under a tree will make a bench wet &amp; slimey. Cllr Ham to ask where discussions have got to.</p>	Clerk																																			
<p><b><u>District Councillor's report</u></b></p> <p># Cllr Robbins circulated a generic report from SCC.</p> <p># There was a discussion about planning decisions &amp; how PC comments on applications were not necessarily triggering a referral to the planning committee. Th upcoming Fossefield development will have to go to committee, but it appears that the officer recommendation will be to approve &amp; it is not clear if councillors will oppose that. Councillors expressed their concerns about the overall process.</p> <p># The financial position of Somerset Council is extremely worrying, there is currently a consultation underway, a referendum to increase council tax to over 5% may be a possibility.</p> <p># There will be some improvements to the road &amp; approach to Charlton Inn Cottage following a number of accidents. New bollards appear to be in place &amp; the broken chevrons are planned to be replaced by the end of this financial year.</p>	Clerk																																			
<p><b><u>Finance</u></b></p> <p># The financial report for December was approved.</p> <p># The clerk updated councillors as to progress with setting up online banking. It is now in place, but without the double signature safeguard in place. Clerk to investigate. Compensation of £250 has been paid.</p> <p># Draft budget for 2024-25 was discussed &amp; agreed in outline with some minor adjustments. The increase will be approx. 3%.</p> <p># Following payments were approved:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="228 1326 1348 1912"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payee</th> <th>Detail</th> <th>Gross</th> <th>VAT</th> <th>Budget Heading:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>R.Moss</td> <td>Salary Nov &amp; backdate, office expenses</td> <td>£587.10</td> <td></td> <td>Salary &amp; office expenses</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>Payroll deduction</td> <td>£303.00</td> <td></td> <td>Salary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sketchcode</td> <td>Website Hosting</td> <td>£148.00</td> <td></td> <td>Website</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.Moss</td> <td>Salary October &amp; office expenses</td> <td>£380.50</td> <td></td> <td>Salary &amp; office expenses</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>Payroll deduction</td> <td>£249.20</td> <td></td> <td>salary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Savills</td> <td>Garage rental – Ammerdown estate</td> <td>£50.00</td> <td></td> <td>Garage</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Payee	Detail	Gross	VAT	Budget Heading:	R.Moss	Salary Nov & backdate, office expenses	£587.10		Salary & office expenses	HMRC	Payroll deduction	£303.00		Salary	Sketchcode	Website Hosting	£148.00		Website	R.Moss	Salary October & office expenses	£380.50		Salary & office expenses	HMRC	Payroll deduction	£249.20		salary	Savills	Garage rental – Ammerdown estate	£50.00		Garage	Clerk
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<p><b><u>Meetings:</u></b></p> <p>On Weds 18<sup>th</sup> Oct there is a meeting of the Local Community Network – time &amp; venue tbc. This is today so is clashing with the parish council meeting</p>	Clerk																																			

<b><u>Planning Applications Received –</u></b>				
a) Planning applications received				
2023/2119/FUL	Coles Gardens	Conversion to single dwelling		
Councillors did not oppose this application, as it was returning the use to residential & was taking account of its historical appearance & setting.				
b) Planning applications (last 3 months)				
Application			KPC	SCC decision
2022/0614/OUT	Land South Of Fossefield Road, Fosse Way, Stratton On The Fosse	Application for Outline Planning Permission for erection of up to 180 dwellings	Oppose	registered
2023/1192/FUL	Move The Mind, Hoares Lane, Babington BA11 3RP	Erection of new stables next to existing barn	Oppose	Approved
2023/1134/VRC	Site West Of Magdapur Fosseway South Midsomer Norton	Vary condition 2021/1509/FUL (Erection of 2no. detached dwellinghouses)	Oppose	registered
<b><u>Reports</u></b>				
a) Clerks report –				
a. Clerk's Report on past month				
i. Website – Phil Preen has agreed to provide an updating & backup service.				
ii. Miner's silhouette - it was agreed that placement by the village noticeboard would be most suitable, this to be included in the Parish News report, to assess local residents thoughts.				
iii. Village Hall – car park lines. A regional firm have been contacted to complete the work, clerk to provide some photos.				
iv. Grant applications. Closing date 31 <sup>st</sup> December, 2 applications received to date.				
v. Planters – it was agreed to price 3 small planters, similar to the 'mining wagons' in nearby villages.				
<b><u>Date of next meeting:</u></b>				
The next meeting will be Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 7.30pm.				

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 9.59 p.m.

Copies of the full minutes of the meetings of Kilmersdon Parish Council can be found on the village notice boards, on the parish website (<https://www.kilmersdonpc.co.uk/>) or obtained from the Clerk, Mr Robin Moss – Tel: 01761 432224, email: [clerk@kilmersdonpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@kilmersdonpc.co.uk)

**The next full meeting of Kilmersdon Parish Council will be held on Weds 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

If parishioners would like something to be included on the agenda, please notify a councillor or the Clerk by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January. You can also raise matters in the Public Forum but, depending on the subject, full discussion may have to be left to the following meeting.

Signed ..... 17 January 2024