

**SAMPFORD BRETT PARISH COUNCIL****Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018****in the Village Hall**

**PRESENT:** Parish Councillors Mrs J. Swan (in the chair), Mr. D. Drabble, Mr.M.Blazey, County Councillor Mr H. Davies and District Councillor Mr S. Dowding. There were also 7 members of the Parish present and Carina Gaertner from the Wetlands and Wildlife Trust.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Parish Councillors G. Day and B. Doyle. Councillor D Saunders has resigned.

**CO-OPTION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR:** Due to the resignation of Mr I. Armstrong, it was resolved to co-opt Mr Nick Brodrick. Proposed by J. Swan and seconded by M. Blazey. Mr Brodrick was duly co-opted to Sampford Brett Parish Council. Mr Brodrick duly signed the Acceptance of Office form and Register of Interests. Co-option of a new parish councillor in place of Mrs Diane Saunders will take place at the December meeting.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – There were none.

**PUBLIC INPUT** – None.

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** - Approved and signed as a correct record with the exception of one amendment: **Minute 650** delete sentence “West Somerset Council are responsible for the cliffs”.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**649a. SILTING UP OF THE VILLAGE STREAM** - Clerk has written to the Council regarding the silting up of the stream particularly at the bottom of Brett Close. Keith Richards who lives locally is monitoring the situation and advised that it is an offence to clear the silt without consent. WSC have applied for funding for clearing the storm drain outfall into Doniford Stream.

**649b. DOG BIN** has been purchased and installed. Clerk has written to Carl Watson-Gandy to thank him for agreeing to have it on his barn and for installing it.

**651. A358 at BLACK ARCH BRIDGE** – work has been put back yet again to 2019/2020 financial year. Clerk has written expressing the Parish Councils extreme concern regarding potential diversions and access for emergency vehicles.

**656. ERODED SLOPE on CHURCH PATH** – no progress. Cllr Drabble to follow up with Glen.

**661. CAPTON ROAD JUNCTION** – Clerk has written to Highways; Jo Sharpe responded saying they would do a site visit. Clerk informed them that the Parish Council would like to attend the site meeting but was not notified of the date. After their visit, Highways proposed repainting of the white lines in the village but did not agree to any new ‘give way’ signs. A member of the public suggested a mirror opposite Manor Farm Lane might help.

**663. TELEPHONE KIOSK** – Clerk was asked to write to Geoff and Jill Day to thank them for painting the telephone kiosk.

#### **664. DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS**

Warding Consultation is now closed. Sampford Brett had responded to this stating that we did not feel part of Williton and Watchet. Decision on final arrangements expected late October.

Had received a letter from Lisa Simpson who said that Police officers will be seen on bicycles. Councillors responded that this seems impractical in our area.

Had met with leader of SCC and Highways regarding the A358 at Black Arch. Work is scheduled for next year rather than this; diversions are not yet agreed. Parish Council expressed their serious concerns and resolved to issue a press release – Cllr Drabble to draft.

15-23 Sept is designated as ‘outstanding week’ by the AONB.

District Councillor left the meeting at 7.35pm

#### **665. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

SCC meeting next week to discuss budget cuts of £15m. Potential cuts include adult and childrens’ care, gritting and Park & Ride. Taunton Deane may take over the Park and Ride.

The Hinckley Point Park & Ride at Washford Cross is now up and running.

Most of the money from the Iceland Banks had been paid back.

Schedules of roadworks are no longer prepared.

Discussions to form a Unitary authority have been shelved.

**666. FLOODING**

Carina Gaertner, Working Wetland Catchment Project Manager from Wildfowl and Wetlands Centre, gave a very interesting presentation on natural flood management. She is aware of flooding being a particular concern in this Parish and offered her full support. Carina would like to work with the Environment Agency and landowners in the area and would like the Parish Council to help with introductions to the landowners.

**667. EMERGENCY PLAN** – meeting to be arranged.

**668. PLANNING** – Mill Cottage application had been refused. Mr Bosley's holiday cottage is at appeal.

**669.** County Councillor left the meeting at 7.40pm

**670. FINANCE** – The Clerk produced a written report for the last quarter. Balance in Bank as at 6<sup>th</sup> June was £5955.25. A dog bin was purchased for £282.80 (which includes delivery and VAT); VAT will be claimed back. Also paid village hall rent £8. This gives a balance of £5665.25. Outstanding cheques to be paid are village hall rent £16 and Clerk's half year salary £579.50. Balance as at 5<sup>th</sup> September £5052.31.

Known costs before the end of the financial year (31<sup>st</sup> March 2019) include the defibrillator, Clerks 2<sup>nd</sup> half year salary and village hall rent for at least 2 meetings.

The Precept will have to be set at our next meeting in December.

**671. REPORT OF MEETINGS ATTENDED**

West Somerset Flood Group – Councillor Swan represented Sampford Brett and provided a brief summary of the issues discussed:

SWIM platform has been adopted for reporting property flooding. Road flooding should be reported to Highways. ACTION: add flood reporting to Emergency Plan.

West Somerset Flood Board – Dennis Quip has taken over from Peter Owen as chair.

SRA bid from WSC includes clearance of Sampford Brett storm culvert and outfall.

Brenda Maitland now chairs WS Flood Board therefore standing down as chair of WS Flood Group.

Next flood group meeting is 24/10/18 – Cllr Blazey will attend.

**672. FOOTPATHS** – Councillor Drabble reported that the post on Manor Farm K-gate had broken and needs to be replaced. It has been reported to County Footpaths, but in the short term is causing the gate to be very stiff. It needs to be lifted off its hinges - Simon Miles

kindly offered to do this.

The post at the west end of bridge in Maggie’s field has also broken making the handrail very loose. Councillor Drabble will report this.

**673. CORRESPONDENCE** – All had been emailed to councillors.

**674. GOVERNANCE DOCUMENTS.** Cllr Swan stated that the governance documents should be issued as a pack to new councillors but require updating. She will look at them and report back to the next meeting.

**ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING AGENDA 5<sup>th</sup> December2018**

- 1. Co-option of new Parish Councillor**
- 2. Governance documents to be updated.**

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.15 pm.

.....Chairman.....Date