Flax Bourton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on **Monday 14th November 2022** commencing at **7.30pm** at the Flax Bourton Hub (formerly known as the Village Hall).

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

093(22) **Apologies and reasons for absence**
No apologies were received, all present.

094(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.

095(22) **Public Forum Session**
Three members of the public present. Questions and discussion relating to a planning application for The Old Stables, BS48 3QQ (22/P/2373/FUH). Residents left the meeting at the end of the Public Forum Session.

096(22) **Minutes of previous meeting**
It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 17th October 2022.

097(22) **Finance and Personnel**

a) **It was resolved** to ratify the payments made since last meeting totalling **£194.49**
b) **The Playing Field Section 106 reserve fund-** Cllr Coombs reported that there has been no further contact from North Somerset Council. Deferred to next meeting
c) **Working from home allowance for the Clerk-** Following discussion, **it was agreed** that an amount of **£13.00 per month in the winter months only** would be paid to the Clerk as a contribution to heating costs
d) **Draft budget –** After discussion, **it was agreed** that everyone would continue to look at the draft budget with a view to it being approved at the next meeting
e) **CIL Fund –** After discussion as to whether the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) fund should be used for payment of new entryways for the village or for the wetpour works at Farleigh Green Play Area (as previously agreed at the Meeting on 28th September 2022), **it was agreed** to use the CIL Fund for the wetpour works. Councillor Andersson will look into grants for the entryways
f) **Renewal of SLCC membership for the Clerk –** After discussion, **it was agreed** to renew the Clerk's SLCC membership
g) **New rates of pay for Clerk and Village Orderly – It was resolved** to accept and approve the new rates of pay and arrears payments to April 2022 for both the Clerk and Village Orderly
h) **It was resolved** to approve the monthly accounts statement and new invoices totalling **£2682.38** for online payment.

098(22) **Policies and Procedures**
After discussion, **it was resolved** to approve the updated Code of Conduct.

099(22) **Planning**
It was resolved to respond as follows:

a) **22/P/2271/TPO** 2 The Grange, BS48 3QH – Neutral
b) **22/P/2482/FUH** 60 Rosemount Road, BS48 1UQ– Neutral.

North Somerset Local Plan 2023-2038
Cllr Moss provided an update following NSC's Executive Meeting on 19th October. The adoption of the Local Plan in 2023 may now be in doubt.

100(22) **Communications.**
Cllr Coombs reported that a meeting with Breakthrough Communications is due to take place this week so a further update will be given at the next meeting.

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101(22) **Flax Bourton Hub**

a) Cllr Coombs reported that the Hub's finances are good. Incentives are being offered to try and attract new, regular bookings. A quote has been received from the manufacturer of the damaged barrier in the car park and the Hub also obtained a quote from a local company. After discussion, **it was agreed** that it may be more cost effective to remove the barrier but discussions will take place with the Hub first

b) **Fire Alarm System**- After discussion, **it was agreed** that the Parish Council needs a detailed specification of what exactly is needed from the Hub. There is £2,000 funding available from the Community Renewal Fund for the upgrading of the Fire Alarm System but this needs to be used by 30th November 2022. Cllr Andersson will contact the Hub to move this forwards.

102(22) **Highways**

a) **Proposed revision of 30mph limit** – Cllr Coombs reported that despite both the Parish Council and North Somerset Highways agreeing that the 30mph signs are in the wrong place and alternatives being discussed, no progress has been made. No response has been received to a request for a Senior Officer to visit so Cllr Coombs has arranged for the Executive Member for Highways to come and walk through the village

b) **Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS)** – Cllr Coombs reported that it has been stressed to North Somerset Highways that their policy regarding Vehicle Activated Signs should be looked at

c) **Possible Permissive path** – Cllr Moss and Cllr Andersson reported that the path seems to be becoming established through regular use and therefore **no further action is required**

d) **Pavements and Footpaths** – Cllr Crawford reported that a village clear up is being arranged (proposed dates 10th or 17th December) and a request for volunteers will be put in the Parish magazine. Cllr Andersson reported that she has emailed the Quarry Manager again to follow up his offer of regular clean ups which don't appear to be happening yet. The safe route to school is continuing to be a problem and **it was agreed** that the Clerk would follow up the email sent to Cllr Petty following last month's meeting. The Clerk will also contact the Backwell Parish Clerk to arrange to visit when the Area Officer is next due to visit the Backwell Parish Council office

e) **Public Rights of Way** – After discussion, **it was agreed** that the Clerk would contact other local Parish Clerks to find out which Councillors are responsible for walks/rounds/wheelchair access. Cllr Andersson will endeavor to contact a local resident who is an author of local walks book.

103(22) **Tree Planting**

Cllr Andersson reported that the tree planting day was very successful. **It was agreed** that Cllr Moss will write a piece and send photos to the Clerk to put on the website and Facebook. Thanks were given to Cllr Andersson and the volunteers.

104(22) **Quarry** – Previously covered (102 d)).

105(22) **Clerk's Report**

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

106(22) **Date of the next meeting**

The date of the next **Parish Council Meeting** was noted as **Monday 12th December 2022** at the Flax Bourton Hub (formerly known as the Village Hall) at **7.30pm.**

Meeting ended 20:55

Chair …… **Date**……

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Clare Melton

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