

NYNEHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2020 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, NYNEHEAD

This face to face meeting was managed within the updated COVID-19 secure guidelines produced by Government. Two metres social distancing was maintained at all times and safety signage was clearly displayed in all areas of the Hall. High-contact objects such as tables, chairs, door/window handles and light switches were cleaned both before and after the meeting and handwashing facilities, hand sanitiser and paper towels were provided. A safe area was also made available should anyone have been taken ill. Everyone present wore a mask and the names and contact details of all attendees either scanned the QR code with the NHS Covid-19 App or their names and contact details were taken for the purposes of Test, Track and Trace.

The meeting started at 19.30 and concluded at 21.22

Present	Dr J Butterley – Mrs A Harcombe – Mr G Stead – Mr M Vest - Mr J Frost (Parish Footpaths Liaison Officer). Other than the two interviewees, there were no members of the public.
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20/025	Apologies	Mr G Wren (District Councillor) – PCSO Henderson
20/026	Declarations of Interest	There were no Declarations of Interest or Dispensations.
20/027	Interviews for a new councillor	In response to the Casual vacancy for a new councillor, two candidates were interviewed by the members. Each candidate was asked to give a brief presentation and respond to some questions. Upon a subsequent vote, the members agreed, 3:1, to appoint Mr Tim Powell-Gill. He will be co-opted on to the Council at the next meeting on the 18 th January 2021.
20/028	Approval of Minutes	The Minutes of the meeting held 16 th November 2020 were approved and signed as a correct record.
20/029	Actions from the previous meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <u>Dog Bin Prices</u> – the predicted price for emptying the dog bin every two weeks for 2021-2022 is £5.56 + VAT which is an increase on this year's price of £5.40 + VAT. 2) <u>Website accessibility for the visually impaired</u> – in spite of repeated efforts, the Clerk has been unable to make any further contact with Marmalade Designs who had agreed to undertake the necessary work to make the Nynehead website WCAG 2.1 AA compliant. An alternative source of help will need to be found in the New Year
20/030	Planning Matters	(i) The members considered Planning Application 26/20/0012/T Notification to fell one Ash tree within Nynehead Conservation Area at Nynehead Court, Nynehead. For the recommended reasons of safety, the Council supported this application.
20/031	Parish Council Administration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) After a discussion of the Budget report 2021-2022, the Council agreed, unanimously, that the Precept for 2021-2022 would be set at £6505. This, again, includes an additional £500 in the budget, as advised by the Somerset Association of Local Councils, to keep building up depleted reserves. The Band D equivalent Tax Charge will be £38.63 per annum. Compared to last year, this represents an increase of £4.85 per annum/£0.40 pence per month. (ii) The members discussed the feedback information and the copy of the process followed when dealing with speed reduction requests which was sent by Kate Brown, SCC Traffic Management Officer, with whom the Parish Council met on the 10th December. As a starting point, SCC will be carrying out speed surveys in January 2021. Suitable locations for these will be discussed with the Parish Council. In order to inform residents fully about the proposals, the Parish Council will include an article in the next Nynehead News and it is hoped that an open evening can be arranged, when feasible, with appropriate maps and Kate Brown in attendance to

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		<p>invite questions, comments and feedback. To help with funding for this project, the Clerk will make an application to the Climate Change Fund.</p> <p>(iii) When, at the end of December, the Clerk is able to confirm receipt of the grant for £1220 from the Taunton Deane Borough Council Defibrillator Fund, the members agreed that the defibrillator for East Nynehead should be purchased in January 2021. This, plus a further grant of £50.00 from London Hearts, leaves a shortfall of £375.00 which the Parish Council will pay. It was agreed that the defibrillator will be sited on the side of Langham House as this is the approximate middle point of East Nynehead and affords easy accessibility for all residents. In addition, electricity is available for easy installation.</p> <p>(iv) Dr J Butterley and Mr G Stead agreed to undertake the annual review of the Clerk at 19.00, prior to the Parish Council meeting on Monday 18th January 2021. If current COVID restrictions prevent a face to face meeting, a Zoom meeting will be arranged on an alternative date.</p> <p>(v) Members discussed a funding appeal from the Citizen’s Advice Bureau in Taunton. Whereas it was recognised that this was a worthy cause, the Bureau is only one of several agencies available to support the village. The work of the Village Agent overlaps, to a large extent, with that of the Citizen’s Advice Bureau. Regrettably, the Parish Council cannot support all appeals for financial aid and, hence, it is not general policy to give money to outside agencies. The Clerk will respond to this effect.</p>
20/032	Police Report	<p>(i) In the absence of PCSO Henderson, the Clerk read out a report she had received. None of the 181 calls into 101 and 999 for the Wellington Rural Beat for the month of November involved Nynehead, Oake, Bradford on Tone, or Langford Budville and there were no reports of antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>(ii) Dr Butterley reported from Farm Watch that large amounts of road and red diesel have been stolen within a 15 mile radius of Nynehead. Residents are warned to be alert and cautious.</p>
20/033	Rights of Way	<p>(i) Mr Joe Frost, Parish Paths Liaison Officer, gave his monthly report. Following the recent heavy falls of rain, the footpaths remain saturated and walkers are urged to take care whilst remembering to socially distance on the narrow sections. The three vandalised kissing gates on the footpath WG14/4 from Wharf Cottage to the aqueduct over the river have been repaired by the footpaths team and “No Cycling” signs are clearly on display. In spite of this, mountain bikers are still using these paths. Anyone with information or able to provide photographic evidence should notify the police. The Council is extremely grateful to Mr Joe Frost for all that he has done over the course of the year to maintain the footpaths to such a high standard.</p> <p>(ii) After prolonged negotiations between SWTC and relevant landowners, spanning several years, Bradford on Tone PC has now, finally, received agreement for a new footbridge and the footpath that links the two parishes will be reopened upon completion of the work. A new stretch of path will be created to link WG 14/1 and WG 14/2. Nynehead councillors are most grateful to Bradford PC for their persistence with this ongoing issue and are keen to work with them in moving this forward. As this will benefit both villages, they would also like to be included when the new stretch of path is mapped out. The Clerk will make this request to Bradford PC.</p>
20/034	Highways	<p>(i) The Clerk had received no correspondence from Somerset Highways Dept. other than that which was discussed in 7 (ii).</p>

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20/035	Receipts and Payments	<p>(i) The Council authorised and instructed the issue of cheques for:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) The Clerk’s Salary for November 2020 (£266.24) and Expenses (£35.00) Total £301.24 Cheque No.000844 Prop. by Mrs A Harcombe and Sec. by Mr G Stead.</p>
20/036	Correspondence	<p><u>For information only (* received by email, ^ received by post).</u></p> <p>(i) Somerset Waste Partnership Briefing December 2020 (Information on Christmas and New Year collections)*www.somersetwaste.gov.uk</p> <p>(ii) Dementia Help Point Network – Playlist for Life* www.playlistforlife.org.uk</p> <p>(iii) M5 Junction 25 Improvement Scheme Project Newsletter Dec. 2020*www.alungriffiths.co.uk</p>
20/037	Items requested for next agenda	<p>Items Requested for the next Agenda (18th January 2021):</p> <p>(i) Mr M Vest requested a further update on discussions between Wellington Town Council and neighbouring parishes ahead of their next scheduled Zoom meeting in February.</p>