

**MINUTES OF MONTACUTE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON**  
**MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> July 2021 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**



**21/077/a PRESENT:**

**Members:** Mrs C Saint (Chairman), Mrs A Gihon (Vice Chairman), Mr B Bevan-Davies, Mr J Davies, Mrs J Folkard, Mr R Folkard, Mr D Warry and Mrs M Wilson

**Others:** Mrs S Moore (Clerk), Mr M Keating (County Councillor) and 1 member of the public

**21/077/b APOLOGIES:**

Mr R Littlefield Mr M Myram, Mrs M Wilson, and Mr Tony Capozzoli (District Councillor)

**21/078 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Saint declared an interest in matters relating to the Village Hall and Montacute Pre-School.

Cllr Gihon declared an interest in matters relating to the Sheep Wash, Triangle Trust, and the Village Hall

Cllr Bevan-Davies declared an interest in matters relating to the Village Magazine.

**21/079 PUBLIC SESSION**

There were no comments from the members of the public.

**21/080 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

**21/080/a District Councillor**

No report had been received.

**21/080/b County Councillor**

Cllr Keating's report had been circulated to councillors.

Cllr Keating said the Unitary Authority decision will be made later in the week.

Cllr Keating said Somerset County Council are opening up their Health and Wellbeing grant scheme again this autumn and asked councillors to think if there was anyone who could benefit from this scheme. He also stated that the Small Improvement Scheme will be available again shortly. The possibility of extending the 20mph limit along St Michaels View was discussed. Cllr Keating said this area would need to be assessed.

Cllr Keating said there was no news on the travellers in Station Road and suggested talking to the Locality Officer at SSDC. He said that if the public footpath was blocked then Rights of Way would need photographic evidence.

Cllr Keating was questioned about when the verges were going to be cut back and he said that SCC will only do this once a year and recommended that parish councils get them cut back themselves in May, so they are not so overgrown during the summer. Cllr Keating said that he has a list of contractors if required.

**21/081 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was RESOLVED to approve and sign the Minutes of the June Parish Council meeting.

**21/082 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**Review of Actions List**

The Clerk said she had split all the Highway issues into a separate section on the Actions Report so that a separate report can be drawn up for the Highways Department. It was agreed that the Cllr Saint and the Clerk would liaise.

**Action Cllr Saint & Clerk**

The remaining Actions are as follows:

- Travellers in Station Road: No further information had been received and it was agreed to the Clerk to contact the District Councillor. **Action Clerk**
- Mobile Phone Mast: No further progress had been made. The Clerk mentioned a company called Gigaclear had been installing cabling for improved internet connections in surrounding villages and residents in Montacute maybe contacted in the near future.

- Fingerpost: The Clerk said she had received a couple of quotations from Sign of the Times and Signpost Restoration, but they do not supply cast iron posts only aluminium. A discussion was held, and councillors RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Somerset Forge for £1,910. A resident has been asked members of the community to donate towards the reinstatement of the fingerpost and it was agreed to put information on ways to pay in the village magazine. **Action Clerk**
- National Trust Lease: The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had signed and returned the lease and were still waiting for the National Trust to sign and return it. It was agreed for the Clerk to contact the Estate Manager. **Action Clerk**
- Speed Indicator Device: The Clerk confirmed that the SID had arrived, and Cllr Saint said that the lengthsmen has agreed to install it on a regular basis. Cllr Bevan-Davies agreed that he would charge the batteries.
- Online Banking: The Clerk explained there were still issues with switching accounts from NatWest to Lloyds Bank as Lloyds Bank were still not opening 'switched' business accounts. *(Cllr Keating entered the meeting)*  
Cllr Keating gave his report. See *Minute ref: 20/080/b.*  
*(Cllr Keating left the meeting)*
- Grass Cutting: There were still concerns regarding the grass cutting in the recreation ground. Cllr J Folkard gave the dates when the grass had been cut.
- Speedwatch: The Clerk said she had received a report from Cllr Myram. Cllr Myram has agreed to be the Speedwatch Co-Ordinator for the village. There are now ten volunteers, six of which are awaiting confirmation emails from the Police and once this has been sorted out the equipment will be sent. Training is required and the Police Support volunteer will be giving a presentation to all involved. Cllr Myram attended the quarterly Community Speedwatch meeting,

## **21/083      SPORTS & LEISURE**

### **21/083/a      Play Area & Recreation Ground**

The Clerk said the independent annual playground inspection was due. The Play Inspection Company have quoted £105, and their lead time is 10 - 12 weeks from receipt of an order. It was RESOLVED to accept the quotation from the Play Inspection Company. **Action Clerk**  
Cllr Davies playground inspection report was relayed to councillors. It was noted that there were no significant issues.

The Clerk said she had applied to the Co-Op for a grant towards new fencing for the play area but will not hear back until October whether the application was successful. It was agreed for Cllr Davies agreed to get some quotations for a new chain-link fence in green. **Action Cllr Davies**

### **21/083/b      Recreation Ground Pavilion Project – Progress Report**

The Clerk said she had contacted the National Trust regarding the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) and asked why they had not commented on the planning application. As the National Trust have no objections to the new pavilion, they would not make any comments on the planning application. The National Trust are happy for a WSI to be undertaken which is standard for this type of planning. The Estate Manager recommended Peter Bellamy of Terrain Archaeology as this is the company the National Trust use to carry out this type of assessment. Terrain Archaeology will also provide a watching brief whilst the ground works are carried out. It was agreed to approach Terrain Archaeology for a quotation. **Action Clerk**

### **21/083/c      Any Other Issues**

A discussion was held on the village picnic. Cllr Saint suggested a virtual meeting with the Carnival Club to discuss the event.

## **21/084      VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT**

### **21/084/a      Allotments**

The Clerk said she had contacted the Parish Council's solicitors for some advice regarding the fenced off area of land at the bottom of the allotments. The Clerk recommended to the council that this area must be left untouched until councillors are aware of the legal position. The Clerk said if the fencing is dangerous and could cause injury to allotment holders then the council must make it safe. It was suggested that the tenant of the plot next to the fence could be move to an alternative plot.

The Clerk reported that Streetscene can provide some mulch for the car parking area at the top of the allotments for free. The only cost would be for the delivery and the team's time. Cllr Gihon said she had decided not to use the plot at the top of the allotment site for parking now and wants to use the top trackway instead, but it will need strimming and measuring.

The Clerk said that all the rent had been received except for three allotment holders. This information along with a breakdown of the allotment accounts have been passed onto Cllr Gihon.

**21/084/b**      **Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour**

The Clerk circulated a newsletter from Avon and Somerset Police to councillors. There were no incidents reported.

**21/084/c**      **Footpaths**

The Clerk confirmed that she had sent the footpath map to the new PPLO. The PPLO has started to walk the footpaths and will give a report in a couple of months.

**21/084/d**      **Ground Maintenance**

The Clerk said the meeting was not organised with Ryan as he managed to get the grass cut just after last month's meeting.

The Clerk said the Lengthsman has been asked to cut the recreation ground hedge on the roadside which will be done within the next couple of weeks. Cllr J Folkard confirmed that she has given him a spare key to security gate.

**21/084/e**      **Highways & Transport**

i.      **Parking at the Entrance of Wash Lane in Bishopston:**

The Clerk said she had received a complaint about the parking opposite and on either side of the entrance to Wash Lane in Bishopston causing an obstruction and making the visibility for cars exiting Wash Lane non-existent and extremely dangerous. This lane is the only vehicular access to the village hall, and it is also access for six households. The Clerk said with the hall getting back to normal soon there will be a great movement of traffic and residents are concerned there could be an accident.

The Clerk said she has also been asked whether the Parish Council would consider requesting double yellow lines to be installed either side of the junction to Wash Lane in Middle Street.

It was agreed to put an article in the village magazine asking residents to be more considerate when parking.

**Action Clerk**

ii.      **SID Update:**

The Clerk said ElanCity have been updated of the new delivery address and will contact Cllr Gihon with a delivery date.

iii.      **Speedwatch:**

See *Minute ref: 21/082*

**21/084/f**      **National Trust**

Cllr J Folkard reported that the National Trust will not be holding the fun runs or farmers markets for the foreseeable future.

The Clerk said she had not received a response from the National Trust's ranger on the Parish Council's feedback to the St Michaels Management Plan. Cllr J Folkard said that she would contact the ranger.

**Action Cllr J Folkard**

A discussion was held, and it was agreed to formally ask for a public consultation, a stability assessment as St Michael's hill is not a natural hill, a biodiversity study and a risk assessment on the impact to the village.

Cllr Saint said that in light of the concerns the Parish Council have over the management plan and the effect it could have on the village, the Parish Council need to have an Emergency Plan in place. It was agreed for the Clerk to create an Emergency Plan and bring it to the next meeting for discussion.

**Action Clerk**

**21/084/g**      **Street Lighting**

Cllr Folkard said there was nothing to report

**21/084/h**      **Triangle Trust**

Cllr Warry said the Triangle Trust have been asked to buy a Doppler machine. This used on patients who have leg ulcers to check the blood supply to the legs.

**21/084/i**      **Any Other Issues**

None declared.

## **21/085 MEMBERS' & CLERK'S REPORTS**

Cllr Saint reported that Mrs Lindsey Lee, who had been co-opted onto the council in June, had decided not to join the parish council because of personal commitments.

## **21/086 FINANCE**

### **21/086/a Matters for Report:**

i. Monthly Bank Reconciliation

The Clerk gave the monthly bank reconciliation as of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021:

Current Account	£ 250.00
Business Reserve Account	£59,467.41
Pavilion Reserve Account	£21,264.47
<b>Total</b>	<b>£80,981.88</b>
Less Outstanding Cheques	£ 955.25
<b>Total as Cash Book</b>	<b>£80,026.63</b>

### Ring-Fenced Amounts

Sports Pavilion	£38,130.58
Play Equipment	£4,241.42
Allotment New Plot Deposits	£450.00
Allotment Gate Key Deposits	£236.25
Defibrillator Accessories	£186.50
Spring Bulbs	£100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£42,894.75</b>

**Budget Working Capital £37,131.88**

ii. Quarterly Budget Comparison

The quarterly budget comparison had been circulated to councillors. The Clerk reported that the first quarter expenditure was under budget.

### **21/086/b For Resolution**

i. Invoices Payable:

Mr A Powell	Compensation for Fruit Trees (paid 10.07.21)	£50.00	Chq 1680
Sarah Moore	Expenses June	£306.20	Chq 1681
Evis Ground	Grass Cutting June	£388.88	Chq 1682
Maintenance Somerset Association of Local Councils	Local Councils Affiliation Fee 2021/22	£188.84	Chq 1683
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£933.92</b>

It was RESOLVED to approve the payments.

ii. Other:

None declared.

## **21/087 PLANNING**

### **21/087/a Planning Information**

None received

### **21/087/b Parish Planning Working Party Feedback on Applications:**

**21/02158/HOU** – enlargement to single storey rear extension and internal alterations – 20 St Michaels View, Montacute TA15 6UJ – This application has only just been received and is with the Planning Working Group for consideration.

### **21/087/c Planning Decisions and Reports**

i. Decisions:

ii. Reports:

**21/01528/HOU** – Conversion and single storey flat roof extension to existing garage to rear, single storey lean-to extension to rear, alterations & erection of a detached garden room for use as ancillary living accommodation to replace existing shed (re-submission of previous approval 16/04863/FUL) – 15 Bishopston, Montacute TA15 6UX – no observations or objections

**20/00991/OUT** – Outline application with all matters reserved save for access for the residential development of land for up to 30 no. dwellings – Land at Mason Lane, Montacute – Awaiting decision. No further information has been posted on the SSDC Planning Portal

**21/00195/FUL** – erection of a new pavilion, re-submission of 18/04084/FUL – Montacute Recreation Ground, Montacute Road, Montacute - Awaiting decision. No further information has been posted on the SSDC Planning Portal

**21/088            GOVERNANCE**

No report given

**21/089            CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence received

**21/090            ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

Queens Jubilee 2022

Emergency Plan

SCC Health and Wellbeing Grant

**21/091            DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 21.05pm. The next parish council meeting will be held in the village hall at 7pm on Monday, 20th September 2021.