

You may have recently seen social media posts from our Ward councillor, Oliver Patrick, following a discussion meeting in Yeovil Road between the Parish Council, Highways, the National Trust and the school. Road safety throughout the village is a top priority and this is only one area of the village that the Parish Council is looking at.

The Parish Council have worked with residents over the years to bring in the 20mph speed limit. Our speed indicator device monitors traffic speed at either end of the village, and we have a fantastic team of volunteers who carry out regular Speedwatch sessions. We also have a Transport Strategy Group which is made up of councillors and residents who are currently surveying the whole village to highlight all highway issues such as speeding, parking, line markings and potholes to name but a few. All the comments made on social media have been noted and taken on board, and along with our Ward members, we will be looking into all the issues raised.

It has been a little while since we have been able to give you an update on the new pavilion which will be sited on western end of the recreation ground near the car park. As you know, we were able to get the water supply moled into the recreation ground in time for the Coronation Picnic, and we have now accepted the quotation from Mike Ford to carry out all the remaining groundworks. We have also accepted the quotation from Sparkford Sawmills for the provision and installation of the new pavilion. Looking at lead times, now that the order has been made, work should commence in October, so it won't be long before we have our new pavilion.

At our meeting this month, councillors secured the one-year ground maintenance contract and approved to accept the tender from by Evis Ground Maintenance. Evis Ground Maintenance will be providing the grass cutting and hedge cutting for the recreation ground, play area and the allotments.

As Somerset now operates under a Unitary Authority, the county has been split into a number of Local Community Network areas. Montacute falls under the Yeovil Area and some of our parish councillors will be attending the inaugural LCN meeting on the 7th August. We will find out what the priorities and areas of focus are for the LCNs over the next twelve months, and how we can all work together. There will also be an opportunity to discuss what is important for residents and businesses in our area.

Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

There have, yet again, been a number of incidents in the village, so please report anything you see. If you are witness to any incident, it is important for you to report it directly to the police by telephoning the numbers listed below. Any reports given will be dealt with in confidence and your details will not be divulged. Also, you will receive an incident/crime number. Unfortunately, the Parish Council cannot report incidents to the police on your behalf as it would be considered as hearsay (third-party reporting).

For any advice and further/up-to-date information on incidents please go to the website: www.police.uk. If you are a witness to or the victim of a crime, then it is imperative that you report it to the police immediately whether it is during the day or at night. When reporting an incident please telephone either 101 for non-emergencies or 999 for emergencies only.

Parish Council meetings are held in the Village Hall on the third Wednesday of every month with the exception of August and December. The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 20th September 2023 at 7pm**. Parish Council meetings are open to the press and public, so residents are welcome to come along and listen to what we have to say. There is also a short public session at the beginning of every Ordinary Parish Council meeting.

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