Flax Bourton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on **Monday 9th January 2023** commencing at **7.30pm** at the Flax Bourton Hub (formerly known as the Village Hall).

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

122(22) **Apologies and reasons for absence**
Apologies were received from Cllr Walker (work).

123(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.

124(22) **Public Forum Session**
No members of the public present at the start of the meeting.

125(22) **Minutes of previous meeting**
It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 12th December 2022.

126(22) **Finance and Personnel**

a) **It was resolved** to ratify the payments made since last meeting totalling **£945.53**

Member of the Public arrived at 7.35pm

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) **It was resolved** to approve the monthly accounts statement and new invoices totalling **£891.62** for online payment.

127(22) **Policies and Procedures**
After discussion, **it was noted** that the Website Accessibility is being reviewed however, further advice is needed before the policy can be updated. **It was agreed** that the Clerk would liaise with a local resident who has knowledge of website accessibility for advice before the policy can be updated.

128(22) **Planning**
No planning applications to discuss.

129(22) **North Somerset Local Plan 2023-2038**
Cllr Moss provided an update. As agreed at the last meeting, contact was made with Backwell Parish Council to try and arrange a meeting. Awaiting a response. North Somerset Council are assessing the implications following changes in government policy. Cllr Moss suggested we should contact North Somerset Council for an update. **It was agreed** that Cllr Coombs would make contact.

130(22) **Backwell Recycling Centre**
The Council discussed the proposal by North Somerset Council to permanently close Backwell Recycling Centre. Key concerns were the environmental impact and potential increase in fly tipping. **It was agreed** in principle to oppose the proposed closure of Backwell Recycling Centre.

131(22) **Communications**
Cllr Andersson provided an update which included a mock-up of a poster. After discussion, **it was agreed** to approve the graphics. Cllr Andersson will meet with Breakthrough Communications to confirm the details. Cllr Moss asked for further information regarding the Parish Council as a whole being data controller for the Google group and the method of moderation going forwards. The Clerk referred back to notes circulated to all following a meeting about data control in December with Breakthrough Communications which covered these issues. Cllr Andersson will continue to take the lead.

APPROVED SIGNED COPY HELD BY THE CLERK

132(22) **Flax Bourton Hub**

a) Nothing new to report
b) Cllr Coombs reported that the Fire Alarm System has been upgraded. There were some initial teething problems but these have now been resolved and the invoice has been paid using a grant from WERN.

133/124(22) **Highways**

a) **Proposed revision of 30mph limit** – Member of the Public had sent an email to all prior to the meeting with a report outlining traffic calming options. An extensive discussion was held and the main points of concern included: speed point, cyclepath current exit onto A370, pedestrian crossings, narrow pavements. Cllr Coombs confirmed that the Executive Member for Highways would be visiting. The Parish Council gave thanks to the Member of the Public for the excellent report
b) **Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS)** – Cllr Coombs reported that he has spoken to the Vehicle Activated Signs manufacturer and there are some operational features which will hopefully appease North Somerset Highways. Cllr Coombs will discuss this during the Executive Member for Highway's visit. The Parish Council still has funds allocated for VAS, one at either end of the village, and it is hoped that a solution can now be agreed
c) **Pavements and Footpaths** – Cllr Crawford reported that pavements are filthy again following the clean up in December. Another clean up will hopefully be scheduled for April. Cllr Andersson reported that she had made repeated attempts to contact the Quarry Manager and is awaiting a response. Cllr Moss raised the current issue of flooding through the village. A number of residents have contacted the Parish Council with concerns. Bristol Water, Network Rail and North Somerset Council have all been investigating. **It was agreed** that the specific area to focus on currently should be opposite Stancombe Lane. Cllr Coombs noted that drainage improvement works will be starting at Bourton Combe on 16th January
d) **Lengthsman** – After discussion, **it was agreed** that priority is to keep the footpaths clear and tidy to ensure a safe route to school. A focussed contract, with work carried out four times a year was discussed. **It was agreed** that the Clerk would contact Wraxall Parish Council to discuss how they manage this issue. Cllr Andersson will also discuss alternative routes to school at the next Public Rights of Way meeting.

134(22) **Basket Swing**

The Clerk provided an update. Due to the poor weather, the contractors have not yet installed the new basket swing at Farleigh Green play area. The contractors have today confirmed that they hope to be able to install the swing soon. Cllr Coombs raised that the Parish Council should be happy that it is safe to do so before work begins.

135(22) **Meeting dates**

It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

136(22) **Clerk's Report**

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

137(22) **Date of the next meeting**

The date of the next **Parish Council Meeting** was noted as **Monday 13th February 2023** at the Flax Bourton Hub (formerly known as the Village Hall) at **7.30pm.**

Meeting ended 21:00

Chair ……..…….……..…… **Date**…….....

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Clare Melton

APPROVED: SIGNED COPY HELD BY THE CLERK