

## NYNEHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2020 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, NYNEHEAD

This face to face meeting was managed within the 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. The Hall was well ventilated and a safe area was made available should anyone have been taken ill. Everyone present wore a mask and 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 21.14**

Nynehead Parish Council was shocked and deeply saddened to hear of the sudden death, earlier in the day, of Mr Rivers Barry, a member since May 2019. Dr J Butterley paid tribute to all that he had contributed. His enthusiasm and extensive knowledge of matters relating particularly to the local countryside and conservation were great assets and his active support and sense of humour endeared him to all and made him a valued member of both the Council and the wider community. He will be much missed.

<b>Present</b>	Dr J Butterley – Mr M Vest - Mrs A Harcombe – Mr G Stead - Mr J Frost (Parish Footpaths Liaison Officer) – PCSO V Henderson – PCSO C Hallett . There were no members of the public.
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20/061	Apologies	Mr G Wren
20/062	Declarations of Interest	There were no Declarations of Interest or Dispensations.
20/063	Approval of Minutes	The Minutes of the meeting held 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 were approved and signed as a correct record.
20/064	Actions from the previous meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b><u>The Somerset Community Foundation</u></b> – a grant application was submitted on the 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020 to help fund the proposed defibrillator in East Nynehead. Receipt has been confirmed and we will be notified in due course as to whether or not the application has been successful.</li> <li>2) <b><u>Website accessibility</u></b> – in September 2020 new legislation was introduced requiring all websites to improve accessibility for the visually impaired. To become better acquainted with the requirements, the Clerk attended an on-line training course, run by SALC, on how to convert and create accessible Word and PDF documents for a website. However, it is clear that the amount of time required to adapt the Nynehead website would far exceed her contracted hours and also her levels of technical competence. Consequently, a local web designer has been consulted and compliance can be met expediently at a cost of approximately £100 which includes the purchase of the necessary plugin.</li> <li>3) <b><u>Fallen tree at Nynehead Court</u></b> – Nynehead Court reported the fall of a large, oak tree across the track leading to Court Farm during the storm in September.</li> <li>4) <b><u>Free trees from SWTC</u></b> – following the offer from SWTC, as part of their carbon neutral initiative, to order free trees up to the total value of £50.00, Nynehead Parish Council has placed an order for three Hawthorn and five Beech trees.</li> </ol>

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20/065	Planning Matters	<p>(i) To report planning application 26/20/0004 Change of use of land from field/yard to residential to be used in conjunction with dwelling approved on application 26/20/0002CQ at Upcott, Nynehead. Decision to Refuse Permission made 14/09/2020.</p> <p>(ii) To report planning application 26/20/0008 Erection of detached garage and formation of entrance drive and gates at Jabeti, East Nynehead (retention of part works already undertaken). Conditional Approval was made on 14/10/2020.</p> <p>(iii) Mr M Vest presented extensive research that he had conducted regarding national and local guidance on limiting light pollution. The Clerk will convey this to the SWTC Chief Planning Specialist and will use it, as appropriate, when responding to future planning applications.</p>
20/066	Parish Council Administration	<p>(i) The Bank reconciliation for the 1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 was agreed and signed.</p> <p>(ii) The Bank reconciliation for the 1<sup>st</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 was agreed and signed.</p> <p>(iii) The Half Yearly Expenditure report at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 was agreed and signed.</p> <p>(iv) The increased hourly rate paid to the Clerk in line with the new NJC pay scales for 2020-2021 was approved &amp; implemented from 1 April 2020.</p> <p>(v) Dr J Butterley and Mr G Stead will conduct the half yearly internal audit of the Council's Accounts.</p> <p>(vi) The condition of Ash Road was discussed. The bridge has now been rebuilt. Drainage, however, is poor on Ash Road and all the gullies need unblocking. Mr M Vest has reported this to SCC Highways. The situation is particularly bad between the bridge and Ash Farm. Digging a trench would allow the water to drain away into the ditch rather than flood across the road. It was recognised that the deteriorating condition of Ash Road has been exacerbated by the increase of traffic using it as an alternative route during the closure of the bridge at Tonedale and it will require close monitoring over the winter months.</p> <p>(vii) The Clerk has been in contact with Kate Brown, a traffic engineer at the SCC Traffic Management Department, to express the concern about the increased volume and speed of traffic using the lanes around Nynehead following the closure of the railway bridge at Tonedale. She also reported several accidents that have occurred and requested support with this issue. Ms Brown has agreed to meet the councillors in November and see for herself the areas that are particularly hazardous. Appropriate signage and traffic calming measures can then be discussed. Mr G Stead and Mrs A Harcombe also had a constructive meeting with Nynehead Court who have offered some funding for traffic management measures ahead of their proposed development plans for next year. This can be moved forward once proposals have been discussed.</p> <p>(viii) Following complaints from some residents about the September fire and general management of Poole Industrial Estate, the Clerk contacted SWTC. She was advised that Poole Industrial Estate is made up of individual Registered Titles and used by independent businesses with no overarching Landlord or Management Company. The Local Authorities in the area provide some monitoring with regard to Planning Permissions, Environmental Health and Licencing and, aware of recent fires, SWTC is also monitoring the situation.</p> <p>(ix) The Somerset Wildlife Trust's suggested responses to the Government's Planning White Paper will be discussed at the next meeting in November.</p> <p>(x) Proposals for Somerset to become either a unitary or dual authority have been put forward to central Government and a decision is expected in</p>

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		<p>January 2021. In response to this, Wellington Town Council has approached surrounding Parish Councils with a view to establishing a Network Partnership Working Group. It is hoped that the creation of a working group at this early stage will put them in a stronger position to exert local influence on local matters, make economies and deliver a better service overall to this area. Dr J Butterley and Mr M Vest have represented Nynehead in two on-line meetings and the Clerk will invite the Village Agent to the next Parish Council meeting. Present and future functions and services and potential networking opportunities will be discussed</p>
20/067	Police Report	<p>(i) PCSO Henderson gave her monthly report. In total, there were 146 calls into 101 and 999 for the Wellington Rural Beat (this excludes Wellington Town). None of these calls involved Nynehead. Neither were there any reports of Antisocial Behaviour in Nynehead.</p> <p>(ii) PCSO Henderson raised awareness of a recent sharp increase in calls relating to bogus “Tree Specialists” who have been preying on the older population in local communities, offering to carry out garden work. Several residents have reported paying large sums of money for poor quality work to the so-called “Specialists” who have taken the money but have never returned to complete tasks. Residents are advised against allowing anyone into their homes or gardens unless they know them personally. If they require work to be undertaken, it would be better to find someone themselves or through the recommendation of a trusted friend or appropriate website.</p>
20/068	Rights of Way	<p>(i) Mr Joe Frost, Parish Paths Liaison Officer, gave his monthly report. As we head into late October, strimming is now coming to an end. Ploughing, by contrast, is fully underway in many fields and several footpaths have been ploughed up. Mr Frost reminded farmers and landowners that footpaths should be reinstated two weeks after final ploughing and planting.</p> <p>(ii) The Annual Parish Footpath walk in September was a great success. Fifteen adults, one toddler and five dogs took part and enjoyed the autumn sunshine to complete the circular walk. It was particularly pleasing to see new villagers take an interest.</p>
20/069	Highways	<p>(i) The Clerk had received no correspondence from Somerset Highways Dept.</p>
20/070	Receipts and Payments	<p>(i) The Council authorised and instructed the issue of cheques for:</p> <p>(a) The Clerk’s Salary for August 2020 (£249.92) and Expenses (£15.00) Total £264.92 Cheque No.000833 Prop. by Mr G Stead and Sec by Mrs A Harcombe</p> <p>(b) Dr J Butterley £36.98 (Joomla Wired Ltd - Website Host and Domain Name for nynehead.org) Cheque No.000834 Prop. by Mr G Stead and Sec.by Mrs A Harcombe</p> <p>(c) The Clerk’s Salary for September 2020 (£245.76) and Expenses (£54.90) Total £300.66 Cheque No.000838 Prop.by Mr G Stead and Sec. by Mrs A Harcombe</p> <p>(d) SALC Training seminar for new councillor £25.00 Cheque No.000835 Prop. by Mr G Stead and Sec.by Mrs A Harcombe</p> <p>(e) SALC Training seminar for clerks: How to create accessible Word &amp; PDF documents for website £30.00 Cheque No.000840 Prop.by Mr G Stead and Sec.by Mrs A Harcombe</p> <p>(f) Nynehead Memorial Hall Hire (for July, Aug, Oct 2020) £45.00 Cheque No.000839 Prop.by Mr G Stead and Sec.by Mrs A Harcombe.</p>

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		<p>(g) All Saints PCC Nynehead. Burial Ground Maintenance £630.00 Cheque No 000836 Prop. by Mr G Stead and Sec.by Mrs A Harcombe</p> <p>(h) Nynehead Jubilee Playing Field. Maintenance Grant £362.00 Cheque No 000837 Prop.by Mr G Stead and Sec.by Mrs A Harcombe</p> <p>(ii) To Note Receipts</p> <p>(i) SWTC Parish Grant £992.00</p>
20/071	Correspondence	<p><u>For information only (* received by email, ^ received by post).</u></p> <p>(i) Somerset Waste Partnership Briefing October 2020*<a href="http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk">www.somersetwaste.gov.uk</a></p> <p>(ii) M5 Junction 25 Improvement Scheme Project Newsletter October 2020*<a href="http://www.alungriffiths.co.uk">www.alungriffiths.co.uk</a></p>
20/072	Items requested for next agenda (16 <sup>th</sup> November 2020)	<p>Items Requested for the next Agenda:</p> <p>(i) Mr G Stead requested a further discussion about traffic and road signage options in Nynehead lanes.</p> <p>(ii) Mr M Vest requested a discussion of the present and future functions and services of Nynehead Parish with regard to potential networking opportunities with other neighbouring parishes.</p> <p>(iii) Dr J Butterley requested the discussion of The Somerset Wildlife Trust's suggested responses to the Government's Planning White Paper, postponed from the previous meeting.</p>