



SOUTH PETHERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Parish **Kate Alford**
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Public Session

A member of the public spoke regarding budget setting.

A member of the public spoke regarding the proposed Community Hub & concerns over heating etc.

A TWiG representative spoke about the work they have recently been carrying out in the Parish. The Council noted the work and thanked the group for their efforts.

A member of the public spoke regarding the recent flooding in South Petherton

The Plymouth Brethren Rapid Relief Team (RRT) spoke to advise the council of help that they could provide in the parish and how to access this if needed.

Cllr A Dance gave the Somerset Council update, with a written report shortly to be sent through.

Cllr J Roundell-Green sent apologies.

The Minutes

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting of South Petherton Parish Council held at South Petherton Junior School on Monday 8th January 2024 when the following business was conducted.

PRESENT Councillors N Wakely (Chair), S Carp, A Dance, L Baker, R Brown, D Steel, D Hodson-Wright, B Elliott, B Swainson, T New & B Chitty along with the Clerks Mrs K Alford & Mrs R Swift.

12 members of the public were also in attendance.

1.1 To receive and agree any apologies for non attendance.

Cllr S Spiers, A Dexter, C Bragg & K Jones

1.2 To receive any declarations of interest.

None

1.3 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council from 19th December 2023.

Received and agreed

1.4 Clerk updates:

- Resolution updates

1.5 Chairman's Announcements.

None

1.6 Reports:

- Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC)
- Councillors – advised of a possible dangerous dog around the Silver Street area.
- Village Agent – report sent out
- Reach Youth – report sent out
- Avon & Somerset PCSO – no report
- Community Hub Group – The Chair opened the meeting to allow Paul Smith to give a comprehensive report on the current situation with the Coke Methodist Hall. Meeting closed again to the public.

1.7 Resolutions

- (1) To discuss the email from the Community Hub Management Group and resolve to agree the funding requests to further the investigations into the Methodist Church as a viable Community Hub:**

A) £2,000 for a surveyor

Resolved to agree funding request to fully assess likely liability going forward.

Proposed Cllr Hodson-Wright, seconded Cllr Dance, all in favour

B) £6,000 for a professional bid writer.

Resolved to agree funding in principle however this would be dependent on the results of the

survey and whether the Parish Council want to proceed after evaluating this.
Proposed Cllr New, seconded Cllr Dance, all in favour.

(2) To resolve to agree the draft budget for 2024/25

Resolved to agree the draft budget for 2024/25

Proposed Cllr Hodson-Wright, seconded Cllr New, 10 in favour, 1 against

(3) To resolve to agree a precept request for 2024/25

Resolved to request a precept amount of £297,700 from Somerset Council.

Proposed Cllr Hodson-Wright, seconded Cllr Elliott, 10 in favour, 1 against

(4) To resolve to grant permission for 5 standard native broadleaf trees to be planted next to the footpath leading from Ben Cross to West Street on the bank adjacent to south west edge of parish land map ref st424165.

Resolved to go ahead – proposed Cllr Dance, seconded Cllr Hodson-Wright - withdrawn

Resolved to agree for trees to be planted on the proviso that the current tenant agrees.

Proposed Cllr Dance, seconded Cllr Carp, 9 in favour, 2 against.

(5) To discuss the email received from LVA regarding the proposed development at Lightgate Lane and agree actions going forward.

Resolved not to engage with this at the current time.

Proposed Cllr Brown, seconded Cllr Hodson-Wright, 10 in favour, 1 against

(6) To resolve to agree a donation to the business owner & resident who provided power for the Christmas Lights in December 2023.

Resolved to agree a £50 donation to each.

Proposed Cllr Hodson-Wright, seconded Cllr Elliott, all in favour.

(7) To note the External Auditors report & certificate for the year 2022/23, and to agree any actions brought to the attention of the Parish Council.

Noted

(8) To note the Local Government Services Pay Award agreement 2023/24 & the backdating of this payment to 1st April 2023.

Noted

1.8 Finance & General Purpose Committee

To note & agree the items of expenditure and approve payments for December 2023

Noted and agreed

Proposed Cllr Carp, seconded Cllr Wakely, all in favour

1.9 Planning Committee

To receive & note the minutes of the Planning Committee made on 6th November & 7th August 2023
(No meeting in December 2023).

Received and noted.

1.10 To receive any additional information (if any) on the following:

- (a) Allotments and Whitfield Lane – Cllr Jones
- (b) Cemetery – Cllr Wakely & Cllr Jones
- (c) Footpaths and Bridleways – PPLOs Mr Nigel Kinsman & Cllr Wakely
- (d) TWIG – Cllr Jones & Cllr Hodson-Wright
- (e) Roads & Transport – Cllr Swainson – the wall in Prigg Lane bordering the car park is causing some concern re the damage. Clerks to investigate.
- (f) Recreation Ground/SPRUG – Cllr New, Cllr Swainson Cllr Steel & Cllr Carp
- (g) TA13 – Cllr Spiers
- (h) Blake Hall – Cllr Carp – next meeting is 22nd January
- (i) Community Land Trust (CLT) – Cllr Hodson-Wright, Cllr Chitty & Cllr Elliott
- (j) Library / LIC / Community Hub – Cllr Elliott & Cllr Carp
- (k) Mere Lynches – Cllr Jones
- (l) Youth – Cllr New & Cllr Steel
- (m) Patient Participation Group (PPG) – Cllr Steel & Cllr Baker – parking issues raised with people abusing the free parking for reasons other than hospital/doctors appts.
- (n) Local Community Review updates – Cllr Steel, Cllr Carp & Cllr Chitty

- 1.11 Other business referred to the Clerk
 1.12 Date of next meeting – Monday 5th February 2024 at the William Blake Memorial Hall.

Appendix I

1.8 Payments authorised on 8th January 2024

Payments to be authorised on 8th January 2023

		Net	Vat	Total	
1.	Halycon Grounds	Grass Maintenance – Dec 2023	1722.92	344.58	2067.50
2.	Mrs K Alford	Clerks Expenses – mobile	10.00	0	10.00
3.	Somerset Council	Village Ranger – November 2023	352.09	70.42	422.51
4.	HMRC	PAYE	846.13	0	846.13
5.	Reach Youth Ltd	Youth PC – Christmas Event expenses	204.40	0	204.40
6.	Mr S Carp	Noticeboards repair expenses	142.63	0	142.63
			6,278.17	415.00	6,693.17

Payments received after the agenda

7.	Mr K Harris	Parish Maintenance – Dec 2023	605.50	0	605.50
8.	Reach Youth Ltd	Youth Provision – Jan 2024	2691.00	538.20	3229.20
9.	CCS	Village Agent – Jan-March 2024	6745.00	0	6745.00
10.	Microshade	IT Support – Inv 18796	99.60	19.92	119.52
			16,419.27	973.12	17,392.39

To note the Standing Order/Direct Debit payments made in December 2023

1.	NBC	Library Broadband	20.85	4.17	25.02
2.	SSDC	Library – Rates	458.00	0	458.00
3.	SSDC	Cemetery – Rates	299.00	0	299.00
4.	SSDC	St James St car park – Rates	75.00	0	75.00
5.	SSDC	Lightgate Lane car park – Rates	100.00	0	100.00
6.	SSDC	Parish Office – Rates	52.00	0	52.00
7.	EDF Energy	Library Gas	43.82	2.18	46.00
8.	EDF Energy	Library Electricity	51.54	2.46	54.00
9.	Barnstore	Parish Storage	117.50	23.50	141.00
10.	Biffa	Waste Removal	86.05	17.21	103.26
11.	Plusnet	Blake Hall Broadband	18.00	3.60	21.60
12.	Merlin Telecomm	Parish Office telephone calls	13.76	2.75	16.51
13.	NBC	Library Broadband	20.19	4.03	24.22
14.	Biffa	Waste Removal	13.60	2.72	16.32
15.	Opus Energy	MUGA Lights	30.05	1.50	31.55
16.	HR Salaries/Pension	November 2023	3697.13	0	3697.13
			5,096.49	64.12	5,160.58