

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BISHOPS HULL PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Bishops Hull Hub on THURSDAY 16th JANUARY 2025

Members Present:

Cllr T Taylor – Chairman

Cllr B Fernandes

Cllr R Reed

Cllr A Plumbly

Cllr N Fernandes – Vice Chairman

Cllr J Hunt – Parish and Somerset

Cllr M Trout

Cllr J Wilson

Also Present: Helen McGladdery – Clerk and RFO, one member of the public and Somerset Councillor Ellis

Have Your Say

One resident – Raised continued concerns over drainage on Shutewater Hill and double decker coaches travelling down Shutewater Hill.

Action:

1. The Clerk to contact Somerset Council again
2. The Clerk to contact the coach company

Cllr Ellis – Gave a verbal update on Somerset Council financial position, and their request to central government for additional support. She detailed water quality status of the river tone and an action group working on this. Cllr Ellis will forward information about the home library service to the Clerk to share with residents.

Cllr Hunt – Gave a verbal report on boundary review, Somerset Council finances, Somerset Council's need for more foster carers. He detailed repairs carried out to telegraph pole in Richmond Park and the Christmas lights competition.

Meeting starts 7.40pm

602. To receive apologies for absence and approve reasons given

None

603. Declaration of Interest not already recorded

None

604. To Agree Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 5th December 2024

The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman

Action: The Clerk to add the minutes to the website

605. To receive updates from Local Trusts

No updates

606. Planning – To receive the planning panel report on planning applications received:

05/24/0030 - Demolition of garage and erection of a single storey extension to the side of Bernadotte, Ritherdons Farm Lane, Rumwell, Taunton"

Resolved: No comment

Action: The Clerk to submit the response

Kinglake

Update on outstanding works prior to land transfer

The Clerk showed Councillors photos of the “repair” to the raised manhole cover, which is just sand so will not be sustainable.

Action: It was agreed that the Clerk will pass the photos to SC to ask if they deem the work acceptable to make the site up to adoptable standard

Update on obtaining quotes for future maintenance

Two quotes have been received

Action:

1. The Clerk to obtain a further quote
2. Agenda item to be added to March to approve quotes

To discuss any further actions

None at present

607. Financial Matters

Detail of Receipts and Payments since previous meeting

Receipts:

CIL Account interest	£414.52
Saving account interest	£541.65

Payments:

HUB hire - December	£28.00
SC Pensions – December	£443.63
HMRC – December	£243.52
Mobile phone – December	£8.00
H McGladdery – Oct/Nov/Dec Clerks allowance	
And expenses	£107.62
Service charge – December	£6.00
Mobile phone – January	£8.00

The Clerks December salary was paid in this period

To receive budget to spend monthly report – attached to the minutes

To confirm the budget for 2025-26 – attached to the minutes

Resolved; Members approved the attached budget

Action The Clerk to add to the website

To agree the precept request from Somerset Council

Resolved Members agreed a precept request of £74,000.00 and the paperwork was signed by the Chair

Action The Clerk to submit the request to SC

608. Clerks Report which will include all matters arising from previous minutes and items of interest

The Clerk’s report was distributed to Members

609. To finalise plans for Volunteer Café on Saturday 8th February

All local groups have been invited to have a representative at the event. The Clerk advised that the HUB will run the café side of the event as usual and their risk assessment will cover this event.

Action:

1. The Clerk to produce a contact sheet for interested residents, print all Council bios for display at the event. Advertise the event on social media, Community news and noticeboards
2. The Clerk to contact all attendees to confirm attendance and advise of details of the day

610. Bishops Mead – To receive latest update on progress of land transfer of Bishops Mead from Somerset Council

The Clerk advised that Somerset Council solicitor has now given the PC solicitor a list of works that SC will complete before 31st March 2025 and the plan for the land to transfer to the PC on 31st March (or sooner if works completed)

Resolved: Members agreed to these terms

Action; The Clerk to advise the PC solicitor to proceed with the transfer

A revised quote for 2025/26 has been received from Parsons Landscapes (the confirmed contractor) for maintenance of Bishops Mead once owned by PC

Resolved: Members approved the revised quote

Action: The Clerk to sign the agreement with Parsons Landscapes

611. Parish maintenance:

To receive update on leaf clearance

No further updates

Action: The Clerk to chase SC Highways regarding clearance of the leaves on the road at Bishops Hull Hill/Road

To agree any areas requiring additional maintenance

Resolved: Members agreed to the Clerk obtaining quotes and authorising works from Somerset Council (as the works are on the Highway) to carry out hedge cutting on Bishops Hull Road and to restore the pavement on sections of Silk Mills where grass has encroached.

Action: The Clerk to obtain quotes and authorise the works in consultation with the Chair

612. Speed Indicator Device Update

The Chair provided the latest stats from Silk Mills, there are minor incidents of speeding whilst the SID is in operation, but generally does work in reminding motorists to adhere to the speed limits in place. The data can of course be used to engage with Avon and Somerset road policing

The Clerk advised that the dedicated posts have been ordered and are awaiting installations from SC.

The Clerk has received correspondence from TTC requesting their SID is sited on Wellington Road (in BH Parish) on a lamppost.

Members supported this but requested The Clerk respond as detailed below:

Action:

1. The Clerk to contact TTC to show support for the SID

2. The Clerk to request confirmation that TTC are permitted to install their SIDs on lampposts, as this contradicts what SC told the PC
3. If the above confirmed The Clerk to seek additional clarification from SC

**613. Update on Parish Council proposal to reduce speed limits on A38
To receive additional information from SC Officer Kate Brown relating to costs involved**

The Clerk advised that SC are awaiting a response from the police to this request, but SC are aware that the PC and TTC are supportive of this project.

To receive update from Taunton Town Council regarding their support and financial contribution to this project

TTC have made an application for £10,000.00 of their CIL funds to be used for this project.

614. To agree Parish Council response to Boundary Review

Members agreed to the proposed boundary for Bishops Hull ward attached

Action: The Clerk to submit to the Boundary Commission

615. Suggested items from Councillors for inclusion in next meeting

- LCN update

Date of next meeting: Parish Council meeting Thursday 6th March at 7.00pm – The HUB

Meeting closed: 8.50pm

Cllr Tony Taylor – Chairman

Attachment:

1. Budget to spend report
2. Finalised budget
3. Agree Boundary map

1. Budget to spend report

RECEIPTS	Actual		Budget	Variance	
Precept	£ 71,000.00		£ 71,000.00	£ -	
Grants	£ -		£ -	£ -	
Interest	£ 2,885.09		£ 1,000.00	£ 1,885.09	
Refund	£ -		£ -		
Community News	£ 2,824.00		£ 2,850.00	-£ 26.00	
Allotments	£ 245.00		£ 800.00	-£ 555.00	
Loan	£ 1,835.38		£ 1,835.38	£ -	
CIL Payments	£ 4,121.81		£ -	£ 4,121.81	
Vat refund	£ 784.87		£ -	£ 784.87	
Sensory Trail fundraising	£ -			£ -	
Total Receipts	£ 83,696.15		£ 77,485.38	£ 6,210.77	
					6 months costs
PAYMENTS					
VAT	£ 848.58		£ -	£ 848.58	
Clerks salary	£ 14,217.62		£ 24,663.29	-£ 10,445.67	£ 9,211.02
Pension Contributions	£ 3,849.98		£ 6,331.73	-£ 2,481.75	£ 2,588.28
Clerks allowance	£ 234.00		£ 350.00	-£ 116.00	£ 175.00
Establishment costs	£ 855.45		£ 1,000.00	-£ 144.55	£ 500.00
Local amenities	£ 1,405.92		£ 5,000.00	-£ 3,594.08	£ 2,500.00
Supporting local groups	£ 1,068.00		£ 2,500.00	-£ 1,432.00	£ 1,250.00
Allotments	£ 1,797.55		£ 800.00	£ 997.55	£ 400.00
Community news	£ 1,690.00		£ 2,850.00	-£ 1,160.00	£ 1,425.00
Audit (Establishment cost)	£ 365.00		£ 750.00	-£ 385.00	£ 750.00
Insurance (Establishment cost)	£ 500.41		£ 1,500.00	-£ 999.59	£ 500.41
CIL funds	£ 2,033.62		£ -	£ 2,033.62	
Local services	£ 115.00		£ 27,000.00	-£ 26,885.00	£ 13,500.00
137	£ 25.00		£ -	£ 25.00	
Membership	£ 1,142.28		£ 1,300.00	-£ 157.72	£ 1,300.00
Loan	£ 1,835.38		£ 1,835.38	£ -	£ 917.69
Training	£ 90.00		£ 1,000.00	-£ 910.00	£ 500.00
Footpath maintainance	£ -		£ -	£ -	
Sensory trail	£ -				
Total Payments	£ 32,073.79		£ 76,880.40	-£ 44,806.61	£ 35,517.40
Surplus / Defecit	£ 51,622.36	£ -	£ 604.98	£ 51,017.38	

2. Finalised budget

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	Budget 25/26
Precept - Received from Somerset Council (Residents element of Council tax bill) Every additional £1000 increases residents cost by 81p per year	£ 74,000.00
Community News - Payment received from advertisers in the Community News. Cost calculated to cover printing costs (rates £60 annual box and £6 mini monthly advert	£ 2,850.00
Allotments - rental income received from plot holders, aims to cover land rent from Somerset Council, Insurance, maintenance and water fees (rent £30 half plot, £15 quarter plot, £20 large raised bed and £15 small raised bed)	£ 815.00
Bank interest - Variable based on interest rate, currently 2.6% on CIL and Savings, current account does not attract interest	£ 1,000.00
Bishops Hull HUB Loan repayment - PC took out loan to enable the completion of the HUB in May 2020, total loan £50,000 for a 49 year term. The HUB agreed to pay this loan back and sends the repayment fees to the PC twice a year. Outstanding loan £48,176.96, annual repayment £1835.38	£ 1,835.38
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£ 80,500.38

BUDGET 2025-26		Budget 25/26
ESTIMATED PAYMENTS		
Basic payments		
Clerk's salary inc NI contributions - Clerks salary is based on a job evaluation for the role the Clerk carries out, based on duties required for the role. Budget to increase clerks hours to 20 per week based on extra duties from Kinglake, Play park and devolved services		£ 30,000.00
Pension contributions - The Clerk is in the Local Government pension scheme, the same as Somerset Council employees and the employer contributions are 22.3% of the Clerks salary, so this payment will increase with any pay increase or increase in hours for the Clerk		£ 8,400.00
Clerk's allowance - This is the HMRC set amount for working from home as an office, use of light heat, WIFI, storage of files etc		£ 350.00
Establishment costs - Hall hire, stamps, paper, printing, mobile phone		£ 1,500.00
Membership - SALC and SLCC Membership, enabling the PC to obtain advice for free, document templates etc. and training at reduced costs		£ 1,400.00
Litter/Dog Bins - The Charge Somerset Council applies to empty the 3 dog bins owned by the PC at Kinglake, Netherclay and Mountway Road. Any new bin installed would incur a weekly charge of £13 to have it emptied (twice a week)		£ 5,000.00
Allotments - SC rent £150 per year, insurance £130, Water £250		£ 1,000.00
Audit fees - Internal audit £100, external audit £500, the more income the PC has the higher the charge		£ 750.00
Insurance - This will increase due to taking on Kinglake and play park in village		£ 1,500.00
Footpath maintenance - to allow for maintaining some of the problem paths		£ 1,000.00
Community News - Printing costs for 12 editions and 2 inserts		£ 2,850.00
Bishops Hull HUB Loan - Repayment of loan to build HUB (£50,000)		£ 1,835.38
Training - To cover training for Councillors and Clerk		£ 500.00
ROSPA/Play inspections - The Play areas will require monthly inspections, which can be outsourced to Somerset Council and annual inspections by ROSPA		£ 1,000.00
Playground repairs - This is just for the village play park, as Kinglake commuted sum can cover any Kinglake repairs		£ 2,000.00
Speed Indicator Device - general possible charges inc training (new SID in CIL)		£ 500.00
Bishops Mead Maintenance , £3000 grass £2000 trees		£ 10,000.00
	Sub Total	£ 69,585.38
Optional payments for consideration		
Bishops Hull Playing Fields Trust - Support grant to assist with running costs for the Trust		£ 1,000.00
Community Woodland - Support grant to assist the running of the woodland, if a "physical item" is required CIL funds can be used		£ 1,000.00
Supporting local groups/donation - Poppy wreath/Citizens advice or local groups requiring support		£ 1,500.00
Planting - Variuos planting around the village		£ 1,000.00
Community Resilience - Additional verge cuts to supplement Somerset Council, as they will only do Highways cuts. Overgrown vegetation hedges/trees . Gully clearance/weed spraying and Street Cleaning (leaf clearance/pavement clearing etc).		£ 6,500.00
	sub total	£ 11,000.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS		£ 80,585.38
Deficit/Surplus		-£ 85.00

3. Boundary review map

