

**W**e were so sad to learn of the passing of His Royal Highness Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh. His quiet and assured toughness of spirit has served us all so positively for longer than most of us are able to remember. May he rest in the peace that he so deserves

## Minutes of the MS Teams Meeting at 6pm on Monday 12th April 2021

Meetings are held at 7.30pm at the Village Hall unless stated otherwise

Nigel Ashton, Ward Cllr & Colin Medus, NSC Liaison Officer attend when possible

*There are 2 Councillor vacancies - please contact a Councillor or the Clerk if you are interested in becoming involved*

**Present:** Cllrs Mike Ralston (Chair), Brian Cannell, Rachel Dickinson

**In Attendance:** Cllr Nigel Ashton (NSC), Don Hill (Clerk)

**Public Attendance:** 0

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and reflected on the sad passing but positive contribution of Prince Phillip to all our lives. Members observed a one minute silence in respect for his memory.

**031/21 APOLOGIES** - none

**032/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - none

**033/21 LAST MEETING MINUTES** - March 8th - were agreed, and reserved for signature.

**034/21 MATTERS ARISING NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE** - none

**035/21 PLANNING** - Visit the NSC website for fuller details. Applications notified on the day of the meeting will also be considered.

**New: 20/P/3047/FUL** Home Farm Gateway Widening. Notwithstanding this application being retrospective there are very cogent road safety arguments in its favour and Members felt unanimously that they they would not raise any objections to it. **Clerk to so inform NSC planners.**

**Decisions Due: 21/P/0487/FUH & 21/P/0488/LBC** The Manor - replacement windows.

**036/21 PARISH MATTERS**

**Gullies in Walton Street:** Emptying due, but may be delayed.

**Street Light** - 6 responses (two from non-residents) to the April Cross Tree Chronicle piece have been received, all in favour of retaining a light. Clerk awaiting NSC response re an enquiry as to what, if any, planning permission will be needed. There appear to be two options to placing a new light: either on a pole in a location far enough away from the barn to allow for the barn's maintenance (the basis of the current replacement quote), or fixing the new light to either the Moor Lane or the B3124 face of the barn itself. **Clerk to seek advice from NSC (Planning & Conservation)/Western Power on feasibility of options.**

**20mph Speed Zone Extension:** Cllr Ashton reported that new NSC 20 mph schemes are going ahead, with policy being changed to increase the area covered. He has a question going to NSC on 20th April asking for clarification of terms - i.e. who pays for the schemes and any physical restrictions needed to make drivers comply. Key concerns are that if a 20mph zone is too long, people will ignore it and if it is too expensive then smaller parishes couldn't afford it.

**Walton Street:** Flooding at gateway from the field coming off Walton Down - NSC report awaited. The suspected water leak outside Arodene - Cllr Dickinson remains in contact with Bristol Water.

**Buses:** The 88 service ceased at the beginning of April. NSC are expected to provide a Walton Bay to Clevedon service - details are still awaited at the time of this meeting. **Clerk to chase.**

## 037/21 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

### Cllr Ralston

**Walton Bay:** Cllr Ralston complained strongly to Hunters about their Sales Board attached to the Walton Bay Parish Notice Board and felt that their response was one of apparent indifference.

**Walton Street:** Drainage Related Hole at Springhead path junction with Walton Street. **Clerk to report to NSC.**

**Golf Club Fence:** Cllr Ashton emailed the Clerk with a report that NSC lawyers, having studied the executed 1956 agreement between the Miles Estate and Somerset County Council, and acknowledge that NSC are responsible for the maintenance of the fence running between the golf course and Walton Street from Taggart House to Arodene. Cllr Ralston received the same information from the golf club. The meeting felt thanks are due to Cllrs Ralston and Ashton for their diligence in resolving what has been a long standing issue.

### Cllr Dickinson

**Footpaths on Common:** The issue of the fallen trees on the footpath between Plum Tree Cottage and the Common where it passes the side of Hackswood House was raised. Cllr Dickinson noted that there were additional trees which were catching on the power line due to lack of maintenance by Western Power Distribution (WPD). This is putting the line at risk and is a potential safety hazard for the public walking along the footpath. Avon wildlife, who manage the woodland for the Estate, are attempting to get WPD to remove the trees as it is unsafe for their contractors to carry out the work. If this issue is not resolved, and to the extent that the public footpath system is involved, **the Clerk will contact NSC Tree and Footpath officers to see if they can progress any action that may be needed.**

### Cllr Cannell

**Moor Lane:** Fly Tipping in the Ash Track gateway. **Clerk to report.**

## 038/21 FINANCE

**2020-21 Final Accounts:** pre-circulated and signed off ready for internal audit.

**2021-22 Opening Accounts:** pre-circulated, reviewed and noted.

**Cheques:** 798 ALCA Annual Subscription £70.66 approved.

## 039/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Due to evolving Covid-19 regulations it currently appears that it will not be possible to hold parish council meetings - electronic or in person - from 7th May until July. **There will, therefore, be no Parish Council meeting in June.**

To comply with legal requirements for the May meetings, Members therefore agreed to meet via Microsoft Teams on May 5th, as under:

**The Parish Council Annual Meeting will be on Wednesday May 5th via Microsoft Teams 6pm.**

**It will be followed at 6.30m by the Annual Resident's Meeting, which will have a single item agenda - Open Discussion.**

**The meeting closed at 7.05pm**

### **Post Meeting Note:**

*This meeting went ahead on the basis of guidance received this morning. While the meeting was under way new guidance emerged, relating to S243 of the Local Government Act 1972, advising that meetings should be postponed during the period of mourning. As S243 refers to the holding Elections, and as the meeting had actually taken place there was some confusion about the guidance and it was decided to publish these minutes rather than to declare them void.*