

Kingsbury Episcopi Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 4th September 2024, 7.30pm at Kingsbury Episcopi Primary School.

212. Attendance and Apologies

Present: Cllrs Hall, Paul, Loxston, Carpenter, Herridge, Baldock and Stanton; Mrs Larsson (Clerk)

Apologies for absence: Cllrs Spree and Frost; Somerset Council Cllr Stanton

213. Declarations of Interest – None.

214. Parish council vacancies

There are currently two vacancies which the council may co-opt new members for. Anyone interested in applying or who would like to know more should contact the Clerk or one of the Councillors for more information.

215. Approve and sign minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 3rd July 2024 were an accurate record of the meeting, and duly signed by the Chair.

216. Somerset Councillor Report

There was not a Somerset Council Councillor present to offer a report.

217. Public Question Time

A member of the public commented on the hedge works to be discussed, advising that they thought the track on the outer boundary was owned by the parish council and may need to be cut as well. The council advised it would look into the matter of the hedge along the track.

218. Planning Applications

- a. 24/01805/HOU: Dudmoor Corner, Dudmoor, Kingsbury Episcopi TA12 6AT- Installation of a small garden office 3.2w x 2.5d x 2.5h (meters) situated in the garden of a listed building and within a conservation area. RESOLVED to submit a no objections response to the application.
- b. Update on application 21/00503/OUT: Land Os 3346 Thorney Road Kingsbury Episcopi - Outline planning application all matters reserved except for access; Erection of up to 25 dwellings, demolition of single storey extension to no. 18 and rearrangement of estate road to facilitate access between 18 and 19 The Avenue.

Representative for the parish council attended the Somerset Council Planning South Committee on 27th August 2024 to speak in objection to the application, as per previously submitted responses to consultations on the application. The application was approved with 9 members in favour and 1 against.

Responses and full details of all applications can be found on the Somerset Council planning portal against the respective applications. [Link to Planning Portal](#)

219. Financial Matters

- a. Financial report to 31/8/2024: RESOLVED to approve the financial statement.
- b. Payments: RESOLVED to authorise the following payments

K Larsson	Clerk Salary incl. PAYE (August)*	
K Larsson	Admin expenses (July/August)	£79.05
S Wright	Grass Cutting (August)	£700
Westley Harris Agricultural	Verge Cutting	£1272
SALC	Annual Affiliation Fee	£416.65
SALC	Councillor Training (2022)	£25.00

*Salary information protected under GDPR.

220. Cemetery and Churchyard Maintenance:

Quotation was received for maintenance of the hedge to the inner boundary to the north of the cemetery. Councillors were happy with the quotation but deferred the decision to proceed while investigation into ownership of the track to the outer boundary was investigated. To be revisited in October.

It was noted that the hedge belonging to the property bordering the southern churchyard boundary has been cut, and the council are appreciative of the prompt action of the property owner in addressing this.

Comment was received regarding additional requirements for maintenance in the Churchyard. It was noted that the wildlife group were still waiting for feedback from the diocese in terms of managing the churchyard as part of the Wilder Churches initiative and sensory garden project. Until this progresses a proper maintenance regime will not be established.

Updates

- a. Local Community Networks – A permanent link officer has now been appointed to support the parishes in the network. The next meeting is on the 18th September. Further information on the LCN's can be found on the Somerset Council website at the following link <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/local-community-networks/>
- b. Wildlife Group – No updates over the summer period.
- c. Sensory Garden – As reported previously, plans have been submitted to the PCC but feedback has not been received yet and as a result the project has not progressed. The Clerk and Cllr Loxston will formally write to the PCC so it can be moved forward.
- d. Cemetery & Churchyard - Topple tests were carried out and some memorials were identified for monitoring. The iron railing between the churchyard and cemetery are deteriorating and need addressing, which Cllr Loxston offered to assist with.
- e. SID – Enquiry was made as to whether the SID could be located along Bladon Hill for vehicles approaching the school. The location will be investigated.
- f. Lock-up – Land Registry are indicating the councils application for ownership is valid and is progressing. The parish council are extremely appreciate of the efforts of Mr Jeffrey undertaking this task on behalf of the council and community.
- g. Defibrillator – Dates will be published once training can be organised.
- h. Highways – Councillors discussed the Kier enhanced service provision which is now available to parishes, but did not feel it would offer value for money to the parish.

It was noted that road closures for re-surfacing are about to commence, but that an issue being investigated by Wessex Water by Lower Burrow Corner and Little Lane have not been resolved which will no doubt affect the quality and longevity of the surfacing works.

Residents are encouraged to continue reporting any issues on the roads, such as potholes or damaged structures, directly to Somerset Council so they can be accurately recorded and dealt with as promptly as possible. The online reporting tool on the Somerset Council website can be found on the following link: <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/report-a-problem-on-the-road/> or alternatively the Fix My Street website can be used <https://www.fixmystreet.com/>

- i. Flooding – Nothing to report.
- j. Footpaths and Bridleways – Report of overgrown hedges and a tree were received blocking footpath from Scotts Lane. This was reported to Somerset Council and the parish council will try to contact the adjacent landowners to resolve the issue. Information on rights of way and a tool for reporting issues to Somerset Council can be found at <https://roam.somerset.gov.uk/roam/map>

- k. Community Shop Signage – Highways have indicated two proposed locations for signage would be acceptable, subject to certain specifications. The clerk will liaise with the community shop and SC Highways to progress.

221. Items for the next meeting

- a. Cemetery hedge works.

222. Date and time of next meeting

Wednesday 2nd October 2024, 7.30pm. To be held at Kingsbury Episcopi Primary School

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.38pm.

Signed ...*David Hall*.....

Date*2.10.24*.....

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