

SAMPFORD BRETT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 6th March 2019

Present: Mrs J. Swan (in the chair), Mr D. Drabble, Mr M. Blazey, Mr G. Day, Mr B. Doyle, Mr N. Brodwick and Mr S. Miles. County Councillor Mr H. Davies and District Councillor Mr S. Dowding and 12 members of the parish were also present.

Apologies for Absence: were received from Mr and Mrs Howard.

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in March 2018: were approved and signed as a correct record.

Matters Arising from the Minutes: There were no matters arising.

691. Chair's Report: This is attached.

692. District Council Matters:

a. A358 Road Closure - Drivers are asked to be careful if using local rat runs during the 2 week road closure at Black Arch Bridge.

b. The new council (Somerset West and Taunton) has prepared a balanced budget for 2019/20. The council comes into effect on 1/4/19.

c. A number of Planning Officers have left during the last year which has affected performance.

d. Avon and Somerset Police are setting up "Operation Remedy" which will deal with knife crime, drugs and burglaries.

e. Answers to questions:

- Clearance of the flood relief channel should be imminent following the successful SRA bid, but no date has yet been fixed
- Need to keep asking questions about the hard engineering damage around the flood relief channel outfall
- Police are in discussion with the fire service about moving together, but its not known where or when
- No recourse regarding the bad Planning Inspectorate decision regarding the Woolston Moor barn conversion other than to write and complain.

693. County Council Matters:

- a. **Recycling Sites:** The opening hours are changing: Sun/Mon/Tue 9-4; Wed/Thur/Fri closed; Sat 9-5 (9-6 in summer i.e. April – Sept). Somerset Waste Partnership has agreed an contract extension with Viridor which will provide £14.1m worth of savings to SCC over the term of the contract.
- b. SCC has received better than expected funding for 2019/20. Cabinet plan to provide £200,000 and undertake a full review of the winter gritting programme.
- c. The planned reduction in gulley cleaning and jetting (£120,000) will also be dropped for 2019/20.
- d. The following savings will be delayed for a year:
 - a. Flood Water Management (£80,000}
 - b. Dementia support in care homes (£100,000)
 - c. Support to help vulnerable young people into work (£50,000).
- e. A new Director of Finance has been appointed at the rate of £900 a day. She will not be paid for holidays, sickness, pension payments.
- f. A Parishioner asked about buses on Sundays during the road closure – Parish Clerk to enquire.

694. Clerk's Financial Report: The Clerk gave her report which is attached.

695 OPEN FORUM: A Parishioner asked if Neighbourhood Watch was still in existence. The Chairman informed him that she was the Co-ordinator but had not heard anything from the Police recently.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

.....CHAIRMAN.....DATE