



**MINUTES OF MONTACUTE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON**  
**WEDNESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024**  
**IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

	<b>Action</b>
<p><b><u>24/052/a</u>      <b>PRESENT:</b></b></p> <p><b>Members:</b> Mrs C Saint (Chairman), Mr A McFarlane (Vice Chairman), Mrs L Drayton, Mr T Harper, Mr B Owen, Mrs S Richings, Mrs H Stokes and Mr D Warry</p> <p><b>Others:</b> Mrs S Moore (Clerk), Mr Mike Hewitson (Unitary Authority Councillor), and 2 members of the public</p> <p><b><u>24/052/b</u>      <b>APOLOGIES:</b></b></p> <p>Mr J Davies, Mr M Myram, and Mr Oliver Patrick (Unitary Authority Councillor)</p>	
<p><b><u>24/053</u>      <b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b></b></p> <p>Cllr McFarlane declared an interest in planning applications 21/03731/FUL, 21/03732/LBC and 24/00125/COU</p>	
<p><b><u>24/054</u>      <b>PUBLIC SESSION</b></b></p> <p>Residents raised their concerns about a neighbour's tree overhanging their property. The owner of the tree has obtained planning permission for tree work to be carried out but have told their neighbours that they have to pay for the work to be done. A discussion was held, and it was agreed that the tree work is the responsibility of the owner. Also, as there are power/phone lines intertwined through the branches of the tree then the National Grid and/or Openreach need to be notified.</p>	
<p><b><u>24/055</u>      <b>UNITARY COUNCILLORS</b></b></p> <p>Cllr Hewitson said that a letter is being sent to all residents regarding the reorganisation of the waste collections. Cllr Hewitson also reported Somerset Council's financial update and adult services.</p> <p>A discussion was held regarding contacts at Somerset Council. Cllr Hewitson said to contact either himself or Cllr Patrick in the first instance as many staff were leaving or being made redundant.</p>	
<p><b><u>24/056</u>      <b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b></b></p> <p>It was RESOLVED to approve and sign the Minutes of the April Parish Council meeting.</p>	
<p><b><u>24/057</u>      <b>MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES</b></b></p> <p><u>Review of Actions List</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play Area Fence: It was agreed to rewire the top of the fence</li> <li>• Highways Issues: It was agreed to arrange a site meeting with Highways</li> <li>• Hopscotch Area: It was agreed to get this repainted</li> <li>• Willow Growing on Allotment Plot: It was agreed to reinspect the plot</li>   <li>• Trees Near Allotment Entrance: It was agreed that these need to be trimmed back</li> <li>• Raised Grassloc tile under swing: Check tile and make good the area</li> <li>• Basketball Net: It was agreed to order a new net</li> <li>• Allotment Management Committee: It was agreed to send the constitution to Cllr Harper</li> <li>• Benches: Move benches from allotments to recreation ground</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cllr Harper</b>  <b>Clerk</b>  <b>Cllr Harper</b>  <b>Cllrs Harper &amp; McFarlane</b>  <b>Cllr Harper</b>  <b>Cllr Harper</b>  <b>Clerk</b>    <b>Clerk</b>  <b>Cllr Harper</b></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noticeboard Refurbishment: Reboard the backing with cork sheeting</li> <li>• Councillor Training: Check with SALC when training is available</li> <li>• Lengthsman: Ask groundsman if he can cover the lengthsman's work and to price for the work</li> <li>• Information on a place of safety: Send information to the Clerk</li> <li>• Then and Now Pictures: Ask owners for permission to put them on the parish council's website</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cllr Harper Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Clerk Cllr Drayton</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Saint</b></p>
<p><b><u>24/058</u>      <b>SPORTS &amp; LEISURE</b></b></p> <p><b><u>24/058/a</u>      <u>Play Area &amp; Recreation Ground</u></b></p> <p>i.    <u>Play Area</u>  Monthly Play Area Inspection report: no report given  Annual Play Area Inspection report: the annual playground inspection report had been received from the Play Inspection Company.</p> <p>ii.   <u>Pavilion Project</u>  The Clerk reported that the National Grid have received the signed wayleave agreement from the National Trust but stated that Somerset Council required £250 plus VAT before they will sign a wayleave agreement.  <i>(Cllr Hewitson entered the meeting. Cllr Hewitson's report is minuted under Minute ref: 24/055).</i>  Cllr Hewitson was informed about the wayleave agreement, and he said that he would contact the relevant department.  Cllr Harper gave a progress report on the pavilion.</p> <p>It was agreed to hold a recreation ground working party meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> May to discuss the outstanding issues listed in <i>Minute ref: 24/057</i>, the annual inspection report and the pavilion.</p> <p><b><u>24/058/b</u>      <u>Any Other Issues</u></b>  None declared.</p>	<p><b>Cllr Hewitson</b></p>
<p><b><u>24/059</u>      <b>VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT</b></b></p> <p><b><u>24/059/a</u>      <u>Allotments</u></b>  Cllr Harper gave a progress report on the allotments.</p> <p><b><u>24/059/b</u>      <u>Crime &amp; Anti-Social Behaviour</u></b>  The latest reports from the police.uk website had been circulated to councillors.</p> <p><b><u>24/059/c</u>      <u>Footpaths</u></b>  No report.</p> <p><b><u>24/059/d</u>      <u>Ground Maintenance</u></b>  A discussion was held regarding a partnership with Yeovil Without Parish and Brympton Parish to employ the lengthsman. Councillors RESOLVED that the Council would not be interested in employing the lengthsman but would consider hiring him from Yeovil Without Parish depending on the type of agreement.</p> <p><b><u>24/059/e</u>      <u>Highways &amp; Transport</u></b></p> <p>i.    <u>Speed Indicator Device/Speedwatch</u>  The Clerk read out Cllr Myram's report. There have been consistent Speedwatch sessions during the last month. During one session, members of the Speedwatch team were subjected to verbal abuse by an extremely rude village resident. It was agreed that it was an appalling way to treat volunteers trying to help the village.</p> <p>ii.   <u>Other</u>  None declared.</p> <p><b><u>24/059/f</u>      <u>National Trust</u></b>  No report.</p> <p><b><u>24/059/g</u>      <u>Street Lighting</u></b>  No report.</p> <p><b><u>24/059/h</u>      <u>Triangle Trust</u></b></p>	



Total	<u>£ 1,062.22</u>	
The Clerk stated that a couple more invoices had been received and asked if these could be paid. The invoices were:		
Somerset Council	Parish Lengthsman - April	£ 799.20 Chq 1876
Terry Harper	Reimbursement for items for the pavilion	<u>£ 1,094.41</u> Chq 1877
	Total	<u>£ 1,893.61</u>
It was RESOLVED to approve the payments.		
<b><u>24/061/c</u></b> Other:		
i.	<u>Online Banking</u>	
	Cllr Saint said that there were still issues changing banks and getting online banking set up and suggested staying with NatWest. Cllr Saint said that she and the Clerk were go into the NatWest branch in Yeovil to see whether new signatories could be added and how to proceed with the online banking. It was RESOLVED to stay with NatWest.	
ii.	<u>Parish Council Insurance</u>	
	The Clerk said she was still waiting for some quotes for the insurance. As the renewal date is 1 <sup>st</sup> June would councillors approve the quotes by email and ratify at the next meeting. This was agreed.	
<b><u>24/062</u></b>	<b><u>PLANNING</u></b>	
<b><u>24/062/a</u></b>	<b><u>Parish Planning Working Party Feedback on Applications:</u></b>	
	No applications.	
<b><u>24/062/b</u></b>	<b><u>Planning Decisions and Reports</u></b>	
	Decisions:	
	<b><u>24/00577/FUL</u></b> – change of use of land to residential, erection of a detached garage to front of dwelling and the erection of two detached outbuildings comprising of a workshop and potting shed to rear of dwelling (revised application of 23/01715/FUL) – Ridsdale, Townsend, Montacute TA15 6XH – approved	
	<b><u>24/00680/TCA</u></b> – notification of intent to fell no. 2 trees withing a conservation area – Little Sparrows, 17 Bishopston, Montacute TA15 6UU – decided	
	Reports:	
	<b><u>21/03731/FUL &amp; 21/03732/LBC</u></b> – conversion of the former piggery to dual use as a self-contained residential annexe to the principal farmhouse and a holiday let – Abbey Farm, Bishopston, Montacute TA15 6UA – awaiting decision.	
	<b><u>24/00125/COU</u></b> – change of use of land to extend the residential curtilage of the property Lochindorb – Lochindorb, Montacute Road, East Stoke, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6UQ – the parish council objects to this application – awaiting decision	
<b><u>24/063</u></b>	<b><u>GOVERNANCE</u></b>	
	No reports	
<b><u>24/064</u></b>	<b><u>CORRESPONDENCE</u></b>	
	No correspondence.	
<b><u>24/065</u></b>	<b><u>ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS</u></b>	
	None	
<b><u>24/066</u></b>	<b><u>DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING</u></b>	
	There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 21.00pm. The next meeting will be held in the village hall at on Wednesday, 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2024.	