



BOX PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD BY 31st OCTOBER 2024

- 1. Present:** Councillors: T. Walton (Chair); R. Bean; R. Davies;
D. Dorey; N. Ingledew; H. Parker; S. Roche;
M. Tye; B. Walton; D. Wright

Mrs Carey (Clerk) Ms H. Barbrook (Assistant Clerk)

- 2. Apologies** Cllrs: A. Barton; R. Bolton ; I. Johnston
Cllrs B. Mathew; D. Walters

The apologies were accepted.

- 3. Absent:** Cllr J. Clifford

- 4. Public Question Time:** There were 4 members of the public present.

Mr A. McCormick asked what would happen if the 21 day consultation period for the TRO relating to Hazelbury Hill fell outside of the Parish Council meeting schedule and whether the Parish Clerk or designated Councillor would be authorised to respond on behalf of the Council to signify the Council's support of an objection.

It was stated that no assurance could be given as this would pre-empt the terms of the TRO. It was unlikely that this would happen quickly as the Highways Engineer would have to present any recommendations to Wiltshire Council for approval prior to any Order being issued. An additional meeting could always be called to discuss this.

He was urged to contact the local Councillors to ask them for notification if this is presented to the Wiltshire Council.

- 5. Chairman's announcements and declarations of interest:**

There were no announcements or declarations of interest

- 6. Minutes:** The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 30th September 2024 were agreed and signed as being a true record.

- 7. Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

- i. **Climate Strategy Working Group:** Cllr Parker reported on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. There is a map of Wiltshire which has eleven areas highlighted where a difference can realistically be made. SSSIs are shown separately. She reported that if any building developers destroy a habitat they would have to replace it.

Cllr Parker also reported on a meeting with the By-Brook Committee which had been attended by representatives from numerous Councils. She

reported that the Rivers Festival would be community led. The Parish Council agreed to support this and there will be a Wild Waters Art event held in the Pavilion on 7th June 2025

- ii. **Vacancy on Parish Council:** Two applications had been received from Mr Brian Burchfield and Mr Robert Haslett. Both applicants attended and spoke about why they wished to join the Parish Council. Both candidates were considered suitable and after a vote Mr Robert Haslett was unanimously elected to be co-opted onto the Council

8. Committees:

- i. **Playing Fields Management** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th October 2024 were submitted and agreed.

Resolved by four votes in favour, three against and two abstentions that the difference of £883.60 for the cost of materials for 2023/24 be repaid to the Bowls Club as per the previous agreement

Cllr Bean read a statement as to why he felt that this was not appropriate.

- ii. **Finance & Governance:** The Minutes of the Meetings held on 14th October 2024 were submitted and agreed.

Resolved by 8 votes in favour and one abstention that the amended Procurement Policy be adopted

Resolved unanimously that the Grant Awarding Policy be adopted. An Appendix will be drawn up

Resolved unanimously that, following the resignation received from the Assistant Open Spaces Manager, the recruitment process be devolved to the Personnel Committee to progress

Resolved unanimously that a grant of £520 be made to the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust subject to more specific information as to where in the Parish the video doorbells would be installed and also subject to a report given for the Annual Parish Meeting next year

Resolved unanimously that a grant of £500 be made to the Corsham Windband Association towards the cost of delivery of brass and woodwind lessons, including instruments and music, for Box residents subject to a report on how the grant was spent be given to the Annual Parish Meeting next year

- iii. **Planning & Conservation:** The Minutes of the Meetings held on 30th September and 14th October 2024 were submitted and agreed.

- iv. **Box Hill & Rudloe Open Spaces:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st October 2024 were submitted and agreed

Resolved unanimously that six Apple trees within the Community Orchard are moved from under the Goat Willow Tree, as advised by Daniel Part of Tree Parts Ltd

Thanks were given to the Barton family for the provision of the equipment for the successful Apply Day

9. To receive any urgent correspondence: Nil

10. Items for discussion:

i. **Arrangements for Christmas Tree and Lighting:** Clerk to draw up a Risk Assessment prior to the erection of the scaffolding and Xmas tree and to speak to Cllr Barton regarding a Christmas tree similar in size to last year. It was agreed that if possible the lights would be turned on to coincide with the Christmas Market on Sunday 1st December

ii. **Proposed sale of Box Pharmacy:** It was reported that the Box Pharmacy is up for sale. An appeal had been launched to support the application by Healthcare Plus to take over the Boots pharmacy which had been rejected by the Integrated Care Board because “not enough evidential need”

It was agreed that a letter of support be sent to Healthcare Plus outlining the problems now that Boots Pharmacy and the Pharmacy in Sainsbury had closed which will be exacerbated if the pharmacy in Box is lost. This would only leave Shaunaks in Corsham which is severely overstretched.

Clerk to also write to the two local Councillors and to the MP asking for their support with this

11. Finance:

Additional Accounts for payment: The following additional accounts were agreed for payment

James Long (Masons) Ltd	-	Repairs to headstones	768.00
Greenacres Electrical	-	Remedial works, Pavilion, Offices, YC	1812.00
A.J. Rich Landscaping	-	Path along Recreation Ground	8367.24
RBL Poppy Appeal	-	Wreath for Remembrance Day	20.00
Wiltshire Council	-	½ NDR Cemetery	1225.00
Wiltshire Council	-	½ yr NDR Council Offices	1160.00
DJ Mathias Ltd	-	Repairs to tap in Ladies toilet	90.00
My Skills for Life Ltd	-	Fire safety training	60.00
LP Property Developments	-	Renovation of radiators in Pavilion	144.00

12. Statement of balances

Lloyds

Current Account	£ 32392.15
High Interest account	<u>48036.26</u>
	£ 80428.41
Less payments to go out	<u>14374.09</u>
Working balance	£ 66054.32

Held on deposit in Lloyds	£ 25000.00
Balance in Lloyds	£ 91054.32

Held in BIBS	£ 83873.95
Held in Nationwide	£ 57748.52
	£ 141622.47

13. Chairman's Diary, Representatives' reports and report from County Councillors:

Cllrs S. Roche, M. Tye and T. Walton together with the Assistant Clerk will be attending the WALC Conference on Tuesday 5th November

Cllr Walters had reported that Wiltshire Highways have been instructed to revise their Speed Limit Assessment process and he was currently working with the Police representative on the Swindon & Wiltshire Road Safety Partnership to apply pressure to remove restrictions on deploying SIDs. He had distributed a survey about traffic to all parishes in Wiltshire. Cllrs Davies and Ingledew will complete this on behalf of Box

It was reported that Cllr Walters would not be standing for re-election in May – Mr Peter Wragg had been nominated for this.

Cllr Parker reported on the recent Area Board meeting where the Local Police representative stated that issues in Vine Court had been dealt with. They were currently working with local schools, WhatsApp group etc regarding shoplifting. Cllr Walters had challenged Perry Payne re the deployment of SIDs

Cllr Davies and Cllr Ingledew had attended the LHFIG meeting which will be reported fully at the Highways Committee meeting.

They had also met with representatives from Bathford Parish Council regarding the safety issues on the A4 by the boundary which again will be reported to the Highways Committee meeting

Cllr Bean had attended the Local Youth Network at Corsham School. The MoD Liaison Officer had stated that a Youth Club was being started at Rudloe in January. There is currently a £9k balance from the Area Board to spend on Children.

14. Items of report and future Agenda items:

- The light in the Recreation Ground Car Park is now working again
- There will be a working group at Vine Court on 17th November from 10-12
- Volunteers were requested to help put the Xmas tree lights up
- Remembrance Day Service to be held at the War Memorial on Sunday 10th November

Meeting closed at 8.45 pm

Chair