**Baltonsborough Parish Council**

Clerk to the Council: Caron Potts

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 **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th November 2021**

**Present:** Cllrs A Wotton (Chair), S Everitt (vice chair), M Dykes, M Phillips, Cllr Clapp (Part) and Cllr Blackburn.

**In Attendance:** Mrs Caron Potts (Clerk). County Councillor Mr N Woollcombe-Adams and 2 members of the public (part only)

**Public Questions –** Mr S Drabble presented his concerns regarding the planning application for Northfield House.

**District and County Councillor Reports –** Cllr Woollcombe-Adams SCC report had been pre-circulated. The latest information on the new Unitary Authority is indicating that there will be 110 members – 2 per division. Elections are likely to be in May 2022.

**Village Hall Report –** Cllr Blackburn reported that the new village website had gone live.

**A G E N D A**

**Meeting commenced at 7.17pm**

**97.21 Apologies for Absence -** received from Cllrs F Maddock and S Maddaford.

**98.21 Declarations of Interest**. Members to declare any interests they may have in agenda items in accordance with the requirements of the Council’s Code of Conduct - none

**99.21 Exclusion of the Press and Public**

To agree any items to be dealt with after the Public and press has been excluded from the meeting - none

**100.21 Minutes of Parish Council Meetings**

Confirmed and signed as a correct record, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 7th October 2021.

* 1. **Planning**
1. New Applications

2021/2045/LBC Demolition and reconstruction of part of the gable and front walls onto new foundations. Location - Church View Church Full Application. The Council unanimously recommended approval. They did however express their concerns regarding the building project and its proximity to the Grade 1 listed Church. They wanted to ensure that footpath safety was assessed, and care taken not to damage the cobbled entrance. Clarification on the disposal of the rubble and spoil from the old wall is required and also what the provision is for storage of equipment and materials. The Parish Council requested that the Conservation Officer was consulted due to the buildings listed status. **Action Clerk** to notify planners and copy the Conservation Officer.

2021/2059/VRC Application to vary condition 2 (Plans List) and 6 (Materials) of

planning approval 2019/2554/FUL (Erection of 1No. dwelling and associated works)

Location: Northfield House, Ham Street. The Council unanimously agreed to recommend refusal for the above application as they did when it was originally and subsequently applied for, as the previously stated material amendments have not been satisfactorily addressed. The Council also supports the comments made by the property's neighbours. **Action Clerk** to notify planners

2. Decisions - none

* 1. **Resolutions**
1. Platinum Jubilee celebrations update

Cllr Dykes and Phillips gave an update from the organising committee meeting.

The circular footpath route is being progressed to include sites of historical interest. Funding options being explored. RESOLVED add provision of £2000 to budget. **Action Clerk**.

Various making space for nature options being explored including a garden wildlife booklet for all residents, open wildlife gardens, led river walk and bat walk, and planting 70 trees (might require funds). RESOLVED include provision for tree costs in budget. **Action Clerk**.

1. Grant Money update

Cllr Wotton confirmed the nearly £46000 (including VAT) had been secured by the council this year in grants, he thanked the councillors who had made this possible and given the likely demands for fundraising next year stressed the need to continue making the most of these opportunities.

1. Village Hall Drainage update

Progress is slowly being made, a costed plan for improvements to the playing field is required in order for the PC to pursue grant 106 monies which could provide a potentially significant funding stream. RESOLVED a report from the Village Hall was requested. **Action Clerk** to pursue.

1. Carbon Reduction Strategy

Cllr Phillips informed the Council that many areas are being incorporates into the Jubilee Celebrations. No comments about the Strategy received yet. RESOLVED **Action All Cllrs** to give feedback to Cllr Phillips before the next meeting. **Clerk** to reissue proposal.

1. Saxon Bridge update

Cllr Clapp reported that the bridge is safe for pedestrians and causes no imminent danger and they would not want to relinquish vehicle access. The estimated repair cost is in excess of £35,000.

1. Fingerpost at Southwood storage

The priority of this was questioned. RESOLVED **Action Cllr Dykes/Clapp** to relook at this in situ and report findings.

1. War Memorial update

Slow progress is being made, a site meeting was had with the stonemason and work will be completed by the End of February. The metal work has been started.

1. Meeting Dates for 2022

 6 January 3 February 3 March 7 April 5 May 9 June\* 7 July August- no meeting 1 September 6 October 3 November 1 December

RESOLVED dates approved. **Action Clerk** to book the village hall and publicise.

1. Parish Opening Up Grant

The Clerk advised that the full amount requested had now been granted, a total of £4590 (£5508 including VAT). Details of the benches and equipment required have been given to the clerk to progress.

1. Online banking option

Research by the Clerk confirmed that there are currently no better business saving account options available. Our current interest rate in 0.01%, her recommendation was to move both the savings and current account over to Unity Bank. RESOLVED decision to change banking provider approved. **Action Clerk** to proceed with the necessary arrangements.

**103.21 All actions from minutes not already covered/carried forward**

Churchmoor Farm style contact number received from Cllr Clapp

**FINANCE**

**104.21 Accounts for payment -**To review and approve a schedule of items of expenditure

1. Clerks’ salary for October £268.56 including stamps
2. Donation to RBL £50
3. Opening up grant NBB Recycled Furniture £4926
4. Somerset playing field association annual inspection fee £110
5. Somerset Forge £654 (£545 excl vat) for repair of Ham Street fingerpost
6. J Norris £1950.00 for supply and installation on the LED lights

All payments were authorised for approval.

**105.21 Year to date accounts and cashflow**

The Clerk took the Council through the predicted yearend outturn including carried forward VAT and discussed possible budget item expenditure for next year to be included in the 2022 budget. Agreed.

**106.21 Bank reconciliation as of 8th October 2021**

Agreed and verified the bank reconciliation figures against the bank statements and the cashflow.

Reserve account - £28199.00, Current account £21033.39, Total £49232.39.

Monies received for Reserve Account - interest £0.23

Monies received for Current Account £3800 grant from Avon and Somerset Police and £5568 from Zurich Insurance for the War Memorial stonework repair

**107.21 Items for next meeting -** Review precept and budget

**Next meeting** – 7pm Thursday 2nd December 2021 venue Village Hall

**Meeting finished at 8.40**

**Actions arising from this meeting**

**Clerk**

1. Inform planning department of comments
2. Carry forward item to next month’s agenda
3. Request drainage update from VH&PTF
4. Book village hall for next year’s meetings
5. 2022 budget and precept including jubilee costs
6. Proceed with changing banks
7. Pay authorised payments and add resolved ones for next month

**All Cllrs -** Feedback comments on Climate Strategy to Cllr Phillips

**Cllr Dykes and Clapp –** Review Southwood fingerpost

**Signed Date**