

Trudoxhill Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6th January 2022 at 7.30pm at Trudoxhill Village Hall

Present: S Salmon (**SS**), Chris Kenyon (**CK**) (Chair) , Diana Francis (**DF**), Doug Valentine (**DV**), Tom Pace (**TP**), Rohan Masson-Taylor (**RMT**)

Clerk: Sam Winstanley

Public Attendees: 1

22/277 Apologies

Cllr. Gay

22/278 Disclosure of Interest

none

22/279 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd December 2021 were unanimously approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

Meeting suspended to take questions or comments from the Public

Cllr. Gay sent his monthly updates in, which the clerk relayed:

- Covid infection rates remain high in Mendip, parishioners are urged to get all vaccines and boosters available. Government has announced further leisure and hospitality grants, details to follow on Mendip website.
- 2021/0830/FUL was approved at planning board with conditions
- Mendip have agreed to ratify Local plan Part 2 and MG has pushed the Unitary Council to make their own local plan a high priority
- Formation, administration and representation for LCNs continues; whilst there are no firm answers as of yet they remain in many conversations and the pilot with Frome that Trudoxhill is participating in is being attended well and monitored accordingly.

22/280 Planning

22/280.1 2021/0853/FUL – Land at Theobald Arms

The councillors agreed that this, with the garages, was an improvement on the previous plan, which can only improve Nunney Catch. The previous plan received the councils' support, so this one would too.

RESOLUTION: After discussion, Councillors voted 6/6 to recommend approval.

22/281 Finance

22/281.1 Financial Report

The clerk reported £3148.39 in bank, £500 up on budget, although most of this will be consumed next month from late invoices. The clerk raised a query about a budget item marked 'community garden', which DV will investigate further.

22/281.2 Accounts for payment

Dean Press - £176, Clerks' Salary - £159.75

RESOLUTION: Unanimously approved

22/281.3 Precept

The precept is due on 13th January. To facilitate, the clerk prepared and presented different scenarios with relevant data from Mendip and surrounding parishes [Appendix 1] that focused on what an increase would mean for the average household in the parish. CK said that it was interesting to see neighbouring precepts and that if the precept is to increase, it should be tied to reasoning; he continued to express concern about increases during the pandemic amidst other taxes increasing. RMT noted that inflation is likely to be 8%, and the cost of insurance for the parish, as an example of rising costs, went up 23%. He expressed a concern that the parish must remain solvent, able to continue providing the services needed and should be ready to pay suppliers in line with inflation. The absolute increase for most scenarios is not overly onerous. SS wanted to ensure the precept and how it is spent is focused on the whole parish, not just the village of Trudoxhill; she also agreed that we should prepare for paying people working for the parish commensurately.

RESOLUTION: All councillors were in favour of a small increase, 5 voted for £1.99 annual increase for the average home, 1 for 76p annual increase for the average home. Clerk to submit £6,210 as precept amount for 2022-23.

22/282 Reports

To receive reports and updates on:

22/282.1 Highways (SS)

SS reported very little activity over the holidays. Keeping eyes on potholes that need reporting. Nunney Catch have cleared layby in prep for road signage, a good sign of progress.

22/282.2 SpeedWatch (SS)

Didn't manage 4 sessions in December, will ensure in January.

22/282.3 The Village Hall (TP)

TP reported the holiday party went ahead and was a success, despite omicron concerns people needed respite and was well received, many young families met for the first time. Found a new volunteer as events organiser from this event. SS asked about promotion of events, as many parishioners do not use social media. TP agreed and would suggest traditional methods like flyers and door knocking. New kitchen is open for use, damp was managed, investigations show no further issues but structural engineer may be sought for official designation, SS asked if the roof had the strength for solar panels? Bookings are up, hall is busy again.

22/282.4 Traffic Calming Measures (DV)

DV had little to report. Little response to advert for SIDS volunteers in YV, one parishioner suggested to partner with another local village to share cost and make it easier to keep it moving. SS concerned that a large team is necessary to ensure continuity, and that needs more parishioner participation, sure people are out there and interested. CK asked would there need to be a subcommittee to ensure it reports up to council? CK asked if this could be an annual councillor

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responsibility? DF suggested a speeding event with the parish, and if we don't get a team, let the SIDS project go, perhaps get a police rep to come; there was general agreement with this sentiment. SS suggests March, before council meeting, will speak to TP and PCSO to organise.

22/282.5 Environment Agenda (SS)

Clerk to remove until SS requests, thinking of parish events to get community involved. Locally, beavers were released near Asda, upstream river floodplain could be at real risk, DF will monitor and find out more.

22/283 Correspondence and Emails Received

22/283.1 Unitary Update – Frome Area LCN

The Frome LCN pilot continues to investigate services for teens and their families, next meeting is February 1st, 7pm.

22/284 Other Business referred to the Clerk

22/284.1 Voneus Update

Voneus reported that we should see site surveys and walkabouts in the area now, with building starting in April, service expected to roll out June/July. They would like to come to the parish meeting near build start to give further information.

22/284.2 Bulls mead lane

DF noted that the agricultural land was purchased but it appears to be occupied as a residence all year round. There is concern as it seems a large habitation - 9 cars, 2 mobile homes and multiple sheds. SS said that this should be referred to Mendip – DF noted this had already been done. Clerk to follow up again with Paige Savage and report back.

22/285 Date of next TPC meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as February 3rd

Appendix 1

Scenarios for 2022-2023						
Scenario	Band D	Precept	Precept increase	Increase	Increase per month	
A	£ 30.72	£5,750.00	0%	\$ (0.47)	\$	(0.04)
B	£ 31.19	£5,838.77	2%	\$ 0.00	\$	0.00
C	£ 31.94	£5,980.00	4%	£ 0.76	£	0.06
D	£ 33.17	£6,210.00	8%	£ 1.99	£	0.17
E	£ 41.40	£7,750.00	30%	£ 10.21	£	0.85

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