

- 25/26 /50 **PRESENT** - Cllrs Charlesworth (in the Chair), Heale, Gowing, Vine and Welch.
- 25/26 /51 **ALSO PRESENT** - SCllr Munt and 8 members of the public.
- 25/26 /52 **IN ATTENDANCE** - The Clerk to the Council.
- 25/26 /53 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND CONSIDERATION OF ANY DISPENSATIONS REQUIRED** - none declared.
- 25/26 /54 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** - were approved and signed.
- 25/26 /55 **UPDATES ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND NOT LISTED** - none.
- 25/26 /56 **SOMERSET COUNCILLORS' REPORTS** - SCllr Munt reported on the opposition to the closure of Yeovil Maternity Hospital; the Household Support Fund being extended; changes to reporting highway problems and the requirement for new foster carers. Other updates are on Somerset Council's website.
- 25/26 /57 **LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORKS (LCNS) AND ENHANCED HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE (EHM)** - next LCN meeting is on 9th July. No dates set for the next EHM meeting.
- 25/26 /58 **BTMG (BRIAN TILBURY MEMORIAL GROUND ON THE NIDON)** - as planned there was a meeting on site between councillors and Mr Kennedy of World Class Willows. Maintenance of the site was discussed and agreed as follows. Cllr Heale would mow up and back and Mr Kennedy would cut tracks off there. WCW would manage the tod nursery as this is a specialist job. The willow trees are due to be harvested in 15 years' time. Income to be split between the Parish Council and WCW. Edington Willing Helpers could undertake aiding the maintenance and helping trees grow. It is hoped to establish part of the plot as a community asset with a picnic bench and pathways. The Hawk and Owl Trust is interested in helping develop wildlife on the plot. The small plot opposite will be left as a wildlife refuge.
- 25/26 /59 **FLOODING** - it was noted that 'pythons' are preferred as flood defences for properties. There are still good supplies of sand/sandbags in hand and these are to be used prior to the purchase of new equipment.
- 25/26 /60 **HIGHWAYS**
- a Speed Indicator Device (SID) - Cllr Charlesworth has ordered a new bracket. She has tested the device and it is working well. She is awaiting a lock to secure the device before reinstalling it. Cllr Heale will help her.
 - b Chandlers Lane/Holywell Road bend - This problem is in the hands of streetworks and BT. There has been no leakage on to the surface recently but the weather has been very dry.
 - c Nidon Lane - There is a new closure notified for Nidon but it is not clear what this is for.
 - d Broadmead Lane and Pillar Barn - It was still not clear who currently owns the property. The Clerk was given permission to find out from the Land Registry. A member of the public who told the meeting the wall surrounding the site is part of the listing gave some information regarding people the Clerk could contact. The Pillar Barn is on the 'At Risk' register. The Somerset Heritage Centre is helpful.
 - e Problems arising and any other highway matters - There have been an excessive number of road closure signs springing up all over the area recently and, apparently, ridiculously placed being either in too far from the closure or creating a dangerous hazard for traffic and pedestrians. This was even affecting vehicles on the A39. The way Kier's workmen have to operate the drainage tanker's operation is somewhat self defeating. Somerset Council to be asked to change the contract. The Burtle sign near the Holy Well requires attention.
- 25/26 /61 **PLANNING** -
- a 26/25/00002 - Outline application - White House, Broadway - 1 detached dwelling house - no update at 12/06/25.
 - b 26/25/00003 - change of use - Unit on Suprema Estate - granted.
 - c Planning Enforcement and Proposed new legislation - there is a very severe shortage of planning enforcement officers. Somerset Council cannot afford to employ more at present. New legislation on planning is in the pipeline and it is proposed that this will make it considerably easier to gain planning permission.
 - d Any other planning matters - none.

Chairman ... 

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- 25/26 /62 **FOOTPATHS** - there had been sheep behind electric fencing on one path. This makes the path unuseable for walkers. The land has now been ploughed. The problem has already been notified to Mr Olive.
- 25/26 /63 **POLDEN ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK (PEN)** - to be removed from agenda.
- 25/26 /64 **DEFIBRILLATOR/CRITICAL BLEED KIT** - Cllr Charlesworth is currently trying to set up another training session.
- 25/26 /65 **HOLY WELL AND COMMEMORATIVE SEAT** - the member of the public who has been drawing up the plans for putting out to tender was able to include a lot of work previously done by John Rigler. Somerset Heritage could be asked to carry out a watching brief if necessary. A proper tendering system will need to be followed.
- 25/26 /66 **GARDEN COMPETITIONS** - It was agreed that the competition had not been set up in the best possible way and needed adapting. The judges were arranged.
- 25/26 /67 **VE 80TH ANNIVERSARY - 9TH MAY 2025** - remove from agenda.
- 25/26 /68 **FINANCE**
- i. Accounts check - accounts to end of May had been circulated to all with the statements. Approved.
 - ii. Ring fenced funds - Recommendations from the working party had been received and were adopted as follows:- Holy well £2,036.77; Highways £2,415.11; Nidon Land £1,136.77.
 - iii. Village newsletter - Other village newsletters are being looked at. Delivery options were discussed. To be considered further.
- b Cheques for signature - were approved as follows:- Chq.1073 Clerk (salary and expenses) £437.83; Chq.1074 St George's Church (churchyard maintenance grant) £500.00; Chq.1075 Edington School Room £250.00 grant towards costs) £250.00; Chq.1076 Village Hall (room hire) £33.00.
- c Bank mandate and possible change to Unity Trust Bank - All new signatories have now signed. We await confirmation from the bank that the mandate has actually gone through. Once this is confirmed the Clerk would start another mandate change for Cllr Charlesworth's name change.
- d Any other finance matters - VAT refund has been received.
- 25/26 /69 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, CIRCULATION, DISTRIBUTION** - SALC Health and Wellbeing; King William Inne, Catcott - Clerk would keep councillors informed.
- 25/26 /70 **URGENT CORRESPONDENCE** - none.
- 25/26 /71 **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING(S)** - Website; road signage in need of attention; Pillar Barn; Tenders for the Holy Well; Training - particularly relating to new planning legislation; newsletter.
- 25/26 /72 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Thursday 10th July at 7.30 in the Committee Room at the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

Chairman 

Date 10/7/25