



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting
held on July 8th 2024 at the Beambridge Inn

[A] Apologies were received from Councillors White and Hasell and Somerset Councillor Mansell. All other councillors were in attendance

[B] One member of the public Mr Paul Parsons was present. He raised the maintenance of a particular footpath which Councillor Frear agreed to visit to ascertain whether the route can be made more accessible. If so she will contact the landowner.

FOR ACTION by Councillor Frear

Item 1: There were no disclosures of interest by members on agenda items

Item 2: Minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record

Item 3: There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

Item 4: Police Liaison

No report had been received

Item 5: Planning, Infrastructure and Development

[a] Briscoe Lane. Following the previous meeting thanks were extended to the landowner for the removal of the signage. A confidential addendum was added to the June minutes following the receipt of an email on the 1st July from a local resident. There was concern expressed over an article in the Wellington Weekly and its validity. There have however been many favourable comments made by residents in addition to those not in favour and the matter is now closed.

Item 6: Financial Issues

[a] There were no items of expenditure over £100

[b] A refund of £20.97 for repairs to the phone box map was made to the Parish Clerk who had carried them out. When repainting of the phone box is necessary Councillor Olive has offered to assist.

Item 7: County, District and Unitary Authority Councillors

Councillor Wren was welcomed to the meeting. He outlined the present difficult financial position of the County Council, explaining that in addition to two hundred voluntary redundancies there may be others to accommodate a possible twenty percent cut. The Council is trying to reprioritise its position, with for example a planned reduction from seven layers to four to reduce bureaucracy. A major complication is those leaving post voluntarily, which can affect working relationships with, for example, parish councils. Both County Councillors have passed on the concerns over the nearby A38 and the costs of recent bridge damage may

If you have any questions please contact the Parish Clerk: Neil Dalton

email: wwpcclerk@gmail.com

telephone: 01823 665649

Wellington Without Parish Council

be difficult to find. It is hoped that by November these issues may be more settled although both councillors have serious concerns for the future financial situation. There are a number of protected areas and this puts pressure on the discretionary elements. It is not clear if the new national government will be making changes. There are some “levers” to assist, for example the possible removal of council tax support. Mr Parsons questioned the wisdom of council amalgamation, although it was clear that many questions were raised at the time. Council housing is presently eighty million pounds in debt and future possible financial pressure may force some changes. Thanks were expressed to Councillor Wren and Councillor Mansell for their hard work and to Councillor Wren for this evening’s presentation.

Item 8: Any other urgent business

[a] Interest was expressed in councillor training, especially for those new to post. The Clerk will research such provision.

FOR ACTION by the Clerk

[b] Councillor Hasell forwarded a message to report that the potholes between Ivy Cross and Thorne St Margaret have been repaired but the signage is still in place.

[c] The Clerk, as a resident of Ford Street, mentioned the recent successful Village Meet and thanked those who helped, especially Mrs Dalton and Mrs Procter.

Thanks were extended to the Beambridge Inn for this evening’s hospitality.

Date of the next meeting: September 9th at 7.00pm at the Beambridge Inn

[There is no meeting in August]

If you have any questions please contact the Parish Clerk: Neil Dalton

email: wwpcclerk@gmail.com

telephone: 01823 665649