

CLERK'S REPORT – 21st May 2018

Parish Councillor Vacancies – Agenda Item 8

Mr. David Sixsmith is attending the meeting and is willing and able to serve as a Parish Councillor, and stands to be co-opted as a member at the meeting.

I have not received a formal resignation letter from Ruth Haynes, following her verbal resignation. I can confirm that she has now missed all Parish Council meetings for a period of six months and is therefore disqualified as a Councillor. The clerk will write to her to confirm this to her. I will now progress the vacancy created by advertising the vacancy in the normal way. The Parish Council will then be free to fill the vacancy at the next meeting by co-option. Mr Roy Hayward is attending the meeting as he is interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, and use the meeting as an opportunity to meet the Parish Council and see what is involved.

Parish Council Matters – Parish Councillors' Individual Responsibilities– Agenda Item 14

Responsibilities are currently listed and reported as:-

Patrick Dawson	Midford Highways, Midford liaison, Cycle Paths, Wessex Water and Sustrans liaison, Financial monitoring.	
Adrian Done	All Highways, Non-Strategic Planning, Midford Road and Midford liaison. CPRE and Cotswold Conservation Board liaison.	
Sue Dustin	Village Hall Management Committee, ALCA Representative.	
Vacancy	South Stoke Parking, Non-Strategic Planning, Police liaison. Ad hoc South Stoke matters.	
Jenny John	Vice Chair	Footpaths, Allotments and Open Spaces (Trees, Millennium Wood and Churchyard) Parish Notes. Strategic Planning.
Chris Winpenny	Chairman	Strategic Planning, BPT Meetings and liaison, ALCA Rep.
Geoff Davis - Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer – Tel. 840201. Email southstokeclerk@hotmail.com		

Parish Council Matters – Allotments – Agenda Item 14

All Allotments are let. All rents received for the year, and all plots being tended.

Agenda Item 15. Employment Matters – NJC New Pay Rates and Scales as at April 2017, and April 2018.

The amendment to pay rates was missed in April 2017. These were approved in meeting in May 2016. They represent a back payment for the Sweeper of £102.57, and for the Clerk £40.32.

The NJC have agreed new pay rates applicable from 1st April 2018 an increase for year 2018-19 for the Sweeper £7.92 to £8.765, and the Clerk £9.647 to £10.107 per hour.

The Council are asked to approve these increases. The NALC briefing paper for these rates is provided.

General Parish Matters – Matters Arising from the Annual Parish Meeting – Agenda Item 16

Sulis Down Development – Call for Wide ranging review of traffic across the entire South side of Bath.

Parking in the Village – Any further progress to report.

Southstoke Lane and Village Road Safety – The Clerk has provided the CPRE Guide to the Quiet Lane Scheme which details the actions to take such a proposal forward.

Midford Road/Village – road safety issues

- Midford Village - Any further progress to report.
- Castle Bend - Any further progress to report.
- Combe Path Lawn BA22/7-8 Diversion and Crossing – Mr. Davis speaking as a resident raised objections to the proposed diversion of the BA22/7 Public Right of Way. The objection was that:- The Parish Council were closing off a historic route that has existed for more than two hundred years and this should not be done without good reason. This existing path has no link to the road safety issue, so no reason exists here. Furthermore, the road safety measures could be more simply facilitated with a Permissive Path, and that those road safety measures were the responsibility of B&NES Highways and not the Parish Council or anyone else. Proposed expenditure and support by the Parish Council was therefore not appropriate, nor does it represent best value, as there is no benefit to the electors.

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General Parish Matters – Midford Phone Box – Agenda Item 16

The Parish Council still needs to decide on how to use it and to arrange the cleaning, re-painting and refurbishment. A budget figure of £600 has been set to cover the cost next year.

Highway Matters – Maintenance Update and Road Safety Issues - Agenda Item 18

It is thought unlikely that there will be anything further to report beyond those matters arising from the Annual Parish Meeting.

Dates for Future Meetings – Agenda Item 22

Dates for future meetings for the coming year need to be agreed, the following suggestions are made:-

Monday 16th July 2018

Monday 17th September 2018

Monday 19th November 2018

Monday 14th January 2019

Monday 11th March 2019

Annual Parish Meeting: Monday April 15th 2019

Annual Parish Council Meeting: May 20th 2019