



BOX PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24th November 2022

1. **Present:** Councillors: S. Parker (Chairman); R. Campbell; N. Laughton; R. Davies; M. Tye; B. Walton; T. Walton, A. Barton, J. Clifford, D. Wright, I. Johnston.
2. **Apologies:** Councillors R. Case; R. Smith & M. Carey (Clerk) The apologies were accepted
3. **Absent:** Nil
4. **Public Question Time:** There as one members of the public present.
Mr Elliot expressed concern about the missing post in the middle of the zebra crossing by the P.O. He was informed this has been reported, and that WC are going to put in new zebra crossing there and at the school. We do not know when this is plan to be actioned.
5. **Chairman's announcements and declarations of interest:** None.
6. **Minutes:** The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27th October 2022
Cllr. T. Walton read out the item about the motion he had submitted and thought the reason he withdrew it was not clear. It was withdrawn as it is in our Standing Orders. The chairman read out the last sentence stating this. Cllrs were asked if they wanted the minutes altered, no one felt it needed changing. The minutes were signed as a true and correct record.

Climate Strategy Working Group Update. Cllr. T. Walton reported on his meeting with Colerne Climate Strategy working group, and they are doing more than we are, he felt we need to do more to reduce our Carbon limit. He had a meeting with someone local who is willing to help us with this, and how to raise awareness of our emissions.
Cllr. Wright asked about EV chargers and what help we will get from W.C. There was a discussion on what we can do next. Several suggestions were put forward, ie. To find out what our Carbon is at the moment and how much we need to reduce it by, and to see what the EHCP reports mention on improving our buildings.
7. **Matters Arising:** None
8. **Cemetery Committee:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th November 2022 were submitted and agreed
Recommendations. Cllr. T Walton said one recommendation was left off the budget, it is to get the 1st phase of trees done for £1590, 2nd by Cllr. Wright

Recommendation that the quotation from Arthur Cole for the repairs to the broken railings and the gate stays at the Cemetery in the sum of £600 + vat be accepted. This was approved unanimously.

Recommendation that the revised charges for 2023/24 be adopted. Cllr. Davies asked why dogs are not allowed, he felt it was wrong and dogs on leads should be allowed. Following a discussion Cllr. Davies proposed an amendment to the recommendation that dogs on leads should be allowed in the cemetery, 2nd by Cllr. Barton. Approved. Recommendation that the revised charges for 2023/24 be adopted. Cllr. Wright asked where the benchmark was for the increase, and Cllr. T Walton replied that he had checked what other cemeteries in the area charge for their funerals. Cllr. T. Walton proposed they are approved 2nd by Cllr. Davies, Approved. (Resolved)

9. **Planning & Conservation Committee:** To receive the Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th October and 14th November 2022. The minutes for both meetings were agreed.

10. **Box Hill & Rudloe Open Spaces (to follow):** To receive the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st November 2022 the minutes and to consider any recommendations made. Cllr. Wright went through the recommendations, the first is to get 3 quotes to finish the car park on Box Hill Common. This was approved.

Recommendation that we advertise that there is a space on the common for a memorial bench if anyone would like to have one there. They should contact the clerk. All approved.

Recommendation for Clean Air Zones. That the parish council write to W.C asking them to form a working group with Banes and the relevant parishes that will be affected by the amount of extra traffic due to Banes Clean Air Zones. Following a discussion on the problems this will cause for Box and Corsham and other parishes in Wiltshire, and the fact that central Government has told Bath to improve its air quality. Cllr. Walters said we could go to Area Board to help and Cllr. Matthew said we need to write to WC to set up a working group. All approved the recommendation to write to WC. Cllr Wright will work with the clerk on this.

Recommendation. Cllr. Wright said the Community Payback team will help with the extra work on the Common so the cost of an extra employee can be removed from the budget. All agreed.

Recommendation. To provide £100 for refreshments for the community payback team, this will be match funded by the Quarrymans Arms, who will be providing the refreshments for the 6 months they will be working for us. All Approved.

Recommendation. We have heard back from WC regarding our Expression of Interest in taking over the community green at Rudloe. At the moment this cannot be transferred to anyone as they are waiting on Greensquare submitted their plans which hopefully will be in the New Year. It was approved that we continue to write to WC for updates. 1 against.

11. **Personnel;** To receive the Minutes of the meetings held on 31st October and 14th November Recommendation that the statutory pay award backdated to 1st April 2022 be accepted. All approved.

12. **To consider applications for grants from:** • Rudloe Community Group; after a discussion this was approved.

Pause to Talk (Menopause Support Group) It was noted that their form had not been signed. After a discussion on this request, it was approved with a request to have receipts for their expenses and for the clerk to check their form is signed.

Wiltshire Citizen Advice – This was deferred to the Finance and Governance committee as we need to know the balance we have left before agreeing to this.

To receive any urgent correspondence. Community Boundary Review. This is the last opportunity for people to comment on the plan changes for the M.P. Boundary Review, comments have to be in by 5th December. Cllrs. had a discussion on the proposed plan, at the moment it is for Box & Colerne Ward to be moved into Bradford-on-Avon/Melksham & Devizes Ward. Cllr. Johnston said the Rudloe Ward remains with Chippenham. The change will not affect us with how we work with WC, we will still be part of Corsham Area Board, it will effect who our MP is. Cllr. Mathew told us of his proposed submission and after further discussion it was agreed that we are linked more to Cotswold Ward that Bradford-on Avon/Melksham/Devize ward. Cllr. B Walton proposed we use Cllr. Mathew's submission, for our comments to the survey. 2nd Cllr.Tye. 7 approved 2 abstained.

Heavy Lorries coming through Box. Mr. Tye had sent in an email concerned about Banes plan on this, they are proposing on charging HGVs to go through Bath, we discussed how we could get other parishes involved to object to this. It was agreed to write to WC at the same time as our concern about the new bus route.

Dark Skies – Light Pollution. We had received a letter from Cotswold asking us to fill in a survey about our views on Dark Skies. Cllr. H Parker offered to fill it in on behalf of the Parish Council.

13. Finance Accounts: **ACCOUNTS PAID – NOVEMBER 2022**

Cheques

BACS

Salaries	-	550
HM Revenue & Customs	-	
PAYE		1680.44
Avon Sportsground Main Co	-	
BG contract		604.50
Materials		548.00
J.H. Jones & Son	1153.30	
Cemetery Contract (inc VAT)	1114.56	
Imperial Cleaning Services	-	
Pavilion contract	333.60	
Place Studio Ltd	-	
Neighbourhood Planning	1320.00	
SSE	-	
Electric – Chapel	49.09	
Pavilion	543.45	
Council offices	211.16	

Tractor Shed	120.41	
Gas - Pavilion	177.16	
Council offices	121.80	
Ultra-Warm	-	
Landlords Safety Check & Certificate		132.00
Hi-Tech Engraving	-	
Plaque for Tree		40.50
B. Walton	-	
Reimburse – lights for Pavilion steps	119.96	
Royal British Legion	-	
Wreath	20.00	
Tree Parts Ltd	-	
Work to trees on the Common		3204.00

Direct debits

NEST	-	
Pension contribution	171.24	
Initial Washrooms	-	
Feminine Hygiene	33.08	
Hills Waste	-	
Refuse collection	105.84	
Plusnet	-	
Telephone Pavilion	35.93	
Plusnet		-
Office		
Wiltshire council	-	
NDR		
Pavilion/PFs		304.00
Car Park	91.00	
Hitachi(Novuna)	-	
Mule		
Leasehire	344.74	
Novuna		-
Mowers Leasehire	396.00	
Fuel Card Services	-	
Petrol	82.37	

Standing Order

T.H. White	-	Mule service contract	63.60
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14. **To receive any accounts for payment and statement of balances.** Cllr. Davies asked about the payment to Place Studios, Cllr. T Walton explained this comes out of the grant the Neighbourhood Plan committee received. There were no question on the statement of balances.
15. **Chairman’s Diary, Representatives’ reports and report from County Councillors.** Cllrs. T & B. Walton had a meeting with Tim Barton in the field he has offered to the PC for allotments. They are still in discussion about the field but at the moment feel

that it is too large for our requirements but would be interested in a smaller patch if that is available.

Cllr. D. Walters. Reported that he is still trying to get the speed reduced to 30 mph on part of the B3109. He was asked what happened to the money that the CATG group had set aside for the 40 mph reduction. It has been moved to another project but he said there is always funding and we should get some next year. He mentioned that the SID indicator strips can only be put under roads with an 85% percentile, before we can have them, at the moment the B3109 not meet this requirement.

Cllr. Mathew. Reported on the work he is doing for the cycle ways from Box to Bath, he is trying to get the forms to change the footpaths into bridleways, if that happens he will be looking at getting a grant and volunteers to improve the paths for cyclers.

16. **Items of report and future Agenda items.** Cllr. A Barton report on the flooding at the bottom of White Ennox Lane, and that cars keep going into houses hedges. Cllr. Walters said he is working with David Arnup from WC to try and resolve this problem. Cllr. T. Walton said the notice board by the P.O needs replacing. Cllr. Mathew asked if Shout @ Box Station is on the agenda for discussion,

17. **Dates of forthcoming meetings:** Playing Fields & Pavilion Management – 28th November Finance & Governance – 5th December; Planning & Conservation – 5th December; Highways – 12th December; Full Council – 15th December

18. Chairman

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm