**MINUTES OF MEETING OF EAST CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL**

**HELD ON MONDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2023 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Before the meeting commenced there was an opportunity for the public to speak:**

A parishioner commented that they found the noticeboard minutes easier to read due to the change in format.

Another parishioner asked for an update on Chinnock Hollow: Cllr Reeve noted that the costed report which had been expected to be delivered to SCC Highways has been delayed but was expected shortly.

**Present**

Duncan Goodes (Chairman), John Cox (Vice chairman), Debbie Taylor, Doug Reeve and Dave Tuck.

**In Attendance**

Nancy Chapman (Clerk)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Oliver Patrick (District/County Councillor) and Mike Hewitson (County Councillor).

1. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th JANUARY 2023 (Already Circulated)**

The minutes were approved as correct records of the meeting (Proposer: Cllr Taylor, Seconder: Cllr Cox).

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DPI DISPENSATIONS**

None.

1. **MATTERS OF REPORT ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**
   1. There are still two vacancies on the Parish Council.
2. **DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR`S REPORTS (BY INVITATION)**

Cllr Patrick’s and Cllr Hewitson’s combined report was previously circulated.

The notification of the proposed LCN groupings was discussed (East Chinnock has been put in the Crewkerne/Ilminster group and rather that the Yeovil / Cokers group as hoped). The Chairman expressed his disappointment at this having previously requested that East Chinnock be grouped with Yeovil. It was agreed the Chairman should discuss this further with Cllr Patrick.

1. **PLANNING AND PLANNING APPLICATIONS**
   1. There were no applications received after publication of the agenda.
2. **FINANCE**
   1. The Clerk received an email from the entertainments committee treasurer in November asking for the PC bank details in order to pay-in the bonfire night float (£1900) plus any profit. The Clerk has chased this but nothing has been deposited in the PC bank account as yet. The Clerk requested that invoices for the Music night and the Bonfire night events be submitted before the financial year end, ready for audit. Cllr Tuck agreed to follow this up.
   2. A resolution was passed to approve the following payment (Proposer: Cllr Cox, Seconder: Cllr Taylor):
      * SSDC Parish Ranger December 2022 (£173.04 + VAT £34.61) £207.65

c) The Clerk reported that she now has online access to the Lloyds bank accounts. It was agreed the Clerk would prepare application forms to apply for online access for Cllr Goodes, Cllr Taylor and Cllr Cox, so that payments could be approved online if required.

d) It was agreed the Clerk should contact last year’s internal auditor to ask it they would consider carry out the internal audit again this year.

1. **COMMUNITY PARK**
   1. Cllr Reeve agreed to liaise with the gardening club regarding the possibility of them taking on the raised flower beds.
   2. The new memorial bench is scheduled for delivery on Monday 13th February.
   3. The Helicopter Springer installation has been completed.
   4. Subject to weather conditions, work to carry out the tiger-mulch resurfacing and log stepper installation is scheduled to commence on 13th February and should be complete by the 16th February. Cllr Taylor has met with the installer to discuss the location of the log steppers.
   5. The Play Inspection Company have quoted £195 +VAT for a Post-Installation inspection of the new nest swing and springer. This has been booked for April.
   6. The PC have received a request to install a metal sleeve at the entrance to the park in order to erect a flag-pole to display the union Jack for the coronation and similar occasions. It was viewed that this was unnecessary as the Church already has a flag and another one would create more work for when it has to be raised and lowered (Proposer: Cllr Taylor, Seconder: Cllr Cox). Cllr Goodes agreed to reply to this request.
2. **PARISH ISSUES**
   1. John Chappelle has agreed to add his name to the list of contacts on the Somerset Emergency Community Contacts (SECC) database. (In addition to Duncan Goodes and Dave Tuck who have previously agreed to be contacts).
   2. The task of investigating possible options for a commemorative hamstone planter for the village hall is ongoing.
   3. The Clerk reported that despite Vista ‘upgrading’ the website, the links are now broken and she is unable to add files to the PC website. Cllr Goodes agreed to meet with the Clerk to investigate this further and consider alternative options if necessary.
3. **ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE**

A quiz night was held recently with proceeds being raised to put towards the SID.

It was agreed that village groups should get together to co-ordinate an event for the coronation in May. The possibility of purchasing memorabilia, (such as mugs) for the village children was also discussed and the Clerk agreed to circulate some options for this.

1. **PARISH RANGER SCHEME**

a) Cllr Cox reported that the Ranger visited the village in January. The digger-work required to clear the silt trap is still outstanding.

1. **HIGHWAYS REPORT**
   1. Cllr Reeve has reported several new potholes to SCC Highways over the last few weeks.
   2. Cllr Reeve stated that before going ahead with the purchase of a SID there are several considerations. Firstly, it is vital that enough resources are in place for the ongoing task of moving the SID and charging and changing the batteries. (Solar powered batteries require wider lamp-posts than are currently installed and so would incur an extra cost of new posts). Secondly, the collection and processing of data needs to be considered. Thirdly, permission may be required from SCC Highways. Cllr Reeve agreed to invstigate these issues.
   3. Cllr Reeve has contacted SCC Traffic Management requesting they investigate the possibility of issuing a Traffic Regulation Order for ‘no parking’ on one side of College, as the current parking is making it difficult or impossible for wider vehicles such as emergency services to go up the road.
   4. Cllr Reeve reported that a parishioner still has a number of bags of road-salt stored on behalf of the PC should it required for any further icy conditions.
   5. Cllr Cox has received a request for additional street lighting on the lower corner of Weston Street. Cllr Reeve stated that he had enquired about this several years ago, and that the PC would have to cover the cost of this and that it was very expensive. Cllr Reeve agreed to follow this up.
2. **RIGHTS OF WAY**

There were no new footpath issues this month.

1. **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Cllr Taylor reported that a repair company will be looking at the Church Clock in the next week. The Clock is owned by the Parish Council and they will therefore have to cover the cost of any repairs. It was agreed a quote should be provided to the PC before any work is carried out.

1. **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING & CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 8.45pm. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 6th March 2023 at 7.30pm in at the Village Hall.