



SOUTH PETHERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Parish **Kate Alford**
Unit 1, Frogmary Green Farm, West Street, South Petherton TA13 5DJ
Tel: 01460 241002
E-Mail: clerk@southpethertonparishcouncil.gov.uk
www.southpethertonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Public Session

A member of the public spoke on behalf of a number of residents from Lightgate Lane about issues being caused by unsociable behaviour.

Cllr J Roundell-Greene gave an update on Somerset Council.

The Minutes

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting of South Petherton Parish Council held at William Blake Memorial Hall on Monday 7th October 2024 when the following business was conducted.

PRESENT Councillors N Wakely (Chair), S Carp, C Bragg, S Spiers, K Jones, R Brown, B Chitty, D Steel, B Elliott, B Swainson, T New, D Hodson-Wright, along with the Clerk Mrs K Alford.
12 members of the public were also in attendance.

9.1 To receive and agree any apologies for non attendance.

Cllrs Killen, Dance sent apologies. Cllr Baker was absent.

9.2 To receive any declarations of interest.

None

9.3 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council from 2nd September 2024.

Minutes were received and approved as an accurate record.

9.4 Clerk updates:

- Carnival /Fair/ Recreation Ground
- Tennis Club courts update
- Silt in Silver Street brook
- Resolution updates – October 2024

9.5 Chairman's Announcements.

Raw sewage has been noted coming from Lopen Head, which has been reported.

9.6 Reports:

- (a) Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC) – Cllr Steel offered to stand as a representative at any meetings.
- (b) Councillors
- (c) Village Agent - Suzy Coombes was in attendance & gave a short update.
- (d) Reach Youth – Dan Palmer was in attendance & gave a short update.
- (e) Avon & Somerset PCSO – not present.
- (f) Community Hub Group – Cllr Elliott gave an update about the sale of the Methodist Church.

9.7 Resolutions

(1) To review the draft Lease regarding the Parish Office, and to resolve to accept the new agreement going forward & proceed to completion.

Resolved to accept the draft lease.

Proposed Cllr Brown, seconded Cllr Spiers, all in favour.

(2) To review the draft Lease regarding the Youth Building, and to resolve to accept the new agreement going forward & proceed to completion.

Resolved to accept the draft lease.

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

(3) To note the end date for the Pitway allotment lease of 31/05/2025 with Council to contact tenant

within last 6 months of the current lease to agree way forward.

Noted.

(4) To resolve to confirm the extension of the Village Agent contract with Community Councils for Somerset (CCS) until March 2027.

Resolved to agree the extension.

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

(5) To resolve to engage Justin Robinson for up to 20 hours per week to provide consultancy and administrative support to the council while it recruits new staff members at rate of £30 per hour & 45p per mile for travel to and from meetings. To start from 8th October 2024.

Resolved.

Proposed Cllr Jones, seconded Cllr Bragg, all in favour.

(6) To resolve for the Clerk to reduce their working hours to 7 hours per week from the 14th October 2024 to cover the RFO role while the council recruits new staff members.

Resolved.

Proposed Cllr Jones, seconded Cllr Bragg, 11 in favour, 1 abstention.

9.8 Open Spaces Committee

To receive & note the minutes of the Open Spaces Committee made on 1st July 2024

Received & noted.

9.9 Finance & General Purpose Committee

(a) To note the conclusion of the External Audit for 2023/24.

Noted

(b) To note payments made in September 2024 & to agree the items of expenditure and approve payments for October 2024.

Noted & Agreed

Proposed Cllr Bragg, seconded Cllr Carp, all in favour.

(c) To note the income, spending and Ear Marked Reserve figures to the end of 30th Sept 2024 (Q2)

Noted.

9.10 Planning Committee

To receive & note the minutes of the Planning Committee made on 2nd September 2024

9.11 To note the reports recieved on the following (if any):

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| a) Allotments & Whitfield Lane | Cllrs Jones & Chitty |
| b) Cemetery | Cllrs Jones & Wakely |
| c) Footpaths & Bridleways | Cllr Wakely |
| d) TWIG | Cllrs Jones & Hodson-Wright – update from Cllr Jones about the Parish Map. |
| e) Roads & Transport | Cllr Swainson |
| f) Recreation Ground/SPRUG Liasion | Cllrs New & Carp |
| g) TA13 | Cllr Spiers |
| h) The William Blake Memorial Hall | Cllr Carp |
| i) Community Land Trust (CLT) | Cllr Hodson-Wright |
| j) Library, LIC & Community Hub | Cllrs Elliott & Carp – update from Cllr Elliott on upcoming talk. |
| k) Mere Lynches | Cllr Jones |
| l) Youth Provision | Cllrs New, Steel & Baker |
| m) Patient Participation Group – PPG | Cllr Steel – update on the NHS app & booking apps |

9.12 Other business referred to the Clerk

None

9.13 Date of next meeting - Monday 4th November 2024 at The William Blake Memorial Hall.