

MEETING OF SWIMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 10th NOVEMBER 2021 at 7.30 PM at Swimbridge Jubilee Hall

MINUTES

Public Session

Guest Speakers

Toby Wilcocks – Parish Councillor for Bishops Tawton came to the meeting to give details about a programme being used in Braunton using Beavers to assist in flood management. A group has been formed, Venn Bever Project, for all parishes along the river, and a community meeting held had mostly positive feedback. The next move is to compile a list of landowners along the river and to contact them and invite them to a meeting. Toby and Steve walked the river to see at what points in the river the beavers could be introduced, areas where there are conifers are not good for beavers.

The positives would be considered that there would be an increase in fish stocks, decrease in chemicals from agricultural run-off, and good for tourism. Negatives would be that landowners may not welcome the changes to their land. Wild beavers have been spotted in the area, so it would be better if they were managed. There is new legislation post Brexit regarding land management, so possibly grants would be available.

Cllr Lane has grant funding available which must be used by January – possible apply for some funding for the toddlers play equipment. Cllrs Knill and Wadsworth will get a grant application together.

ACTION DK/CW

Cllr Lane raised a question concerning the recent communication with the clerk of Landkey PC regarding their request to include parts of Swimbridge Parish in their local plan. Swimbridge PC clerk replied that a response had been sent as minuted in the previous meeting. Councillors felt that they were unsure of the reasons behind the request therefore the clerk will write to Landkey PC clerk to request clarification.

- 2021.63 **Apologies and attendance** Apologies from Cllr Dennis and District Cllr Luggar. All other Councillors in attendance.
- 2021.64 **Declarations of Interest** - none received
- 2021.65 **Minutes of previous meeting** - these were agreed and signed
- 2021.66 **Correspondence**
BT re Telephone Box – BT has been in touch with Geoff Dodds regarding the purchase of the telephone box. The clerk will confirm this.
- 2021.67 **Committee Reports**
1. Planning – Cllr Haworth-Booth confirmed that Maria Bailey will be attending our meeting in May.
 2. Finance
To agree the budget for financial year 2022-23 – the budget was presented by the Finance Committee. One additional item was £500 to be available for community assistance. All agreed this was appropriate. The community Engagement Committee had presented their request for funding to the Finance Committee – all sums were agreed. Expense items have been inflated by 5%.
- Proposal : to accept and agree the budget figures as presented. All in agreement.

The Finance Committee have reviewed the Asset Register to include the play equipment on the Glebe Field.

The Finance Committee have reviewed the Statement of Internal Control to add appointment of the Internal Auditor.

All accepted

Account balances :	Current Account £11009.54
	Deposit account £53.11
	Glebe Field account £2569.28

3. Community Engagement – Cllr Wadsworth reported that Touchwood has been asked to carry out the annual ROSPA inspection.

An all-weather table tennis table is being installed using grant money from Tesco and Parklands.

David Netherway has asked if Dace Beedham can continue litter picking in the field. All agreed this was acceptable as he would be working as part of the Green Team.

Tree planting – the original plans may affect the air ambulance, so an alternative scheme was discussed. It is proposed that benches are sited on the western boundary with tree planting around them. Care should be taken to avoid the power cables - Cllr Wadsworth will liaise with the committee.

ACTION CW

Cllr Haworth-Booth reported that he is making a grant application to the Tarka Trust for £500 to fund a wildflower meadow.

Cllr Knill reported that Hearson quarry will supply some large boulders to edge the car parking area instead of fencing. Gates and post will be from Mole Valley and this will be installed as soon as possible.

2021.68

Payments for approval :

Clerks Salary	£198.97
A&M Contractors	£1150.00
Laura Brown	£100

2021.69

Matters for further discussion

David Netherway has met with SWW regarding the water supply to the field – quotes for installation to be submitted.

Cllr Haworth-Booth asked if there would be any funding available for the maintenance of the churchyard. All agreed the Parish Council would contribute £200.

Laura brown was commissioned to design a new logo for the Parish Council – this is now in use.

Signed _____