



BOX PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING **HELD BY ON 29th JUNE 2023**

1. Present: Councillors: T. Walton (Chairman); A. Barton; R. Bean;
R. Davies; D. Dorey; N. Ingledew; I. Johnston;
H. Parker; M. Tye; B. Walton; D. Wright

Unitary Councillors: B. Mathew

Mrs Carey (Clerk)

2. Apologies: Cllrs J. Clifford; S. Parker WC Derek Walters

3. Public Question Time; There were two members of the public present

Derek Elliott reported that Wiltshire Council are currently not cutting the grassed amenity areas in Ashwood Road and Pine Close, Rudloe and have told parishioners that this is the responsibility of the Parish Council. It was agreed to take this up with Wiltshire council.

He asked if a dog waste bin could be located by Hawkstone, Rudloe

Archie Callaway gave a short report on his proposals for holding a Car Boot Sale on Sunday 30th July. The Council discussed this later in the meeting.

4. Chairman's announcements and declarations of interest: Cllr Tye declared a non-pecuniary interest in the application for use of the Recreation Ground

The Chairman reported that two letters of resignation had been received from Cllrs Richard Campbell and Phillip Rice which were accepted.

Cllr B. Walton will take over the responsibility of uploading information to the website.

Following these two resignations, the numbers of Councillors on Committees will be low and it is essential that apologies are tendered, with reasons for absence, prior to the meetings

5. Minutes; The Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 25th May 2023 were agreed and signed as being a true record.

There were no matters arising or updates from the Climate Strategy Working Group

Chairman of the Pavilion and Council Buildings Committee: Following the resignation of Cllr Rice, Cllr Sheila Parker was duly elected as Chairman of the Committee

6. Committees:

i. **Playing Fields Management Committee:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th June 2023 were submitted and agreed.

- **Proposal that a Car Boot Sale to be held on the Recreation Ground on 30th July.**

Following the submission by Archie Callaway the Council discussed the proposals for holding a Car Boot sale on the bottom part of the Recreation Ground on 30th July. Cllr B. Walton had spoken to the Groundsman who had confirmed that he would make sure that there is access to the site. It was confirmed that the monies raised would go to the Alzheimer's Charity and Mr Callaway was asked to provide a breakdown of the accounts to show how much had been raised.

Mr Callaway also proposed to book the Pavilion and the Clerk will check availability.

A Waste Collection plan had been drawn up – it was agreed that the Parish Council would require a deposit in case there was excess refuse charges.

It was queried about the noise early on a Sunday morning with 30 sellers arriving on site and setting up. Mr Callaway stated that he would notify the residents and ensure that the noise level was kept down.

Cllr T. Walton stated that there would be an additional cost to cover the work done by the Groundsman in preparation for the sale and this should be covered.

The Clerk stated that "by permission of the Parish Council" should be included on any posters to validate the Insurance.

Cllr Bean will liaise with Archie on drawing up a Risk Assessment prior to the event.

It was **resolved** unanimously that permission be given for the Car Boot sale to go ahead.

- **Solar Panels for the Tractor Shed**

A quotation had been received for the installation of six solar panels together with batteries at the Tractor Shed, Recreation Ground in the sum of £7400 + vat. It was agreed to check that this would include an emergency supply be included and also whether planning permission would be required.

It was **resolved** unanimously that the quotation from Beazer Electrical Services Ltd in the sum of **£7400 + vat** be accepted

- It was **resolved** unanimously that Octopus Energy be asked for a quote for supplying electricity to the tractor shed and the Pavilion to run from 1st August

- **Application to use part of the Recreation Ground for a children's party:**

A copy of the application form had been circulated. It was **resolved** unanimously that permission be granted, subject to liaison with the Groundsman

- **Tennis Club Working Group:** It was agreed that permission be given to the Tennis Working Group to start the ball rolling with fund raising for the resurfacing of the tennis courts. Stakeholders will be contacted for their input and a funding shout out would be put on social media and an article in the Parish Magazine.

ii. **Finance & Governance Committee:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th June 2023 were submitted and agreed

- **Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2022-23**

Accounting Statement: This had been agreed at the Committee meeting on 12th June

Annual Return Accounting Statement: This had been circulated and was agreed and signed

- **Regeneration of Rudloe:** Cllr Walters was arranging a viewing of the Community Centre for 12th July.
- **How to improve communication with parishioners and public participation and setting up of a Working Group:** This was agreed. Working Group to comprise Cllrs: T. Walton; R. Bean; N. Ingledew; H. Parker and M. Tye. The working group could also include non-councillors
- **Request for a formal review of the Council's Contracts re the hire of its facilities:**
Cllr Bean withdrew from discussion. He had submitted a Freedom of Information request prior to becoming a Councillor.
It was agreed that the recommendation that the Council's Commercial Contracts or Agreements continue to be exempt under the Freedom of Information and that legal advice will be taken when necessary be taken back to Finance & Governance for further discussion in light of more information

iii. **Planning & Conservation Committee:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th June 2023 were submitted and agreed.

iv. **Box Hill & Rudloe Management Committee:** the Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th June were submitted and agreed.

- Cllr I. Johnston agreed to be Vice Chair of the Committee
- It was **resolved** unanimously that John Kerr conduct a tree survey of the Lower Common Wood by September and then proceed at pace with the work in order to improve the woodland biodiversity in line with the Management Plan. Resources will be provided by the CVW team
- It was **resolved** unanimously that Phase 1 of the Lacy Wood Management Plan be agreed – quote from Tree Parts Ltd supported by the Council's Groundsmen at a cost of £3500 + VAT
- **Rudloe Play Area:** The recommendation that the Parish Council gives notice to terminate the Licence for the maintenance of the Play Area was withdrawn for further investigation.
- **Rudloe Green:** It was **resolved** unanimously that the Parish Council submits an Expression of Interest in taking over the Rudloe Green as a Community Asset – minus the Play Area. It was stated that there would not be a large cost involved in this but would the Parish Council would need to take this on long term.
- It was **resolved** unanimously to formally name the small wood adjacent to the Quarrymans Arms car park "Thoday Wood" in accordance with the Ordnance Survey guidance
- It was **resolved** unanimously to formally name "Lacy Wood" in accordance with Ordnance Survey guidance
- It was **resolved** unanimously to install a Bristol Gate to replace the stile adjacent to the A4 in order to improve vehicle access to Lacy Wood at a cost not to exceed £418
- It was **resolved** unanimously that the footpath through Lacy Wood be registered on the Definitive Map
- It was **resolved** unanimously that the footpath connecting Box FP 34 and 35 above the Box Hill Common fruit orchard be registered on the Definitive Map
- It was **resolved** unanimously to donate £200 to the Glorious Cotswolds Grassland Project in recognition of the generous support provided by the Cotswold Conservation Board
- It was **resolved** unanimously to install a Kissing Gate to replace the stile at the junction with Box FP21 in order to improve the public Right of Way

- It was **resolved** to install a community library in one of the bus shelters on Leafy Lane

- v. **Highways Committee:** the Minutes of the meeting held on 26th June 2023 were submitted and agreed subject to a change in wording under item 9f

Two grit bins will be purchased at a cost of £120 + vat each

7. Correspondence:

- a. **Best Kept Village:** A copy of the results had been circulated. It was agreed to draw up a new map for next year. This will be discussed again in January. The judges had commented that Recreation Ground was “impressive” and the Cemetery was “exemplary”
- b. **Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review:** letter received from WC stating that a request submitted in 2019 for a proposed change in the ward name from Box Hill Ward to Box Hill and Rudloe Ward was due to be considered shortly. After discussion it was agreed that this proposal should be withdrawn as the Council was now happy with the present warding of Box and Rudloe Wards.
- c. **Request for defibrillator at Kingsdown;** letter received asking for a defibrillator to be installed at Kingsdown. It was agreed that a reply should be sent stating that the defibrillator at Kingsdown Golf Club was available for everyone to use. The defibrillators located at the Post Office and the Pavilion had been purchased with funds raised by parishioners.
- d. **Community Ownership Fund:** Details had been circulated
- e. **SSEN Community Resilience Fund:** Details had been circulated

8. To receive any additional accounts for payment:

BACS

Travis Perkins	-	Bags of Postcrete	142.22
Arthur Cole	-	Repairs to railing, gate stays (Cemetery)	600.00
Sam Turner & Sons	-	Ego Cordless multi-tool	799.00
SSE	-	Tractor shed Electric	214.17
SSE	-	Pavilion – Electric	142.24
SSE	-	Cemetery Chapel	69.90
SSE	-	Council Offices	492.95

Statement of Balances

Lloyds

Current Account	£ 13902.61
High Interest account	<u>56205.44</u>
	£ 70108.05
Less payments to go out	1073.23
Working balance	£ 69034.80
Held on deposit in Lloyds	£ <u>37500.00</u>
Balance in Lloyds	£106534.80
Held in BIBS	£ 82203.81
Held in Nationwide	<u>£ 56654.16</u>
	£ 138857.97

9. Chairman's Diary, Representatives' reports and report from County Councillors

Cllr Wright reported on the Five to Thrive presentation that he had attended dealing with stress and anxiety and how to reduce dependency on drugs by integration ie joining local clubs

Cllr T. Walton and D. Dorey had attended the Finance for Councillors training which they had found very useful.

Cllr H. Parker reported on the recent Area Board meeting. The four main priorities were continuing

Cllr Mathew reported that the new constituency boundaries had been published and Box & Colerne would be in the Devizes Constituency.

Box to Bath Cycleway – meeting to be held with B&NES Councillors at Bathford Community Shop on 6th July at 9.00 am

He requested that at the next Highways Committee meeting consideration be given to requesting a metro count be submitted to be located half way along Wormcliffe Lane.

10. Items of Report and future Agenda Items:

- Carbon Audit: Cllr T. Walton was uploading the data
- Cllr Tye reported that the Playground Survey was now live. She, together with Cllr Bean would be going into the School to urge parents to complete the survey
- It was reported that a lot of stones, grit etc was flying out of repaired potholes onto the pavements. Cllr Mathew was urging WC to invest in a better machine to repair potholes. Clerk to notify the Parish Steward of this and ask him to clear the pavements.
- Cllr Barton queried the cost of the proposed upgrading of the zebra crossing outside the school to a Puffin crossing with flashing lights estimated at £120,000. Cllr Mathews confirmed the cost and suggested that this be queried with the Cabinet member for Highways
- Cllr B. Walton reported that there would be a Working Party at the Chestnut Tree on Sunday 9th July

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Chairman