



## BOX PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD BY ON 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022

**1. Present:** Councillors: R. Campbell (Chairman); A. Barton; R. Case; J. Clifford;  
R. Davies; H. Parker; M. Tye; B. Walton;  
T. Walton; D. Wright;  
Unitary Councillor: B. Mathew  
Mrs M. Carey (Clerk)

**2. Apologies:** Councillors: N. Ingledew; I. Johnston; S. Parker; R. Smith; A. Woollard  
Unitary Councillor: D. Walters

The apologies were accepted

**3. Absent:** Nil

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

Ms. S. Brooks raised the issue of the volume and speed of traffic on the Devizes road A365. A speed of over 100 mph had been recorded. She was concerned about the safety of people trying to cross the road. A car had recently been written off and there had been multiple accidents. Lorries had been seen mounting the pavements and cars had been forced onto pavements and the bus shelter had been demolished by a lorry. There are over twenty children crossing the road twice a day to get to the school plus several old people.

She expressed concerns about the relationship between the Parish Council and members of the public and felt that a large part of the village was being neglected. There are no 30 mph signs on this stretch of road. She was informed that the speed watch team operates on this road.

Mr Derek Elliot asked for the Creative Market adverts to be removed from the Pedestrian crossing by the Post Office as this was a H&S issue. The pole on the crossing has been damaged for a considerable time. He also raised the issue of visibility exiting out of Leafy lane onto the A4 because of overgrown grass on the junction.

A resident of Devizes road requested repeater speed signs on the A365.

Unitary Councillor Ruth Hopkinson gave a short outline on the Area Board of which she is the new Chairman. She stated that there were three sets of grant monies available: Capital; Local Youth Network and LHFIF (CATG). This year the Area Board will have less money available as they are switching some of the money to the LHFIF which is taking over footway repairs so money can be used for this. The grants must follow and be linked to the Area Board priorities which are: Health & Well Being; Young People; Climate change and Business and must link with two aims of the Wiltshire Council Business Plan. Voluntary organisations can claim a maximum of £5K from the Area Board and there has to be an amount of match funding from an outside source or parish council. Parish Councils can no longer apply for Area Board grants for Capital funding.

Money for Youth or Health & Well Being would be revenue only and Parish Councils could apply for this. Voluntary organisations can apply for up to £500 with no match funding; grants of £500-£1000 would need some match funding and grants of over £1000 would require 50% match funding. There would be a maximum of two grants per year.

The Area Board would meet a maximum of 3 -4 times a year. The work will not diminish and the police, fire service etc will still be invited to attend. There would be a Youth event. The Health & Well Being event would be held on 18<sup>th</sup> July, chaired by Cllr Brian Mathew. The Climate Emergency event would be chaired by Cllr Derek Walters. Ruth stated that she would be leading the Business event and would be making contact with local businesses. She will forward dates of the meetings to the Parish Council.

Thanks were given to Cllr Hopkinson for this.

**5. Chairman's announcements and declarations of interest:** There were no announcements or declarations of interest.

**6. Minutes:** The Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022 were agreed and signed as being a true record.

**7. Matters Arising:**

**Composition of Committees;** Cllr Tim Walton was appointed to fill the vacancy on the Finance and Governance Committee.

**Composition of Personnel Committee:** Concern was expressed that a Councillor had been invited to attend a recent meeting of the Personnel Committee. It had not been minuted and agreed that they would be invited which was felt to be in direct contradiction to a previous motion about Councillors being able to join committees.

The composition of the Personnel Committee was discussed and agreed as follows: Cllr R. Case (Chairman); Cllr S. Parker (Chair of Council); Cllr B. Walton (Chair of Playing Fields & Pavilion Management) and Cllr D. Wright (Chair of Box Hill & Rudloe Open Spaces). Cllr T. Walton was also elected to join the committee. The Terms of Reference for the Committee will be amended accordingly.

**Predetermination:** Following the issue raised at the last Full Council Meeting, Cllr D. Walters had confirmed that the statement in the Rudloe Scene Newsletter had been factually correct ie "it was the intention of Rudloe Parish Councillors to object to any development proposed on Rudloe Green."

It was stated that if, or when, a planning application relating to Rudloe Green is submitted the parish council would review the situation.

**Climate Strategy:**

It was reported that there had been a successful ECO Quiz run at Box Revels. Cllr H. Parker had attended a visit to Lackham College with the Area Board to look at their plan for sustainability through the curriculum. The visit had been attended by representatives from Box; Corsham; Colerne and Chippenham.

**8. Committees**

**i. Finance & Governance;** The Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were submitted and agreed

**Recommendation** that as the Finance & Governance Committee will only meet bi-monthly, the clerk will circulate a list of the accounts for payment to all of the Finance & Governance Committee members in the middle of each month to obtain ratification for payment. The Financial Regulations to be changed to take account of this and brought back to Full Council. This was agreed unanimously

**Grant to Box Parish Magazine: Recommendation** that a grant of £100 be made to the Parish Magazine was agreed unanimously. The Council will consider a further grant in the Autumn.

**Green retrofit Fair – 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022:** letter received from Colerne Parish council. Cllr H. Parker will liaise with Jane Mellett on this

**Box Cubs: Recommendation** that permission be given to put up a marquee on the Recreation Ground on 25<sup>th</sup> November next to the Car Park to be used as a base for the North Wiltshire Cub Scout District Night hike was agreed unanimously

**Discussion on the name of the Parish Council:** Following the Annual Parish meeting held at Rudloe where comments had been made about the Rudloe residents feeling alienated it was suggested that the name of the Parish Council be changed to the Box and Rudloe Parish Council to reflect the two wards.

Cllr Davies stated that the Parish Council must make sure that it looks after every area of the parish fairly and did not feel concerned about the need for a name change.

It was stated that the name can only be changed through the Wiltshire Council Governance Review. It was agreed to revisit this in March next year.

**Change to dates of Meetings:** Changes to the Calendar of Meetings for the dates of Committee meetings in August was agreed.

ii. **Playing Fields:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were submitted and agreed

**Recommendation** that the quotation for the Resister Graph on the Cantilever Swing in the sum of £495 + VAT be accepted was agreed unanimously

**New handrails to the steps to the bridge: Recommendation** that Wiltshire Council be asked to provide the handrails at a cost of £100 was agreed unanimously

**1 year+ tree works recommendations: Recommendation** that the Parish Council continues to work with Tree Parts Ltd to cover the work identified in the 3 year rolling programme was agreed unanimously.

**Ash Tree by the children's Play Area: Recommendation** that this tree be felled as previously agreed was agreed unanimously.

iii. **Planning & Conservation:** The Minutes of the Meetings held on 26<sup>th</sup> May and 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were submitted and agreed

iv. **Highways:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2002 were submitted and agreed.

**Recommendation** that the Parish Council requests a pedestrian survey on the A365 Devizes rd to ascertain the criteria for a formal pedestrian crossing was withdrawn. The Committee will look at this further and decide what issues can be taken to the next LHFIF meeting. The Committee will come back to the Council with full recommendations and costings.

iv. **Box Hill & Rudloe Open Spaces:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were submitted and agreed.

**Box Hill Common Community Orchard: Recommendation** that to comply with the Council's Climate Strategy Action Plan the quotation from Landcare to supply the fruit trees in the sum of £1203 + vat be accepted. This was resolved unanimously

**Tree Management Plan: Recommendation** that the quotation from Tree Parts to carry out a survey on Box Hill Common, Lacy Wood and the Cemetery in the sum of £895 + VAT and that the three year costings for the work involved in the sum of £4645 + vat for Box Hill Common/Lacy Wood be accepted. This was resolved unanimously.

**Working Party for Rudloe Green: Recommendation** that the Terms of Reference and Aims of Objectives for the Working Party be accepted. This was resolved by eight votes in favour, one against and one abstention.

**Two new goal nets:** It was agreed unanimously that two new goal nets in the sum of £201.79 each be purchased.

**9. To receive any urgent correspondence:**

**Best Kept Village Competition:** Box had been placed first in the area round of the Best Kept Village Competition with an excellent report from the judges. It was agreed that the graffiti on the bus shelter be painted over.

**MSTeams Meeting – Positive conduct equal Positive Democracy:** To be held with Wiltshire council featuring Jackie Weaver on 7<sup>th</sup> July at 5 pm

**Corsham Station – Strategic Outline Business Case:** Letter received from Corsham Town Council re the drawing up of a strategic outline business case to submit to the Department of Transport for funding re the Corsham Railway Station. A draft reply from the Parish council will be drawn up.

**Use of Recreation Ground:** Letter received requesting permission to use a small area of the Recreation Ground for dog training classes for a maximum of 6 dogs which would be kept on leads at all times. It was resolved by eight votes in favour and two against that permission be granted subject to a licence being drawn up.

**10. To receive any additional accounts for payment:** The additional accounts for payment were agreed

|                            |   |   |         |
|----------------------------|---|---|---------|
| <u>BACS</u>                |   |   |         |
| Tree Parts Ltd             | - | Work to trees on Recreation Ground                                      | 1278.00 |
| T.H. White                 | - | Repairs to Mule Fan belt/brake pad                                      | 442.77  |
| Wadswick Country Store Ltd | - | Refund of payment made in error   | 137.00  |
| <br>                       |   |   |         |
| <u>Direct debits</u>       |   |   |         |
| Novuna Business            | - | balance of deposit on mowers<br>(£8400 rec'd for sale of old<br>Mowers) | 8400.00 |
| <br>                       |   |   |         |
| <u>Debit card</u>          |   |   |         |
| F.R. Jones & Son           | - | Stump treatment   | 94.19   |

**11. Statement of Balances**

|                           |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Lloyds</u>             |                    |
| Current Account           | £ 18051.65         |
| High Interest account     | 34934.99           |
|                           | £ 52986.64         |
| Less payments to go out   | 1836.19            |
| Working balance           | £ 51150.45         |
| <br>                      |                    |
| Held on deposit in Lloyds | £ 37500.00         |
| <b>Balance in Lloyds</b>  | £ <b>88650.45</b>  |
| <br>                      |                    |
| Held in <b>BIBS</b>       | £ 81901.44         |
| Held in <b>Nationwide</b> | £ 46302.08         |
|                           | £ <b>128203.52</b> |

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

Cllr Brian Mathew reported that he would be chairing the Health & Well Being Event at The Pound, Corsham on 18<sup>th</sup> July at 2 pm. Cllrs Tye and H. Parker to attend

The next Area Board meeting will be held on 21<sup>st</sup> July at the Selwyn Hall

The report that he had drawn up following a survey carried out with Cllr Davies re highways issues had been sent to David Arnup who had responded as follows:

“Essentially, if something is already in place and needs refreshing or replacing due to wear and tear, that is the Local Highways remit. If it is a request for new signage, markings, schemes that are not already in place then that request has to be filtered through LHFIG

The footway opposite the service station may have to go back to the drawing board. It might be that a bit of top soil to build up the verge behind the footway, and some strategically placed bollards could be the cheaper more affordable option.”

The report had been marked in red by David Arnup showing issues that could be submitted to the next LHFIG. Items marked “maintenance” in red will be dealt with directly so there will be no need to include these. The Parish Council will have to budget for issues that are taken to LHFIG

Changing footpaths to bridleways – Cllr Mathew will need the support of the Parish Council to make this happen. Kissing gates could be changed to double gates with cattle grids.

He was asked how the placing of Wiltshire Police into special measures could affect the Parish Council

**13. Items of report and future agenda items**

- a. It was reported that night hawkers had been using metal detectors for the second time on the Recreation Ground. The first time nearly 100 small holes had been dug, the second time between 30 and 50 holes. This had been referred to Wiltshire Police as it is criminal damage and they had agreed to place a CCTV van in the car park. They will put the incidents on facebook and ask for the local facebook page to mention this.

**14. Dates of next meetings**

Cemetery Management – 4<sup>th</sup> July;  
Planning & Conservation – 11<sup>th</sup> July    Personnel – 18<sup>th</sup> July  
Full Council - 28<sup>th</sup> July

*Meeting closed at 9.25 pm*

**Chairman**