

# Tisbury Parish Council – Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting Held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024 in the Reading Room, High Street, TISBURY, SP3 6LD

## **Questions and Statements**

Unitary Councillor Richard Budden gave a brief report on a recent meeting held at Donhead St Mary Village Hall at which a representative of the Wessex Rivers Trust provided information on the grants available through Wiltshire Council for residents to replace their septic tanks if they were near to a river and their tanks needed replacing.

He said that only two residents from Tisbury had attended the meeting and he was concerned that the Tisbury residents who were not connected to the main sewer may not be aware of the grants available. He asked the Council if it could consider ensuring that this information was communicated to residents through the posting of a leaflet to be produced by Wessex Rivers Trust and available in early May. By doing this, it could also ensure an improvement to the water quality of the River Nadder.

The Chair advised that this would be added to the next agenda.

# **MEETING MINUTES**

(\*responsibility for action)

<u>Those present:</u> Councillors Davison (Chairman), R Buck, F Corp, E Coyle-Camp, V Hillier, J Mason and G Murray - 8.

<u>Also in attendance</u>: Unitary Councillor Richard Budden B Cornish (Clerk)

#### 227.23 Apologies \*Clerk

Councillors unanimously approved the apologies received from Councillors N Errington (holiday) and E Coyle-Camp (personal commitment). The Chair informed the meeting that Julie Phillips had resigned as a councillor. It was agreed that a letter of thanks for her service be sent by the Clerk.

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.....Date.....

## 228.23 Declarations of Interest:

- **a.** Declarations of disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests already declared in the Register of Interests: None
- **b.** Declarations of disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests not previously declared in the Register of Interests: None.
- c. Dispensations: if required: None.

## 229.23 Resolution of Minutes

To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 - **Approved; JM/GM**; unanimous.

## 230.23 Tisbury Swimming Pool 60th Anniversary Celebration Weekend \*Clerk

To consider a request from the Chair of the Committee for Tisbury Swimming Pool to use the King George V Field for a fete with stalls on 24th August 2024 and to have a Food Stall at lunchtime on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2024:

- **Approved; RB/FC**; unanimous, subject to receiving a copy of the organisation's public liability insurance and a risk assessment for the events.

## 231.23 Funds from Tisbury Business Association \*Clerk

To consider a request from the former Tisbury Business Association to accept the sum of £2400.41 as a gift under section 139 of the Local Government Act 1972 on the proviso that it be retained in an Earmarked Reserve and used only for the following purposes:

- a. Repair and replacement of Tisbury Christmas Lights;
- **b.** Purchase of refreshments for the volunteers putting up and taking down the lights for Christmas:
- Approved; RAB/JM; unanimous.

# 232.23 Explore Wiltshire Heritage Trail App \*Clerk/RAB/RB

To consider a request from Wiltshire Council's Heritage Service to:

- **a.** Approve the text for the introductory and marketing slides plus the draft trail text for the initial trail which has already been reviewed and approved by the Tisbury History Society:
  - **Approved; RB/RAB;** unanimous, with Councillors Beattie and Buck making identified revisions/corrections before it is returned to the Heritage Service.
- **b.** Approve that Tisbury History Society can work in partnership with the Parish Council on this project and therefore can have login and access rights to the Tisbury section of the App to add and amend information once it is 'live'.
  - Approved; RB/JM; unanimous.

#### 233.23 Station Works and South Western Hotel Sites \*Clerk

To consider a report from Councillor Mason on the loss of amenity to the village rendered by the current condition of the sites and his proposal that the Council:

- **a.** Writes to the owners of both sites requesting that they make good the buildings and restore the amenity which has been lost due to the lack of maintenance, post-flood and post-fire damage by 30th June 2024;
  - Approved; JM/GM; unanimous.

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- **b.** Writes to Wiltshire Council as the Local Planning Authority upon their failure to carry out the works requested, asking for a Section 215 Notice to be issued under the terms of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990.
  - Approved; JM/GM; unanimous.

## 234.23 Station Works Site

To consider and approve the attendance of Parish Council representatives at the forthcoming meeting between Intelligent Land and Network Rail:

Councillor Murray advised that he and the Clerk had been given very short notice of a meeting which had been held that day and he had taken the 'in principle' support given to him by councillors following the report he had given at the last meeting as consent for him and the Clerk to attend.

- Ratified; Chair; unanimous.

Councillor Murray then gave a brief report on the key points discussed at the meeting as follows:

- Network Rail had received funding to extended services between Salisbury and Yeovil. They would be starting work on a strategic online business case which would take about a year to complete. This would include the Tisbury Loop which, if given the funding when funding was available, would reduce journey times by 4-6 minutes.
- The upgrading of the Chantry Crossing was ruled out due to it not being considered safe for the increased pedestrian traffic created by the development. Any upgrade with traffic lights would cost £2 million.
- A non-DDA compliant temporary bridge would cost between £2-4 million so Network Rail therefore would support a bridge but not an upgrade to the crossing. The cost of this would be met by the developer.

Councillor Murray said that this was the first time in four years of meetings between the parties that they appeared to be on the 'same page'. Following a request from Intelligent Land, Network Rail had agreed to provide some costs for the building of a bridge for the landowner to consider.

#### 235.23 Dark Skies and Bat Walk

To approve a Risk Assessment for the walk being held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 7.45 pm:

- Approved; RB/RAB; unanimous.

# 236.23 Rain Garden Project \*Clerk/RB

To receive a report from Councillor Buck on the progress of the Rain Garden project and to consider a recommendation from the Environment Committee to approve a sum to purchase temporary fencing and plants to complete the project: Councillor Buck reported that compost for the rain garden had been delivered and chestnut fencing was to be installed to replace the temporary Heras fencing which, if retained, would cost the Council £20 per week to hire. She also said that she would be liaising with Sherborne Castle Gardens, Plant World and Tisbury Gardening Club regarding donations of plants for the site which fitted with the planting plan.

- **Approved; RB/JM;** unanimous; the allocation of £500 for the purchase of additional plants on the proviso that it would only be spent if it was needed.

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## 237.23 Finance - Approval of April Financial Information

- **a.** Current Account bank reconciliation to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024
- **b.** Deposit Account bank reconciliation to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024
- **c.** Budget to Actual Reports to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024
- d. Earmarked Reserves held on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024
- Approved; RAB/JM; unanimous.

#### 238.23 Policies

To approve the following policies:

- **a.** Capability Policy and Procedure
- b. Absence Management Policy
- c. Lone Worker Policy
- d. Drugs and Alcohol Policy
- Approved; JM/FC; unanimous.

#### 239.23 Representative Reports

**Nadder Centre Steering Group:** Councillor Beattie advised that as a member of the Steering Group he had written to the Area Manager for the Nadder Centre asking him to extend the rent-free period for the Coffee Angels concession for a year.

He said that the Coffee Angels operation at the Nadder Centre made the whole place more welcoming and ought to be attracting more visits. Imposing an annual rental may render the operation unviable whilst they were building up the business and when receiving little support and communication from the Nadder Centre itself on upcoming events which could boost their business. If it were to cease without sufficient time being given to ensure its profitability, then this would harm the Nadder Centre which was already running with heavy losses.

#### 240.23 Items for Next Agenda

Emergency Plan

#### 241.23 Date of next meeting:

Councillor Davison confirmed the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7.30 pm at the Reading Room, High Street, Tisbury. This meeting will follow the Annual Parish Meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 7.55 pm.

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