



## BOX PARISH COUNCIL

### **MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD BY ON 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

- 1. Present:** Councillors: T. Walton (Chair); A. Barton; R. Bean; R. Davies;  
D. Dorey; N. Ingledew; I. Johnston; H. Parker; S. Parker;  
M. Tye; B. Walton; D. Wright  
Unitary Councillors: B. Mathew; D. Walters

Mrs Carey (Clerk)

- 2. Apologies:** Cllr S. Roche  
The apology was accepted

- 3. Absent:** Cllr J. Clifford

- 3. Public Question Time:** There were two members of the public present.

Mr Elliot reported that the light on the pedestrian crossing at the Post Office is still not working and that the light going into the Recreation Ground Car Park is out which could be a health and safety issue.

- 4. Chairman's announcements and declarations of interest:** There were no declarations of interest

Cllr T. Walton reported that Mr George Purser, a past Councillor, had recently died. The Council had one minute's silence as a mark of respect.

The next Council village surgery would be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December from 8.45 – 9.45 in the Pavilion. Any councillor was welcome to attend. The next surgery at the Dandelion Café, Rudloe would be held on 12<sup>th</sup> December

He reported that he had used the Chair's allowance to buy scaffolding to create an illuminated space for community gatherings at the Fountain. He asked if Wadswick Country Stores would be willing to donate a smaller Christmas tree again this year.

He reported that it is planned to offer the public the opportunity to sign up with their email addresses to receive communications from the Council, including questionnaires and surveys. Access to the surveys would also be given via QR codes on notices boards etc and paper versions would be offered in shops and pubs

He stated that all Councillors must be extremely careful regarding discussions taking place over emails between other councillors and especially with external bodies. Any correspondence pertaining to come from the Parish Council in terms of expressing an opinion, proposing an action or entering into any arrangement should only come from the Clerk.

- 5. Minutes:** The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023 were agreed and signed as being a true record.

## **6. Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

**Climate Strategy Working Group:** Cllr H. Parker reported that she was completing the data for the carbon audit.

There will be a Great Green Week in June next year and the Working Group would be looking at this.

## **7. Co-option to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council (Box Ward)**

One letter of application had been received from Mr Roger Bolton. The Parish Council considered him to be a suitable applicant and he was unanimously elected onto the Parish Council

## **8. Committees:**

- i. **Cemetery Management:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were submitted and agreed.

It was **resolved** unanimously that the increase to the Cemetery Charges for 2024/25 be accepted and that the cost for the In Memorium Board application and entry in Book of Remembrance remains as it is

It was **resolved** unanimously that the rental of the top field remains at £400 per annum

It was **resolved** unanimously that the Parish Council applies to Wiltshire Council for Tree Preservation Orders on all the trees in the Corridor

After discussion it was **resolved** by six votes in favour and five against that Melissa Turner be asked to carry out an Ecological Survey on the Ecological Corridor in the Cemetery at a cost not exceeding £1000

The recommendation that the new information sheet "Looking after your memorial" be accepted was deferred and this will be taken back to the Committee for further discussion

- ii. **Buildings Management Committee:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were submitted and agreed

It was **resolved** unanimously that the Terms of Reference for the Pavilion Working Group be accepted. The first meeting will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**Rainwater Harvesting:** Cllr B. Walton reported on a meeting with representative from Wessex Water. It had been stated that Box may be selected for a trial of SuDSPods which catch water from roofs in a similar way to a waterbutt.

- iii. **Planning & Conservation Committee:** The Minutes of the Meetings held on 26<sup>th</sup> October and 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were submitted and agreed.

- iv. **Highways Committee:** The Minutes of the additional Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were submitted and agreed

- v. **Highways:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 were submitted and agreed

It was **resolved** unanimously that the following issues be submitted to the next LHFIG meeting

- Dropped kerbs on Leafy Lane; at Middlehill Lane; lower end of Bulls Lane
- Bus Stop to be painted on A365 Devizes Road and on A4 outside pharmacy
- B3109 – suggest that Wiltshire Highways consider changing the road markings to continuous and solid double white lines along with the appropriate signage

**B3109 by Wadswick Country Store:** Following a further serious accident it was agreed to discuss the possibility of no overtaking on the B3109 between the two ‘fiveways’ junctions.

vi. **Personnel Committee:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on

It was **resolved** unanimously that the updated Terms of Reference for Council and Committees be adopted.

It was **resolved** unanimously that a replacement utility vehicle is purchased out of this year’s budget at a cost not to exceed £35,000. The Finance & Governance Committee will finalise all the figures at the next Committee meeting.

The Statutory Pay Award of £1925 pa (pro rata) was agreed unanimously

**9. Urgent Correspondence:**

- **Damage to red telephone box in Henley Lane:** Letters from residents regarding the damage to the telephone box. The Clerk has spoken to the Insurance Company and it was agreed to discuss this at the Finance & Governance Committee meeting
- **Application for grant from Corsham Carers Café:** It was **agreed** unanimously that a grant of £250 be made to them
- **Use of Pavilion for children’s party involving a reptile workshop:** This was agreed in principle subject to the necessary insurance, risk assessment being in place.
- **Letter re SID Data Sharing rollout:** To be discussed at the next Highways Committee meeting.

**10. Items for discussion:** Nil

**11. Accounts for payment:** The following accounts were agreed for payment

<u>BACS</u>			
Water2Business	-	Bowling Green, Pavilion	8.70
Westcare Supply Zone	-	two printer cartridges	276.00
PB Services (Wiltshire) Ltd	-	Work to Right of Way 80	1221.30
Tree Parts Ltd	-	Work to trees – Albion Terrace	3984.00
SSE	-	Electricity Chapel	57.74
SSE	-	Electricity Tractor shed	437.94
Paul Emerson	-	Work to Blind House	475.00
M. Mitchell	-	Work to Blind House	360.00
Zealous Kite	-	Updating website	100.00
WALC	-	Further Councillor training	72.00
Consortium	-	Cleaning materials & copier paper	187.75
 <u>Debit card</u>			
Amazon UK	-	Solar light for Bowls Club gate	25.94
Wybone UK	-	Dog waste bags	64.19

## **12. Statement of balances**

### **Lloyds**

Current Account	£ 23289.61
High Interest account	<u>75885.93</u>
	£ 99175.54
Less payments to go out	<u>7180.43</u>
Working balance	<b>£ 91995.11</b>

Held on deposit in Lloyds	£ 40000.00
<b>Balance in Lloyds</b>	<b><u>136995.11</u></b>

Held in <b>BIBS</b>	<b>£ 82203.81</b>
Held in <b>Nationwide</b>	<b>£ <u>56654.16</u></b>
	<b>£ <u>138857.97</u></b>

## **13. Chairman's Diary, Representatives' reports and report from County**

### **Councillors:**

Cllr D. Walters updated the Council on the Rudloe Community Centre issue. The Rudloe Community Association had been reformed and he was currently challenging the use of the Centre for religious services.

He reported that he had wanted the speed limit assessment discussed at Full Council. He is still trying to get this to be discussed by the Scrutiny Committee.

Cllr B. Mathew reported that the drainage work at Wormcliffe Lane will start on 4<sup>th</sup> December for four days.

He raised the issue of the Parish Council taking on the insurance cover for the Flood Warden Group and the Emergency Volunteers as Wiltshire Council will not cover them. The Clerk had spoken to the Insurance Company and this will be discussed at the next Finance and Governance meeting. Cllr Mathews will discuss this further with Wiltshire Council.

## **14. Items of report and future Agenda items: Nil**

*Meeting closed at 8.45 pm*

**Chair**