

## NYNEHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021. MEETING HELD REMOTELY (VIA ZOOM) DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS.

**The meeting started at 19.01 and concluded at 20.51**

<b>Present</b>	Dr J Butterley - Mr T Powell-Gill - Mrs A Harcombe - Mr M Vest - Mr G Stead. Mr G Wren (District Councillor) attended the first part of the meeting. There were no members of the public.	
21/014	Apologies	Mrs C Sweatman (Village Agent) – PCSO Henderson - Mr Joe Frost (Parish Footpaths Liaison Officer)
21/015	Declarations of Interest	There were no Declarations of Interest or Dispensations.
21/016	Approval of Minutes	The Minutes of the meeting held 18 January 2021 were approved and signed as a correct record.
21/017	Actions from the previous meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b><u>VAT Refund</u></b> – the Clerk received confirmation from HMRC that a long overdue VAT repayment of £106.54 has now been dealt with and should be credited to the PC account within the week.</li> <li>2) <b><u>Light pollution</u></b> – a resident contacted the Clerk about the degree of unnecessary light pollution emanating from Poole and Westpark which directly affects Nynehead. This has been an ongoing issue for some time and, in spite of reassurances from offenders, no remedial action has been taken. There is little more the Parish Council can do at this level. The Clerk will now contact SCC Environmental Officer and enlist the support of Wellington Without PC. Mr T Powell-Gill will also challenge Somerset Waste Partnership as to why they are failing to adhere to the published lighting criteria.</li> </ol>
21/018	Planning Matters	There were no <u>Planning Matters</u>
21/019	Parish Council Administration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Councillors discussed the views regarding speed management proposals gathered after a partial consultation with residents. It was agreed that a combination of 30mph and 20mph limits was more likely to have a positive effect on driver behaviour, promote a greater sense of safety and be more environmentally friendly through reduced carbon emissions. The desired location of the speed limits was also agreed upon and marked on a map. The Clerk will send this and a summary of these preliminary findings to SCC Traffic Management and request a second site meeting, post lockdown, for further discussion.</li> <li>(ii) Members supported the idea of a welcome pack for newcomers to Nynehead but there was debate about the exact format, quantity of information to be included and costs. The Clerk will contact Langford Budville and Oake to enquire about the collation and funding of their respective publications and will report back at the next meeting.</li> <li>(iii) Mr M Vest updated members about the Wellington Town Council Network Partnership Group following their meeting earlier in the month. The creation of such partnerships is widely endorsed at County level but the degree of consultancy regarding the future of Somerset as a unitary authority remains uncertain. It is hoped that there may be greater clarity by the time the group meets again in March.</li> <li>(iv) Members agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting would provide the ideal forum for residents to share and discuss future objectives for the Parish. A face to face rather than a remote meeting was considered preferable and, to</li> </ol>

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		<p>that end, the event will take place at some stage over the summer once COVID restrictions have been relaxed and it is deemed safe to gather again socially. Ahead of this, residents are encouraged to notify the PC of any specific ideas they may have.</p> <p>(v) The revised plan for footpath WG14/1 linking Nynehead to Bradford on Tone was reviewed. Members were pleased to see the progress made and the Clerk has sought confirmation from Bradford PC regarding payment for the work and the right to share information regarding the new plan.</p> <p>(vi) Minor repair work was undertaken by SCC on the footpath WG8/8, at the bottom of Blackdown View, designed to target the localised problem of access over the culvert and the low spot with the puddle. To resurface the entire stretch to a higher standard would require a more extensive process for which, currently, SCC has neither the resources nor the funds. SCC invited Nynehead PC to match fund the surfacing works at a cost of £700-£1000 but Members considered this too expensive for one short access path. The Clerk will notify SCC of their decision.</p> <p>(vii) Councillors agreed to change the date of the Parish Council meeting in May. This will now take place on <b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021</b> instead of the previous week. The Annual Parish Meeting may also be then or later in the summer, depending upon COVID restrictions.</p> <p>(viii) The expenditure for the month of January was reviewed against the budget set for 2020/2021. The balance is healthy with a current surplus of £1,130.00.</p> <p>(ix) The members approved the Parish Council Quarterly Report for the next publication of the Nynehead Newsletter.</p>
and21/020	Police Report	<p>(i) In the absence of PCSO Henderson, the Clerk read out a report she had received. There were only 22 calls into 101 and 999 for the Wellington Rural Beat for the month of January. Five of these calls concerned the Nynehead, Oake, Bradford on Tone and Langford Budville area involving a road related incident, two suspicious vehicle incidents in Nynehead, barriers that stuck on the railway crossing and one burglary of tools. Residents are advised to mark all tools with their postcode and register them to the Immobilise website. There were no reports of anti-social behaviour in this area in January.</p> <p>(ii) The Wellington policing team has worked hard at engaging with the community over the past month, partnering agencies such as schools, the council and care-homes. It has also increased patrols across the rural beat, focusing on areas they consider hot spots to discourage COVID breaches and any form of anti-social behaviour.</p>
21/021	Rights of Way	<p>(i) In the absence of Mr Joe Frost (Parish Paths Liaison Officer), the Clerk read out a report she had received. The stile at Chestnut Corner (WG8/2) is looking dilapidated, possibly as a result of having been hit by a tractor. Caution is needed when using it. The Clerk will make enquiries about a replacement.</p> <p>(ii) Walkers are reminded about the need to respect social distancing on narrow sections of footpaths and to report any mountain bikes who persist in using and cutting up paths.</p>
21/022	Highways	<p>(i) The Clerk had received no correspondence from Somerset Highways Dept.</p>
21/023	Receipts and Payments	<p>(i) The Council authorised and instructed the issue of cheques for:</p> <p>(a) The Clerk's Salary for January 2021 (£229.68) and Expenses (£20.00) Total £249.68 Cheque No.000847 Prop. by Mrs A Harcombe and Sec. by Mr G Stead</p>

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		(b) SALC (Councillor Essentials Remote Training) £25.00 Cheque No.000848 Prop. by Mrs A Harcombe and Sec. by Mr G Stead
21/024	Correspondence	<u>For information only (* received by email, ^ received by post).</u> (i) Somerset Waste Partnership Briefing January 2021* <a href="http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk">www.somersetwaste.gov.uk</a> (ii) M5 Junction 25 Improvement Scheme Project Newsletter – January 2021* <a href="http://www.alungriffiths.co.uk">www.alungriffiths.co.uk</a>
21/025	Items requested for next agenda	Items Requested for the next Agenda (15 <sup>th</sup> March 2021): (i) Mr M Vest requested the opportunity to consider environmental initiatives for Nynehead (Mr J Hoskings will be invited to give a short presentation)