

# Sampford Brett Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

Minutes of the Sampford Brett Parish Council Meeting that took place on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 at 7.00pm. Due to Covid-19 and following changes to government rules during this period of lockdown, the meeting was held via video conferencing.

**Parish Councillors Present:** J Swan (Chairman), M Blazey, D Brooks, B Doyle and S Miles

**In Attendance:** District and County Councillor H Davies, one Member of the Public and Mrs T-A Biss (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

## 7.00pm - PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MEETING:

- **Question and comments from members of the public**

No questions or comments had been received from members of the public.

- **Request to address the Parish Council from members of the public**

No request had been received from members of the public.

- **Reports from County & District Councillors**

The Chairman received apologies from District Cllrs Aldridge and Whetlor and welcomed District and County Councillor H Davies

- Somerset County Council Report from Cllr Davies
  - The SCC Climate Emergency Fund has been delayed due to staff resources redirected to areas supporting Covid-19 work.
  - A budgets boost of £400k has been agreed for the Citizen Advice Bureaux.
  - Volunteer from home project.
  - Caseworkers who are off ill will receive full pay.
  - Shuttle bus service from old bus station to Racecourse for Covid-19 jab.
- District Council Report from Cllr Davies
  - Members are to vote to replace the leader and cabinet system to a committee structure.

### Leader and Cabinet

Cabinet is led by a leader, who is elected by full council for a term determined by the council itself or on a four-yearly basis (and will usually be the leader of the largest party on the council). Councils which conduct business under this model are required to have at least one overview and scrutiny committee.

### Committee System

Under this system councils are divided into politically balanced committees that make the decisions. As such, these councils are not required to have an overview and scrutiny committee, though some do have one or more.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Davies for his contribution and time in preparing his report. The meeting was then formally opened.

## 1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO APPROVE THE REASONS GIVEN (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

Apologies received from Cllr Nick Brodrick, convalescing following surgery. Members wished him a speedy recovery.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e). (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

None received.

## 3. TO APPROVE AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))

Points of accuracy Page 468 Item 4.1 - There is currently erosion ~~underneath this pipe of the bank~~  
Page 468 Item 4.1 - It was noted ..... removed ~~by the District Council from~~  
Page 468 item 4.1 - Safety Hazard ~~but acknowledged that this was the~~  
~~responsibility of the Landowner.~~

### Resolution:

That following the "points of accuracy" amendments, the minutes of the Meeting of Sampford Brett Parish Council held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December were approved as being a true and accurate record and signed as such.

## 4. ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

### 4.1 Page 468 item 4.1 - Stage 2

To repair the concrete wall which runs from the outlet pipe to the stream. Clarification required from SWT as to whether a Flat licence has been acquired (permit to carry out watercourse work) and a permit for any major works agreed by the Environment Agency.

### 4.2 Page 469 Item 4.3 – Verge Cutting at Grid Reference ST 08762 40143

Clerk has again contacted County Highways on several occasions but still awaiting response.

### 4.3 Page 469 Item 5.3 – Somerset Climate Emergency Community Fund

Sampford Brett's support for the Multi Parish and Town Council Bid for Community Car Share, which is being led by Watchet Town Council, has been acknowledged. A bid for Solar Panels and Heat Pump for the Village Hall has also been submitted.

## 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

### 5.1 Avon and Somerset Police have introduced a neighbourhood policing bi-monthly newsletter for the Williton, Watchet and Quantock Area (refer to Appendix A).

#### Resolution:

That the Clerk displays the neighbourhood policing newsletter on the Parish Notice Board.

### 5.2 SWT Customer Satisfaction Survey

A request to complete a multiple-choice Customer Satisfaction Survey has been received.

#### Resolution:

That the draft survey is circulated to Councillors for completion; the Clerk will collate and returned the completed survey to SWT.

### 5.3 Mill Farm

The Council has received correspondence raising concerns regarding the Mill Farm area:

- Peacocks have not been housed – this has been referred to Trading Standards (Exeter)
- Noise nuisance of peacocks and motorbikes – Environmental Health have sent record sheets to gather evidence.

The appropriate statutory departments are aware of the situation.

## 6. FINANCIAL REPORT & SCHEDULE OF PAYMENT

### 6.1 Financial Report as of 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021

<b>INCOME</b>			
	Brought Forward	£4,984	<i>Net Banked Balance as 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020</i>
	Precept - Received 15 April 2020	£3,100	<i>AGAR Section 2 (2)</i>
	Donation 17 June 2020	£112	
		<b>£8,196</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
	Staff	£1,317	<i>AGAR Section 2 (4)</i>
	Other	£1,589	<i>AGAR Section 2 (6)</i>
		<b>£2,905</b>	
<b>INCOME MINUS EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>£5,291</b>	<i>Net Banked Balance as 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021</i>
<b>BANK RECONCILIATION</b>		£5,291	<i>Actual bank balance</i>
	Less any un-presented cheques	£0	
	Less: Petty cash float (if applicable)	£0	
	Add: any un-banked cash	£0	
<b>Net Banked Balance</b>		<b>£5,291</b>	<i>AGAR Section 2 (1)</i>

### 6.2 Expenditure Category Breakdown

Category	Actual	Budget	Prediction for end of Year	Comments
Election Expenses	£100.00	£0.00	£100.00	<i>May 2019 Election Expenses c/f from 2019-2020</i>
Emergency Provision	£43.95	£250.00	£43.95	<i>Replace defibrillator pads (£35); Grit/Salt Purchase</i>
Grants	£240.00	£200.00	£240.00	
Hall Hire	£0.00	£88.00	£0.00	<i>Meeting now via Zoom due to Covid 19</i>
Insurance	£288.50	£300.00	£288.50	
Internal Audit	£25.00	£25.00	£25.00	
Maintenance of Assets	£128.81	£100.00	£128.81	<i>Telephone Kiosk, Bus Shelter &amp; Defibrillator</i>
Membership	£80.30	£85.00	£80.30	<i>SALC &amp; NALC Membership</i>
Misc.	£30.50	£0.00	£30.50	
Office Equipment	£0.00	£300.00	£0.00	<i>Laptop &amp; Printer for Clerk</i>
Service Agreements	£576.48	£538.00	£576.48	<i>Website &amp; Dog Waste Bin</i>
Staff Wages	£1,316.61	£1,500.00	£1,692.45	<i>Oct-Dec 2020 Wages £375.84</i>
Training	£75.00	£250.00	£75.00	<i>Councillors &amp; Clerk - average £30/40 each</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,905.15</b>	<b>£3,636.00</b>	<b>£3,280.99</b>	<i>Predicted Remaining Budget £355.01</i>
<b>VAT</b>	<b>£126.99</b>	<i>(included in "Actual" Total)</i>		

It is predicted that the end of year spend will total £3,280.99. The underspend of £355.01 includes cost not incurred for hire of the village hall (due to meeting being held via Zoom); no replacement/upgrade to office equipment; limited emergency provisions purchased.

**Resolution:**

That Cllr Miles inspects the defibrillator equipment to ensure no maintenance is required or replacement of out-of-date resources.

6.3 Requested for the payment of the following:

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer's Hours and Expenses Oct-Dec 2020 .....£375.84  
**PAYMENT: £375.84**

**Resolution:**

That payment is approved.

**7. PLANNING PERMISSION APPLICATION: 3/28/21/002 ERECTION OF 1 NO. 4 BEDROOMED DWELLING WITH DETACHED GARAGE AND ASSOCIATED WORKS, FORMER UNION QUARRY, TOWER HILL, WILLITON, TA4 4JR**

The members discussed the planning application.

**Resolution:**

That the above application has been considered by Sampford Brett Parish Council on 3 March 2021 and the following concerns raised:

- (1) Safety of pedestrians using the public right of way that has not previously been used for non-agricultural vehicular access. As stated in our response to the original application, this is a particularly well used route between Sampford Brett and Williton; it is used at all times of day throughout the year. **The establishment of sufficient pedestrian refuges and maintenance of both these, and the "track", will be fundamental to its safe shared use.**
- (2) Fire engine access to the property. The right-angle bend in the track appears to be too tight for large vehicles. Has this been checked by the fire brigade? Have alternative means of firefighting, such as installation of a sprinkler system, been considered?
- (3) If the application is consented, we trust that the conditions will be like those attached to application no. 3/28/12/005, 3/28/15/002 and 3/28/16/002. We ask that adequate pedestrian refuges are developed before any other construction work begins.

**8. UPDATE ON SOMERSET WEST & TAUNTON PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Refer to Appendix B

**9. UPDATE ON PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY**

Cllr Brodrick's Report was read by the Chairman. Cllr Brodrick had reported a fallen tree between Aller Farm and the Fairy Bridge WL20/7 on 13 January 2021, the issue had been resolved on 15 January 2021. This was felt to be a very pro-active response from the SCC Public Rights of Way team.

Cllr Blazey has received a request from a Member of the Public to enquire if the two remaining stiles can be changed to kissing gates. One along the Aller Farm footpath and the second one beyond Mill

Farm into Williton. The Chairman confirmed that the Mill Farm stile was outside of the Parish, but clarification was required for the Aller Farm stile. It was felt however that both stiles were difficult to use and that these routes were regularly used by the Parishioners.

**Resolution:**

That a request is made to SCC that due to difficulties using the stiles along Aller Farm and Mill Farm Public Rights of Ways they are removed, and kissing gates erected.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

The Annual Meeting (Election of Chairman/Vice Chair & review of Procedures – including the Emergency Plan) will take place on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 6.30pm.

The Chairman thanked all those in attendance and the meeting closed at 7:40pm.

Chairman's Signature:

**Minutes are Subject to Approval at the next Meeting.**

# Appendix A


**March 2021**

**NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING**  
**NEWSLETTER**


Avon and Somerset Police

Please follow our Facebook page  
Minchhead and West Somerset Policing


**Meet your local Police Community Support Officers for Williton, Watchet & Quantock Area.**




**P.S Huw JENKINS**  
2631




**P.C Jamie MUNRO** 4376



**PCSO Supervisor Katherine WILLIAMS** 8460



**PCSO Sue MARKS** 9308



**PCSO Sue THOMPSON** 9273

**Crime Statistics**

Since the beginning of February, on the Beat Area of AW052 there have been 17 Recorded Offences.

These are made up of;

- 1 x Arson/Criminal damage,
- 1 x Burglary,
- 1 x Drug Offence,
- 5 x Public Order,
- 1 x Sexual Offence,
- 1 x Theft,
- 7 x Violence Against the person.

**News from across Williton, Watchet & Quantock Areas.**

**News from the Beat**

The neighbourhood Team have been involved in Supporting 'Somerset Works', who are engaging with Young People in our area, who are NEET ( Not in Education) Providing upskills/ training, helps in compiling CV's & seeking apprenticeships.

**Internet Safety** As we are spending more time at home, it is likely you are doing more internet purchases than usual. For this reason it is a timely reminder to protect yourself and your information when online. Never disclose personal or banking information unless you are on a trusted website and if you are unsure do not make any payments until you are absolutely sure of the validity of the website you are using. If you do feel you have been a victim of online fraud this can be reported directly to Action Fraud either via the website [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or telephone

**Rural Action**

Incidents of poaching on the Quantock Hills have been reported recently. Four deer, in two separate incidents have been killed & decapitated, with their carcasses being left at location. Any information regarding this can be reported on Crimestoppers, or on 101.

With a huge influx of walkers on the Quantock Hills, PLEASE remember to keep dogs on leads. Numerous incidents of sheep worrying have occurred, & as we approach the lambing season this is particularly important.

The Neighbourhood Team have been busy during this Covid Lockdown engaging with the public who often come to walk & visit our local Beauty Spots.

Several Covid Breach Warnings. & Penalty Notices have been issued.

**Priority Patrol Areas**

Watchet Memorial Ground, Esplanade & harbour area.

Williton Memorial Ground & trading Estates

Quantock hills.

Stogursey & surrounding villages.

**More news from the beat...**

As from 8th March Williton Police Station will be moving to new premises at Killick Way. There will be a full contingent of response and neighbourhood team providing 24 hour cover, 7 days per week

Although we are sad to be leaving our beautiful historic building the new premises will provide a better working environment and will be central to the town of Williton

**Beat Surgeries and Upcoming Events**

Unfortunately due to the new guidance and the implementation of the lockdown, beat surgeries and events have been postponed until further notice. We hope to resume normal business soon.

**SERVE. PROTECT. RESPECT.**



## Appendix B

## SAMPFORD BRETT PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS 2021

Reference No.	Application Type	Description	Address	Status	Validated	Expiry Date	Decided	Applicant	Comment	Ref No.	Date Sent	Minutes	Notification letter dated	Comments Due
3/25/21/001	Variation of conditions	Removal of Condition No. 4 of application 3/25/20/013 in respect of landscaping	Memoirs, Brett Close, Sampford Brett, Taunton, TA4 4JZ	Registered	22-Jan-21	19-Mar-21		Mr Andrew Busby	No Objection		18-Feb-21	Procedure for Review of Planning Applications page 2 point 6	03-Feb-21	23-Feb-21
3/25/21/002	Full Planning Permission	Erection of 1 No. 4 bedroomed dwelling with detached garage and associated works	Former Union Quarry, Tower Hill, Williton, TA4 4JR	Registered	17-Feb-21	14-Apr-21		Mr Giddon	Concerns Raised		08-Mar-21	Page XXX, item XXX	17-Feb-21	08-Mar-21
ABD-25-21-001	PA CoU of agri buil. to dwellinghouse	Prior approval for change of use of agricultural building to 1 No. dwelling house (Class C3) and for associated operational development	Cloverfields Barn, Lower Weascombe, TA4 4ED	Registered	28-Jan-21	25-Mar-21		Ms & Mr Sear & Keen	No Objection Clarification		18-Feb-21	Procedure for Review of Planning Applications page 2 point 6	29-Jan-21	18-Feb-21

Waiting Approval