Flax Bourton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on **Monday 6th June 2022** commencing at **7.30pm** at the Flax Bourton Hub (formerly known as the Village Hall).

Those present were noted as Councillors: Coombs, Moss, Walker and Andersson. Also present Mrs Clare Melton, Parish Clerk.

026(22) **Apologies and reasons for absence**
Apologies were received from Cllr Crawford (holiday).

027(22) **Declarations of interests from members regarding the agenda**
Declaration of non-pecuniary interest as Trustee of the Flax Bourton Hub Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) by Cllr Coombs.

028(22) **Public Forum Session**
No members of the public were present.

029(22) **Minutes of previous meeting**
It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 9th May 2022.

030(22) **Finance and Personnel**

a) **It was resolved** to ratify the payments made since last meeting totalling **£1,975.33**
b) **The Playing Field Section 106 reserve fund-** Cllr Coombs reported that there has been no further response from North Somerset Council
c) **It was resolved** to approve the monthly accounts statement and new invoices totalling **£2,299.53** for online payment.

031(22) **Policies and Procedures**
Cllr Coombs proposed to defer this item to give time for all to read the documents. **It was agreed by all** to defer to the next meeting.

032(22) **Planning**
Prior to the meeting, there were no planning applications. However, a new application was received this afternoon and after discussion it was agreed to consider the application at this meeting:

a) **22/P/1294/FUH Wentworth House, 26 Old Weston Road, BS48 1UL** Proposed insertion of 2no. new garage doors and new timber frame cladding to the existing car port. **It was resolved** to respond as follows: Neutral.

033(22) **North Somerset Local Plan 2038**
Cllr Moss reported that there is no update. The final version of the Local Plan 2038 is still scheduled for autumn 2022. Cllr Moss will continue to monitor progress.

034(22) **Flax Bourton Hub**

a) Cllr Coombs reported that the Flax Bourton Community Festival on 4th June went well. It had been decided in advance of the event not to conduct a survey on the day. Instead, visitors were asked to post comments/concerns on a board which worked well. Cllr Andersson raised that a proposed Google group was discussed. A resident offered to put a message on a local WhatsApp group to highlight that there are vacant Councillor roles. Cllr Coombs reported that the Hub Charitable Incorporated Organisation is operating well with reasonable cash in the bank. There are concerns about the rise in fuel costs but the installation of a new boiler should help with this
b) **Memorandum of Understanding**- After discussion, **it was decided** that the Memorandum of Understanding does not need updating however, clarification is needed regarding the field. Cllr Moss suggested a meeting, perhaps twice yearly, between the Hub CIO and the Parish Council to allow for regular reviews. It was stressed that the Parish Council are there for the Hub to contact at any time of the year with concerns. Cllr Coombs is happy to continue as main contact. Cllr Andersson proposed that an email is sent from the Parish Council to the Hub congratulating them on the Festival. **Agreed, Clerk to draft**
c) **Boiler for Village Hall**- Cllr Coombs reported that a partial grant of £5000 is available from the Community Renewal Fund towards the £7,000 cost of replacement of the boilers. The Parish Council as landlords would be responsible for the shortfall and **it was resolved** to approve payment of **£2,000** for the new boiler. Three quotes have been obtained by the Hub and thanks were given to the Hub for their work on this. **It was noted** that the preferred

APPROVED: SIGNED COPY HELD BY THE CLERK

supplier is not VAT registered so Parish Council will not be able to claim back VAT. The invoice for the full amount will be sent to the Parish Council and the grant from the Community Renewal Fund will be directed to the Parish Council by the fund administrators.

d) **Football Post Storage**- After discussion, **it was decided** that it was not practical for a container to store the football posts as there was no additional benefit and no space or finance for a container. Cllr Moss raised that it was suggested at a previous meeting attended by grounds men that other goalpost holes could be created so that the goalposts could be moved to give turf a break. **It was also noted** that there is the existing option of outside (covered) storage in place under the eaves. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would draft a letter to the Hub

e) **Fire Risk Assessment**- Cllr Andersson reported that the Fire Risk Assessment of the Village Hall has been carried out and we are awaiting their report. Thanks to Jim Merrick for attending and assisting. After discussion, **it was agreed** that the Parish Council would pay for all initial checks arising from the report then, going forwards, costs would be covered by the Hub as running costs. Cllr Andersson will continue to take the lead on this matter

f) **New Trustee to the Flax Bourton Hub Charitable Incorporated Organisation**- There is currently a vacancy on the Hub Charitable Incorporated Organsiation for a Parish Council nominated trustee. Cllr Coombs asked if any Councillor would like to volunteer, if not, a local resident has volunteered. **It was agreed** to support Ms Victoria Gough's appointment as a Trustee of the Hub

g) **Flax Bourton Community Festival**- This has already been covered earlier in the meeting so no further discussion necessary.

035(22) **Improving Play Spaces Fund**

A match funding grant is available from North Somerset Council. Cllr Coombs reported discussions with a group of local parents at Flax Bourton Primary School who suggested a basket swing as a preferred new item of play equipment which is suitable for all abilities. Signet Signs have visited and provided a quote of £7,726.08 (inc. VAT), a quote has also been requested from GB Sport and another supplier. **It was agreed** to submit an application to the Improving Play Spaces Fund and **agreed up to** a level of the current quote of **£7,726.08** subject to other quotes. A 50% contribution **was agreed** from funds ring-fenced for playground equipment.

036(22) **Highways**

a) **Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) -** Cllr Coombs reported that there is still no response from North Somerset Highways. Cllr Andersson reported that traffic was an issue repeatedly raised by residents at the Festival. **It was agreed** that Cllr Coombs would now write to the Director of Highways

b) **Possible Permissive path** - Cllr Moss reported that a follow up email was sent following the meeting with the Belmont Estate Manager. No response yet. Cllr Moss proposed inviting Belmont Estate to come to a future Parish Council meeting to talk about rewilding. **Agreed**

c) **Pavements and Footpaths** – Cllr Andersson reported that an email has been sent to the Quarry Manager. No response yet. Cllr Moss reported contact with the Quarry Manager regarding a speeding lorry. Cllr Andersson reported that a number of residents at the Festival raised concerns over overgrown footpaths around the village. Residents also asked if there was a plan to set up a walk for health group in the village to support physical and mental health. **It was agreed** that Cllr Andersson will contact the Ramblers Association and the Clerk will put a post on Facebook and the website.

037(22) **Clerk's Report**

The Clerk's Report was received and **noted**.

038(22) **Date of the next meeting**

The date of the next **Parish Council Meeting** was noted as **Monday 11th July 2022** at the Flax Bourton Hub (formerly known as the Village Hall) at **7.30pm.** Cllrs Andersson and Moss gave apologies in advance (holiday).

Meeting ended 21:15

Chair ………….. **Date**……..

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer Clare Melbon

APPROVED SIGNED COPY HELD BY THE CLERK