

- 26/27 - 1 PRESENT - Cllrs Charlesworth (in the chair), Fletcher, Gowing, Heale, and Vine.
- 26/27 - 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - none received.
- 26/27 - 3 ALSO PRESENT - no members of the public and neither Somerset Councillor.
- 26/27 - 4 IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk to the Council.
- 26/27 - 5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS: Cllr Fletcher queried whether he needed to declare an interest in banking. The Clerk thought he probably did but would check with the Monitoring Officer.
- 26/27 - 6 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS** - 12th March and 26th March - minutes of both meetings were confirmed and signed.
- 26/27 - 7 **CHAIR'S CHANGES TO THE ORDER OF BUSINESS** - The Chair provided details of the changes she was making to the agenda.
- 26/27 - 8 **UPDATES ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND NOT LISTED** - none.
- 26/27 - 9 **SOMERSET COUNCILLORS' REPORTS** - none received.
- 26/27 - 10 **NIDON LAND** - (brought forward) - as Mrs Welch is no longer a councillor it was agreed that a replacement liaison person should be appointed. Cllr Gowing agreed to undertake this task. She should monitor work and liaise with Mr Kennedy on all aspects of the site and the work undertaken. Cllr Vine would provide details for her. A schedule of who should do what work and when would need to be drawn up and agreed in writing. Mr Kennedy is arranging for a herbal ley grant and the seeds can be sown once the 'drive' is cut. Cllr Vine has asked him to provide a report for the Parish Meeting. There is some work required to trees at the gateway to enable appropriate access for large vehicles. The ditch near the gateway needs clearing and there are some trees in need of cutting back or cutting down as appropriate. Cllr Vine would source some quotes.
- 26/27 - 11 **ESTATE LAND SALE & FUTURE GROUP** - (brought forward) - there is to be an open meeting on 18th April at 3pm in the Village Hall. Landowners have been contacted and made aware of the preference for the land to remain in agricultural use. The sale is due to take place on 5th May. It is understood that a developer is interested in some plots.
- 26/27 - 12 **EMERGENCY PLAN** - (brought forward) - Cllr Vine reported that this is now under way. The Clerk was authorised to make payments as required up to £350 in order to speed the process if this is necessary (see Standing Order 34).
- 26/27 - 13 **HOLYWELL RENOVATION** - (brought forward) - Cllr Charlesworth reported that our agent is currently away but has met with the stonemasons and work is due to start mid-end of May. The Clerk would send a letter of authorisation for her to act on our behalf as this is required for the Heritage Grant she has applied for. Cllr Charlesworth has sourced some potential grant providers and would use our agent's application as a basis for further applications. The stonemasons had highlighted three areas where they need help. Our agent would provide access to her property for comfort reasons; water would be provided to a standing tank from the source at Burnt House Farm; a generator would need to be paid for to provide electricity.
- 26/27 - 14 **PRESENT** - Cllr Vine left the meeting.
- 26/27 - 15 **IT POLICY** - The Clerk had sent a draft to councillors. This was approved by all councillors.
- 26/27 - 16 **LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORKS (LCNS)** - no update.
- 26/27 - 17 **HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP (HWG)** - no update.
- 26/27 - 18 **DEFIBRILLATORS** - It is possible that a defibrillator could be put on the pole at the Holy Well for use of the north end of the village. This would be investigated as a connection to the transformer would be required.
- 26/27 - 19 **GARDEN CHALLENGE** - details to appear in the next "It Takes a Village".
- 26/27 - 20 **WESSEX WATER PUMPING STATION** - it is understood that a recent water test revealed that the water quality and spillage met the guidelines set down.
- 26/27 - 21 **HIGHWAYS**
- a. Chandlers Lane/Holywell Road bend - ongoing.

Chairman Date

- b. Speeding and SID data - ongoing.
- c. Safety at the Broadway/Holywell Road crossroads - the Clerk would again chase this matter up.
- d. Problems arising and any other highway matters - noted that there were now a lot of official markings in Broadmead Lane. It was noted that some had washed off but the Clerk told the meeting that they would still show on the digital map the workmen use.

26/27 - 22 **PLANNING –**

- a. Land East of Holywell Road - 26/26/00001 - no update other than two submissions saying an archaeological report should be required
- b. Any other planning matters - Vicarage Cottage - Clerk responding following consultation - there was a bit of concern regarding access and parking but otherwise it was supported (Cllr Charlesworth did not take part in the consultation).

26/27 - 23 **FOOTPATHS** - Cllr Heale noted a problem with a stile. He would contact Mr Olive to let him know.26/27 - 24 **NEWSLETTER "IT TAKES A VILLAGE"** - Cllr Charlesworth reported that it had been delayed and then needed updating. It would be ready to go out soon. A copy would be sent to the Clerk for the website.26/27 - 25 **VILLAGE CLEANUP** - 23 volunteers had turned up and there had been 7 apologies. 25 bags of rubbish had been collected. There had been vapes, nitrous oxide, roofing felt and a car sub-frame amongst the general rubbish. Clerk would write to thank the catering ladies.26/27 - 26 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN** - Cllr Charlesworth is looking into starting this.26/27 - 27 **BINS - ADDITIONAL DOG WASTE AND LITTER BIN AT BUS SHELTER AND BIN HOLYWELL ROAD SOUTH** - It was agreed the Clerk should purchase a 120ltr freestanding, lidded litter bin from Broxap together with a 60ltr dog waste bin for post mounting (together with the post and fixings) for the bus shelter area. Cllr Charlesworth would provide a what3words for the proposed siting on Holywell Road South so the Clerk can get it agreed with Highways and Environmental Services.26/27 - 28 **FINANCE**

- a. Accounts check - statements had not been received so the AGAR could not be completed.
- b. Cheques for signature - were approved as follows:- Chq.101 Clerk (salary and expenses) £450.18; Chq.102 Village Hall (3 regular meetings and 1 extraordinary meeting) £79.00; Chq.103 Zurich Municipal (Insurance) £241.00 (The Clerk advised there may be additional payments because of the extra cash we will have in hand for a while - she would let Zurich no about this and the work at the Holy Well in order not to void the policy); Chq.104 Gwilliams of Edington (provision of litter pick refreshments) £31.09.
- c. Budget for 2027-2028 - no update. Cllr Fletcher expressed an interest in being involved moving forwards.
- d. Banking and banks - It was agreed that because bank accounts are declared in grant applications and there would be some noticeable interest gained if we remained with out existing bank we would leave this in abeyance until the Holy Well work was completed in all respects.
- e. Any other finance matters for information - CIL Return for the last financial year has been submitted.

26/27 - 29 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, CIRCULATION, DISTRIBUTION** - none.26/27 - 30 **URGENT CORRESPONDENCE** - none.26/27 - 31 **ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING(S)** - Several policies/documents needing updating or making; AGAR26/27 - 32 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Thursday 14th May 2026 following the **Annual Parish Meeting** which is due to start at **6.30pm in the Committee Room** at the Village Hall (Wessex Water Outreach Co-ordinator has been invited to attend the Parish Meeting)

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Chairman Date