

## CHAPEL ALLERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Chapel Allerton Parish Council meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023 in the Old School Room, Stone Allerton. BS26 2NL.

Present: Cllrs Blakemore, Wallach, Wathen, & Torrens-Spence.

In attendance: S Millard-Jones – Clerk. Cllrs Filmer & Grimes and 1 member of the public.

Cllr Blakemore chaired the meeting.

**\*\*Public Question Time\*\***

**01.07.23 To receive apologies for absence:**

Cllr Williams & John Crosby:

**02.07.23 To receive declarations of personal/prejudicial/disclosable pecuniary interests**

Cllr Torrens-Spence declared an interest in item 10 due to an expense claim.

**03.07.23 To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023**

The minutes from the Meeting of the Parish Council on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 2023 having been previously circulated, were taken as read. It was **resolved** to approve the Minutes.

**04.07.23 The Old School Room Lease**

The Clerk had chased the lease for acknowledgement as nothing had been received.

Acknowledgement was received on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June, however, nothing had been received since. The Clerk will chase again in mid July.

**05.07.23 Update from on implementation of Article 4.**

Due the resources required for this project cllrs felt that this shouldn't be pursued.

**06.07.23 Footpaths Officer Report**

John Crosby provided the following report in his absence.

I'd not got much to report in any case, as I've been away since the last Parish Council meeting. the only noteworthy thing to mention perhaps is that the blockage I mentioned in my last report, on Allerton Moor Drove bridleway south of the CA-Mark road, was cleared by SCC on 24 May.

**07.07.23 Chair report**

Cllr Blakemore reported that she had visited the Wheatsheaf and spoken with the owners regarding resident concerns that the pub is due for closure. They explained that the Wheatsheaf has not been closed out of choice, but because of financial difficulties due to the pandemic along with the structural repair of the roof which is looking to cost around £5,000. They are open to people wishing to book a table of 8 + people. The garden is open for coffees, and they continue to try to be viable. Cllr Blakemore pleads all to visit the shop from basic to high end items. It would be great if the residents can support them.

Cllrs felt that the Wheatsheaf owners could benefit from publicising their events more heavily such as the hamburger evenings.

Cllr Blakemore to ask the Wheatsheaf to put an article together to show off their business.

Cllr Blakemore also wanted to congratulate the Cider Barn for their various awards.

08.07.23

**Reports:** To include Police, County Councillor, outside bodies, reports from Councillors representatives on external groups.

The first quarter of the budget is due to come through from Somerset Council (SC). Rough idea forecast of £40 million shortfall, 2026 moving to a £ 1 million shortfall. The knock on, issue with waste and rubbish collections and there will be industrial action likely with Suez. The Unions are not satisfied with the 8% increase proposed. There will be no catch up so in some cases residents won't receive their collection. Main rubbish will be prioritised followed by food waste.

Surfacing dressing – roads travel and parking. Go to <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/surface-dressing/>

Children's homes still being rolled out across Somerset – recently received an award for keeping children in the county especially focusing in rural communities.

Cllr Torrens-Spence raised the concern regarding visibility and the state of the verges. SC says that there is a plan to catch up, but this is due to no mow May.

09.07.23

**Planning**

**15/23/00005** Erection of an agricultural building. Land to the North of Binham Moor Drove, Stone Allerton, Near, Mark Road, Chapel Allerton, Axbridge, Somerset.

It was **resolved** that the Parish Council does not object to the application subject to the following conditions:

A suitable waste management plan is put into place to remove the animal waste.

Reason: the property would appear to lie in the Brue catchment a sensitive area and no evidence has been provided that the development would be phosphate neutral.

Lighting – no exterior lighting to be installed.

Reason: to prevent light spill, to protect European protected species and in accordance with Sedgemoor District Plan Policy D 20 - Biodiversity and Geodiversity.

10.07.23

**Enforcements**

Information was discussed regarding a potential enforcement and the Clerk was asked to report to Ros Wyke.

11.07.23

**Village bench (R)** To consider the purchase and potential location.

It was **resolved** to not follow this up as it was felt there was no suitable location.

12.07.23

**Finance**

**a) Approval of Payments & Receipts (R)**

To whom	Description	Net	VAT	Total
S Millard-Jones	Salary/expenses/HMRC June	£ 254.30		£ 254.30
S Millard-Jones	Salary/expenses/HMRC July	£271.00		£ 271.00
S Millard-Jones	Salary/expenses/HMRC August	£245.80		£245.80

It was **resolved** to pay the above by cheque

**b) Approval of the bank reconciliation (R)** The Clerk reported that reconciliation was not yet possible, due to not having access to the bank.

**c) To note Budget versus Expenditure**

It was noted that the projected spend was under budget and the Clerk asked if there were any costs that had not been included. It was noted that the Christmas tree had not been included and that the carry-over balance of just over £10,00 was a little higher than recommended by Accounts and

**13.07.23 Admin:** To adopt amended Financial Regulations (R)  
It was **resolved** to adopt the amended Financial Regulations.

Cllrs Wallach & Wathen - Register of Interests sent to Somerset Council.  
Review of policies: scheme of delegation. Financial regulations. More to follow.  
Updated account information Microsoft/website/Banking. Updated payment information for Microsoft to avoid Caroline Harris being charged again  
Jetting of drains request to Liam Gill. Response received:  
For your information, the road drains in Stone Allerton and Chapel Allerton are emptied on a routine basis once every two years. This was done last year in 2022 and is due to be done again next year in 2024. This is in line with current Council policy. However, I will arrange for them to be inspected to determine if additional reactive works are required at this time.  
The drainage grill at Nut Tree Cottage is maintained by us and arrangements are now being made to have this reinstated. The clearance of any debris build up will also be done at that time.

**14.07.23 Delegated authority (R)** To consider and approve a Scheme of Delegation  
It was **resolved** to approve and adopt the Scheme of Delegation

**15.07.23 Correspondence**  
Steve Mewes had contacted the PC regarding a project that Green Wedmore is working on 'Wedmore Village Farm'. He is looking for the PC to send an email confirming their support for the project to help with grant funding. As this request came in too late to be included on the agenda, the Clerk will invite him to the September meeting and include the matter on the agenda.

**16.07.23 Items for next agenda:**

- Policies and procedures
- Signatories
- Defibrillator

**17.07.23 2023 Meetings:** September 4<sup>th</sup>. October 2<sup>nd</sup>. November 6<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting closed at 19.57pm

---

Signature and date