

- 26/27 - 139 **PRESENT** - Cllrs Charlesworth (in the chair), Fletcher, Heale, and Gowing.
- 26/27 - 140 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Received and approved from Cllr Vine.
- 26/27 - 141 **ALSO PRESENT** - 8 members of the public.
- 26/27 - 142 **IN ATTENDANCE:** Clerk to the Council.
- 26/27 - 143 **Declarations of interest and consideration of any dispensations required** - none declared.
- 26/27 - 144 **Minutes of previous meeting** - were approved and signed.
- 26/27 - 145 **Updates arising from previous parish council meetings and not listed** - none.
- 26/27 - 146 **Somerset Councillors' reports** - not present.
- 26/27 - 147 **LCN and Highways Group** - Clerk had attended a meeting yesterday. Rural Connectivity regarding all forms of transport was discussed. She had completed a questionnaire regarding this. It was noted that rural bus services were not suitable for getting to and from school and work and were too infrequent to be really useful.
- 26/27 - 148 **Highways:-**
- Chandlers Lane/Holywell Road bend - No update.
 - Meeting with Highways re Signage - progressing.
 - Any other highways updates - A member of the public had offered to assist with the renovation of the signposts. Chair would request assistance on the village WhatsApp group. Cllr Heale was pleased this matter was progressing and would do what he could to help. It was noted that removing the 'arms' from the post might prove very difficult.
 - Any Highways Problems arising -
 - Ditch erosion in some areas is a problem and the ditches filling with road ballast which gets pushed into them causes blockages. Ditches would be inspected when the cleanup takes place on 4th October. The blocking of ditches greatly increases the risk of flooding. The meeting was reminded that sandbags are available if required.
 - Hedge removal - The clerk would check on the legal position regarding the removal of a hedge and construction of a new entrance, including visibility plays, at a site in the village.
- 26/27 - 149 **NALC Standing Orders** - for consideration at a future meeting.
- 26/27 - 150 **Set up an HR Committee** - a committee was set up. It required three councillors. Those elected to the committee were Cllrs Charlesworth, Gowing and Heale. They would swwet their terms of reference in line with legal requirements.
- 26/27 - 151 **Holy Well Restoration** - The villager overseeing the restoration is away at present. Water was found in a hole exposed when the slabs were removed. Unfortunately this proved to be outlet water and wouldn't help with the flow. The broken pipework has been jetted and work has resumed.
- 26/27 - 152 **Nidon Land (BTMG)** - Cllr Heale reported that he had a quote of £750 for the removal of the large tree. This was accepted. He also reported that two other trees were a current danger and that flailing also needed to happen as growth was impinging on the highway. It was agreed that he should go ahead and arrange for these jobs to be undertaken because of the safety implications. He was given pre-approval set at a maximum price of £500 in order to proceed without further delay. It was noted that he is the only person on the council with working knowledge of management of this type of land.
- 26/27 - 153 **Planning:-**
- Planning Framework - Process for dealing with future planning applications of significant potential impact - the Clerk and Chair to liaise on the final document.

Chairman

Date

- b. Lot 21 - no update. No quorum for this item.
- c. Any other planning matters for information -
 - i. An appeal has been made regarding the land East of Holywell Road. Clerk to establish definitely if we can make further comments. Some villagers present thought there might be a smell emanating from the site. There was nothing the Council felt it could add to the responses already received.
 - ii. A meeting briefing councils on the National Planning Framework will take place on 17th September at 4pm online.

26/27 - 154 **Somerset Local Plan** - no update

26/27 - 155 **Neighbourhood Plan** - no update

26/27 - 156 **Garden Challenge** - Winners remain the same as last year. It was noted that the challenge needed to be advertised earlier next year and should include all types of containers. Chair to obtain vouchers for this year's winners.

26/27 - 157 **Waste bins** - bus shelter and Holywell Road South. Cllr Heale would collect the bins and get help to install them at the bus shelter. The Clerk has not yet ordered the bin for Holywell Road south but would do so.

26/27 - 158 **Proposed Somerset Levels National Park** - meeting 1st October, Glastonbury Town Hall, 7.30pm-9.30pm. Cllr Vine will attend.

26/27 - 159 **Finance**

- a. Accounts Check - statements and accounts were sent to councillors via email. The accounts were approved.
- b. Increase in Clerk's salary in line with national agreement - This was unanimously agreed.
- c. Cheques for signature - were approved as follows:- Chq.126 SALC (Training) £50.00; Chq.127 Clerk (back dated pay rise) £68.90; Chq.128 Clerk (salary and expenses) £468.66. The Clerk had not received a notification giving approval for the next Holy Well restoration cheque because of annual leave taken by the gentleman undertaking the work.
- d. Unity Trust Bank - application is under way. Not as simple as first envisaged.
- e. Any other financial matters -
 - i. VAT - no claim made this time.
 - ii. Precept - Somerset had reminded the council that any precept set at over £10,000 would be paid in two installments.

26/27 - 160 **Size of Edington Parish Council** - the reminder that this was requested was apparently too late for next year's elections. The Clerk would write again requesting that this happen as soon as possible in order to ensure it is considered in time prior to the elections in 2031.

26/27 - 161 **SALC AGM & Somerset Conference** - Cllr Vine and Clerk to attend

26/27 - 162 **Meeting Venue** - It was agreed that the Committee Room would continue to be used. A different layout would be trialed as this used to work many years ago.

26/27 - 163 **Items for information, circulation, distribution** - C&CD.

26/27 - 164 **Items for future meeting(s)** - NALC financial regulations; Various policies required for website; bus shelter; Heritage sites; footpaths; Noticeboards; number of children of school age.

26/27 - 165 **Urgent correspondence** - none.

26/27 - 166 **Date and venue of next meeting** - 8th October at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Chairman

Date