



## BOX PARISH COUNCIL

### **MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING** **HELD BY 24<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2025**

- 1. Present:** Clls: T. Walton (Chair); A. Barton; R. Bean; J. Clifford; D. Dorey  
R. Haslett; N. Ingledew; I. Johnston; H. Parker; S. Roche; D Wright  
M. Tye; B. Walton

Mrs Carey (Clerk)

- 2. Apologies** Cllrs R. Bolton ; R. Davies; D. Walters (WC)  
The apologies were accepted.

- 3. Absent:** Nil

- 4. Public Question Time;** There was one member of the public present.

- 5. Chair's announcements and declarations of interest:** The Chair thanked the Councillors for attending the Annual Parish Meeting. He felt it had been a very positive event. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group had been pleased with the public engagement.

- 6. Minutes;** The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> March were agreed and signed as being a true record

- 7. Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

**Climate Strategy Working Group:** No update available.

- 8. Committees:**

- i. Playing Fields Management** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025 were submitted and agreed.

It was **resolved** by 12 votes in favour and 1 abstention that the Contract for 2025/26 between the Box Parish Council and the Bowls Club be accepted.

It was **resolved** unanimously that the Parish Council agreed, in principle the application for use of the Recreation Ground by Box Revels on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> May subject to receipt of a wet weather plan and copies of insurance documents for their equipment.

A wet weather plan had been agreed. It was stated that Box Revels would own the risk for any equipment brought onto the Recreation Ground

It was **resolved** unanimously to provisionally agree the request to use the Recreation Ground to launch Hot Air Balloons on 24<sup>th</sup> May subject to approval by the Open Spaces Manager and receipt of risk assessment and insurance documents

It was stated that it would be up to the Open Spaces Manager to veto the event if any

of the conditions had not been met.

Clerk to ask the organizer to drop leaflets to the residents who border the Recreation Ground.

- ii. **Planning & Conservation** : The Minutes of the Meetings held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025 were submitted and agreed.

- iii. **Finance & Governance**: The Minutes of the Meetings held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025 were submitted and agreed

**Resolved** unanimously that the Health & Safety Policy be readopted with no changes and that the Health and Safety Procedures be adopted with one addition.

**Resolved** unanimously that the Conflict of Interests Policy and Procedure be adopted

**Resolved** unanimously that the quotation for a structural survey on the wall by the Selwyn Hall from Giraffe Engineering in the sum of £800 + vat be accepted

**Resolved** by 11 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention that the Full Council agrees, in principle, with the proposed new structure of the Committees to be phased in over the course of the next few months and to go through all the issues and realign the budget for 2026/27 in time for the budget setting meeting in the Autumn.

**Resolved** unanimously that a grant of £500 be made towards the cost of the VE Day Celebrations

**Resolved** unanimously that the quotation of £800 from John Dyer for restoration of the Book of Remembrance be accepted

**Resolved** unanimously that the Parish Council formally accepts ownership of the defibrillator by the Post Office from the South Western Ambulance Service

Clerk to write to Juliette Slight for confirmation that the checks have been carried out Regularly. It was agreed to put Defibrillators on the Agenda for discussion at the next Finance & Governance Committee meeting

- iv. **Personnel Committee**: This was moved to the end of the meeting

**9. Items for discussion**

**Feedback from the Annual Parish Meeting**: It was agreed that this had been a very positive meeting. The issue of how the Cotswold Volunteers were funded had been raised and after discussion it was **resolved** unanimously that a donation of **£500** be made to the Cotswolds Conservation Board

The Clerk was asked to chase the report from the Scouts on the grant funding and how this had been spent

**10. To receive any urgent correspondence:** Nil

**11. Finance**

**BACS**

Mirage signs	-	Signs for Car Parks	198.00
Simon Whitmore	-	Refund of Allotment fee	31.50
Westcare Supply Zone	-	Refuse sacks, copier paper, gloves	327.41

D.J. Mathias Ltd	-	Repairs to standpipe	110.40	
		Tap, sensor taps	897.60	1008.00
GreenAcres Electrical	-	electrics for the sensor taps		432.00
<u>Debit Card</u>				
Wybone	-	Dog bags		181.16

It was agreed to defer the payment to Bloom in the sum of £860 for the time being

It was agreed to put the Dog Bag dispensers on the Agenda for the next Playing Fields Management meeting

### **Statement of balances**

#### **Lloyds**

Current Account	£ 13164.71
High Interest account	<u>72039.25</u>
	£ 85203.96
Less payments to go out	<u>2226.91</u>
Working balance	<b>£ 82988.05</b>
Held on deposit in Lloyds	£ 25000.00
<b>Balance in Lloyds</b>	<b>£107977.05</b>
Held in <b>BIBS</b>	<b>£ 85946.99</b>
Held in <b>Nationwide</b>	<b>£ 63854.13</b>
	<b>£ 149801.12</b>

### **12. Chairman's Diary, Representatives' reports and report from County Councillors:**

- Cllr Roche had attended the Chair's training and found it very useful

### **13. Items of report and future Agenda items:**

- Cllr Wright reported that he had volunteered as a Litter Ambassador for the Rudloe Litterpick in order to obtain insurance cover for the group. He had been invited to Birmingham to give a presentation and will use Box as an example
- Cllr Wright reported that Southern Railways are encouraging people to use the transport from Waterloo to Box Hill to go on walks. He will approach GWR to see if they could promote something on similar lines to encourage people to come out to Box
- Cllr Wright has asked that the map of the Gateway to the Cotswold is changed to show Box
- Cllr Dorey reported that he had been approached by a resident regarding using woodland on Box Hill Common for an outdoor learning business. To be discussed at the next Box Hill & Rudloe Open Spaces Committee
- Mr Varian Tye had requested that more display boards are purchased for use by the Council. To be discussed at Finance & Governance meeting
- Great Western Community Forest – Information had been circulated to Councillors
- Councillors were reminded of the Working Parties to be held at Vine Court and The Bassetts
- The Chair gave a vote of thanks to the retiring Councillors for their input over the last four years

### **14. Personnel:** To receive the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 and to consider any recommendations

**Members of the public were excluded for any confidential items in accordance with the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960**

Following the interviews held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 it was **resolved** unanimously to offer the position of full-time Parish Council Clerk to Mr Steve Vickery, subject to receipt of satisfactory references. The starting salary will be SCP 27 to commence on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025 and he will undertake the necessary training.

Following the resignation of the Assistant Clerk it was **resolved** unanimously that the Clerk revert to her contracted hours of 30 hours a week wef 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

*Meeting closed at 8.40 pm*

**Chair**