

WINTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

26 April 2021

D Marriott (in the Chair)

T Bowles	(P)	P Hemmings	(A)
J Brain	(P)	D Marriott	(P)
R Climmer	(P)	P Kembery	(P)
C Watkins	(P)	N Labuschagne	(P)

Following government recommendations regarding COVID-19 this meeting was held remotely.

In attendance: Cllrs Jones, Collins, Whatley and Amos.

Members of the public including Alan Giles, Laura Fogg Rogers and Sharon Hancock. Kevin Thomas representing One Planet Matters.

Apologies for absence – Cllr Hemmings.

Declaration of Interest Under the Localism Act 2011: Cllrs Jones and Labuschagne, South Gloucestershire Councillors.

52.04/21 – Minutes of the Meeting held on the 15 March 2021 and the Clerk's Report
The minutes were approved and will be signed when regulations allow. All the items on the Clerk's report were noted.

Matters Arising

The area by the defibrillator in the Greenfield Centre car park has been hatched to stop parking and allow easy access to it.

Three quotes have been received for the resurfacing of the lane by Frenchay Primary School and repair to the parking area by the Church and sent to members. It was felt that there needs to be a specific specification and Clerk will look into this further.

Clerk

The additional quote for the repair to Frenchay Village Hall has been received and circulated to members. The Parish Council could not proceed with the previously preferred quote as the contractor was unable to fulfil the contract. Members agreed to recommend M Lockett to full Council to carry out the work.

Clerk

Burning of mattress and waste at Bury Hill. Environmental Health has advised that burning of domestic waste would need to be considered a statutory nuisance for any action to be taken.

They have forwarded details to the Environment Agency to for it to be reviewed as they can enforce legislation with regard to burning of waste if they have enough information. Clerk will advise if any update is received from the Environment Agency.

Dog waste in Recreation Ground. WPC has posted some information on their Facebook page and shared to the local blogs. The dog warden has advised they should report incidents to South Glos on the report it site to log and this will give an idea of the extent of the problem. A dog sign at the field has recently been vandalised. Our handyman will see if the sign can be reinstated.

Clerk

The National Trust has inspected the worn area by the gate from Tuckett Field and will

add this to repairs to be carried out. They have advised due to revised conditions they would only be able to allow 6 cows to graze on their field. They will contact the farmer to find out how many cows he normally puts in the field.

Our Frenchay detectorist has asked if he can detect in Monks Pool and on Whiteshill Common. Members do not feel Hambrook Common would be suitable as so much sport is played there and groundworks scheduled to be carried out. They are agreeable to Monks Pool.

Clerk

The subcommittee has met to discuss Christmas lights in Winterbourne. They are all in favour of lights being put up in the area around the Green opposite the Coop and Flaxpits Lane. This would be a total of 8 lights. They would also like to have a Christmas tree on the green. After discussion members concluded the expense for this was too great to be justified. It was suggested local shops could be contacted to see if they would like to put up lights themselves, however the shops are occupied by tenants not the owners which makes this difficult.

South Gloucestershire Council has been reminded for an update on the latest situation regarding the wildflower area by the sorting office in Winterbourne and the parking problems but no response has been received as yet. It was suggested the adjacent piece of land might be better for the wildflowers as it is not parked on. It was concluded to wait and see what plans South Gloucestershire Council put forward.

Clerk

The new flooring for the Greenfield Club has been fitted and new staging for the Hall received. Both were agreed a while ago and delayed due to lockdown.

Our handyman has carried out maintenance on Frank Smith's bridge at Newleaze making it more stable and also treated the wood. The existing noticeboard which was going to be repaired is quite rotten so will need to be replaced. Originally the idea was to get a new extra board to display some information about Frank Smith, but now one larger board would be better. The old board being replaced at Hambrook may be able to be reused here.

As previously discussed, a Picus survey was recommended on 2 oak trees, one at Frenchay and one at Monks Pool following tree surveys. The cost for the 2 trees would be £600 plus vat. It was agreed to proceed.

Clerk

The water tank at the pavilion has been cleaned and disinfected to comply with legionella requirements. Tests carried out showed no safety concerns.

Hambrook Sports club has requested we confirm they can proceed with ground works to be carried out at the end of the football season. These total £7062 plus vat and are itemised on their grant submission as items paid directly by the Parish Council. Due to Covid no maintenance was carried out last year. Members agreed to recommend to full Council to proceed.

Thanks have been received from Frenchay Parish Church for the recent grant they received from the Parish Council.

53.04/21 – Overview of One Planet Matters

Kevin Thomas from One Planet Matters attended the meeting to introduce the organisation to the Council. They are a growing communication network who work with local organisations and councils creating positive outcomes for the environment. They are currently working with South Gloucestershire Council and the Winterbourne Environmental Group. They try to identify land which is suitable for the planting of community orchards and would be interested in planting a community orchard and some wildflowers on the land opposite the White Horse pub in Hambrook which is owned by the Parish Council. Their aim would be to link up with other communities like care homes, allotments and schools and then be able to pass produce onto vulnerable groups. South Gloucestershire Council has given their support to this suggestion.

The following discussion concluded the Parish Council would need to see more detailed plans, however there were various concerns about this site for an orchard as there are ongoing highway safety concerns on that stretch of road. There is also very limited access

and no parking.

It was noted there could be more suitable areas in the Parish for an orchard and a suggestion was made that Tuckett Field could be a possibility. There was no objection to having a wildflower meadow there and this will be raised in the next full council meeting.

Clerk

54.04/21 - Reports from Task Groups:

Frenchay Common and Tuckett Field

There was a recent incident in the National Trust field adjacent to Tuckett field where a child hurt themselves on some barbed wire which was protecting a tree. This has led to a discussion as to whether barbed wire should be used in public spaces. It was suggested some warning signs could be put in the field. Clerk will investigate further.

Clerk

The Tuckett pond has very little water in it and it is unclear if the bottom of it was damaged when the large tree fell earlier in the year. It is difficult to say if this is the cause as the level often drops and we have had very little rain. It was agreed to monitor over the coming months. It also means that if a dog jumps in it is very difficult for them to get out due to the steep sides. This issue has been raised previously which resulted in a lifebuoy ring being installed at the side of the pond.

The repair of some of the walls on the old hospital site is still being discussed as these have not been carried out. Cllr Burton is investigating this and the Parish Council has highlighted it to the Trust also. Cllrs Bowles and Jones took part in discussions at the very early stages of negotiations for the take over of the land and it was made very clear that the Parish Council would not take ownership of the land unless the standard of the walls is to our satisfaction.

The question of the ownership of the land running alongside Begbrook Park where trees are encroaching onto the road, has been raised with South Glos. A reply has been received which Clerk will forward to members.

Clerk

The triangular bench near to Clic Cottage needs to be repaired and our handyman will check this.

Winterbourne to include the Recreation Field, Duck Pond and Allotments

It was questioned how the area of trees which were cut back at the Recreation Field are looking and Cllr Marriott advised she will visit.

Nothing to report for the Pond or Allotments.

The Dingle and Winterbourne Down

Cllr Climmer was at the Dingle at the weekend with the WEG. They have been preparing the picnic area there. Some grass needs to be sown but this may have to wait until there is more rain. He also advised the seat at Damson's Bridge has been damaged. Clerk will request the handyman to check.

Hambrook and Whiteshill

One of the removable bollards on Common has been displaced and needs to be concreted back into the ground. Clerk will request handyman to repair.

Greenfield Centre

Following delivery of the new staging Cllrs Marriott and Climmer will erect it to make sure it is all in order before payment is made.

55.04/21 – A.O.B.

It was noted it was encouraging to see cricket back being played on Hambrook Common on Saturday and Sunday.

Cllr Bowles advised it was nice to see Cllr Kembery in the meeting as he has been unwell and sent best wishes from everyone to Cllr Hemmings who is also currently not well.

Cllr Kembery confirmed he has had a look at the new website which is looking very good. The Clerk has a meeting with the website provider on 27th April to run through any items which need amending.

Meeting concluded 8.46 pm