

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED AT NEXT MEETING - SEPT **Minutes of the Meeting Held on Monday 8th July 2024**

Meetings are held at 7.00pm in the Village Hall unless stated otherwise - Nigel Ashton, Gordano Valley Ward Cllr, attends when possible

Present: Cllrs Brian Cannell (Chair), Claire Flower, Rachel Dickinson

In Attendance: Don Hill (Clerk)

Public Attendance: 1

050/24 APOLOGIES

Cllr Dave Wherrett, NSC Cllr Nigel Ashton

051/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Dispensations apply to Cllrs re the setting of the precept, and to Village Hall matters)

None

052/24 LAST MEETING MINUTES + MATTERS ARISING

Meeting minutes of June 10th were agreed and signed.

053/24 PLANNING (The NSC website has full details. Applications notified on the meeting day will also be considered)

New: 24/P/1155/TRCA Taggart House tree works: noted, no objections. **Clerk to notify NSC.**

Decisions Due: 24/P/0960/LBC / 24/P/0959/FUH: 2 Manor Cottages development. 24/P/1207/FUL Squires Cottage expansion (Weston-in-Gordano)

Appeal: 23/P/0165/FUL Conygar Quarry.

054/24 PARISH MATTERS

i. **Street Light:** New quote is £2458.65. Invoice awaited for payment.

ii. **Traffic Speed Issues:** Our aim is to achieve real traffic speed reductions on the B3124 and The Coast Road via the introduction of speed limit reductions and possible engineered solutions. To move towards this aim, our immediate objective is to develop a mass of data that will provide the basis of highway plans for the B3124 and, eventually the Coast Road: these plans to form the basis of a presentation to NSC of the case for change - and of a plan for change.

A lengthy discussion took place around the urgent need for an affordable and workable scheme of data collection. This will need to centre around volunteers to collect data from either increased SpeedWatch activity or a Speed Indicator Device (SID), with an alternative, perhaps, of employing a contractor to amass the data.

We know that NSC are resistant to changes, due to their reliance on nationally laid down criteria, as well as to staff and financial shortages. We suspect that an outside contractor - if one can be found - will be prohibitively expensive. We are therefore drawn to a conclusion that, pending other suggestions of ways forward, progress will rely on us being able to enlist volunteer help.

A list of the discussion prompts that need developing for taking forward at the September meeting and of presenting to residents via the October Cross Tree Chronicle are set out below in random order. All contributions to this process will be welcome and can come via the Clerk (contact details at the head of these minutes), or Councillors, whose contact details are contained in all editions of the Cross Tree Chronicle or via the Council website at waltoningordanopc.org.uk.

- Use of contractor to provide SID and collect data for six months... and make case to NSC? **Clerk to provide Cllr Flower with consultant who quoted for the report that would arise from the data.**
 - All-in cost of SID purchase and data collection around £8000? Asset insurance would be some £30 a year. Volunteer insurance would fall within the Council's public liability insurance at no extra cost.
 - Rely on SpeedWatch data - as Weston-in-Gordano did. This will provide data, but the watches and number of volunteers will need to increase. Data cannot be collected in the dark or in the rain.
 - The Police SID grant appears not to be an option as it will close before the preliminaries are sorted out.
 - A police road safety grant of some £5000 may be available.
 - Priorities are cases for 20mph on B3124 and 30mph along Coast Road.
 - The raw facts of cost and of a need for volunteers - and call for other suggestions - to form subject of a piece by Cllr Flower in the October Cross Tree Chronicle.
- iii. **Walton Bay Transport:** no developments this month.
- iv. **Village Notice Board:** No 2nd hand perspex available. Cllr Cannell to measure up for new.
- v. **Parish Maintenance:** Draft worksheet in preparation by Clerk for detailed discussion in September.
- vi. **B3124 National speed limit signs:** Members to check that Clevedon-end re-erected. New Portishead-end signs are erected and legible.
- vii. **Walton Street:** potholes and broken Somerset Stone. Detailed enough evidence not yet available to put in a report on. It is likely that our excellent NSC Area Engineer will pick up on these problems once their criteria for repair is reached. At the moment NSC are prioritising areas for repair rather than individual potholes.
- viii. **Electricity Power Cuts:** there were a spate of cuts in The Village. Specific information needed as the basis for the Clerk to raise an enquiry/complaint to National Grid against the possibility of the problem persisting. **Cllr Dickinson to report specifics to the Clerk.**
- ix. **Walton Brook retaining wall repair : Detached Gabion in brook : Blocked Coast Road drains : Walton Bay Bus Stop erosion:** NSC responses due. **Clerk to seek Cllr Ashton's intervention.**
- i. **Defibrillator Service Payments:** £50 per machine per year - payment protocols to be agreed.

055/24 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Dickinson: With defibrillators based at The Village Hall and at Walton Bay, the recent Defibrillator course in the Village Hall was a significant success, with some 30 attendees from both locations.

Cllr Cannell: a) Reminded Members that, as usual, there will be no meeting in August and b) reported that the Internal Drainage Board appear to have cleared the open section of the Brook in Moor Lane (this is a riparian responsibility of The Estate).

056/24 FINANCE

- i. **2024-25 Accounts:** were reviewed against bank statements and approved.
- ii. **Online Banking:** Online application completed: process agreed and signature authorisation signed. **Clerk to send this authorisation to bank by post per instructions on form.**
- iii. **Cheques: 846...** no cheque payments due

057/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday September 9th at 7pm in the Village Hall (as usual, there will be no meeting in August)

The meeting closed at 8.45pm