

WINTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

19 July 2021

T Bowles (in the Chair)

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

Evacuation procedure: Leave via the fire door and assemble outside in the play area –
Noted

Apologies for absence: Cllr Labuschagne

Declaration of Interest Under the Localism Act 2011: None

11.07/21 – Minutes of the Meeting held on the 21 June 2021 and the Clerk's Report.

The minutes were approved. All the items on the Clerk's report were noted.

Matters Arising

Items for Noting

Davis roofing are replacing the missing piece of drainpipe on the Greenfield centre roof and clearing the gutters on 19 May, for a cost of £575 plus vat.

A new dog bin has been ordered for the Recreation ground.

A new timer has been fitted to the aerator in the duck pond and it is now set to come on twice a day. Cllr Climmer suggested it should be left on all day while the weather is so hot. He also met a contractor to discuss removal of the silt and Clerk will forward the silt analysis to him that was done previously.

Clerk

South Gloucestershire Council has advised that the part of Stone Lane which was resurfaced is the only part scheduled to be done. There are no plans as yet for the rest of it to be resurfaced.

Cllr Watkins is going to contact the tree surgeon who is carrying out the work by Frenchay Village Hall as he is returning from paternity leave this week.

C Watkins

Clerk is still chasing South Gloucestershire Council for a response regarding the possible wildflower meadow on Bristol Road, on the smaller area of grass where there is no parking.

Clerk

Items for discussion

One revised quote has been received for the car park area by the Church and a reminder has been sent for the second one.

South Gloucestershire Council has looked at the lane outside the Church. It is classed as a rural footpath, which does not have to conform to any predetermined standard. They are looking into whether it would be suitable for a new top surface. It is used by several cars which park outside the school which increases the damage to the surface.

Clerk

The one year fixed term deposit account for £75,000 with the Bath Building Society matures on 26 July. They have offered a further one term fixed deposit at 0.45% interest. The rate currently is 0.65%. It was agreed to reinvest the £75,000 at 0.45%.

Clerk

Difficulties are being experienced with the office computers which are running slowly as they are now around 10 years old. Members agreed it is important that office staff have the necessary up to date equipment. An estimate has been received from our software supplier and Clerk will ascertain exactly what is required in order to then obtain a formal quote.

Clerk

12.07/21 - Reports from Task Groups:

Frenchay Common and Tuckett Field

Frenchay councillors have carried out the external risk assessments around Frenchay. There are a few minor issues to be corrected which our handyman can fix.

A few weeks ago Frenchay councillors and Liz Brennan, South Gloucestershire Council councillor, walked around the site at Frenchay and noted the main remaining outstanding work to be done was the entrance by the black gate on Beckspool Road, the pond and the wall along Malmains Dive.

A meeting was then held with the Trust last week. A lot of progress has been made but there are still a few final tweaks required before the Parish Council will be happy to complete the transfer. The certificate A has been issued and Cllr Brennan is to contact South Gloucestershire Council to ask why this has been done when there are outstanding issues remaining. Redrow are to be asked for a £5000 contribution towards the repair of the pond as this has been signed off to an unacceptable standard. A date of 29 August has been given as the proposed transfer date. There has been an ongoing issue with South Gloucestershire Council officers not supporting the Parish Council's efforts to get all required work completed. It is important that the Council are aware of all liabilities and although it has taken a long time to get to this point, it is still important that everything is right before the handover is completed.

There is some graffiti on the wall by the black door on Beckspool Road. South Gloucestershire Council has been notified but this may be classed as a privately owned wall. The handyman will try to remove as soon as possible.

Winterbourne to include the Recreation Field, Duck Pond and Allotments

Cllr Brain has emailed the Sports Association to try to arrange a meeting and is waiting for a response.

The Allotment AGM is on Wednesday and the agenda has been sent to allotment holders. Now Covid restrictions are lifting the Parish Council would like to restart looking into additional equipment for the Recreation Ground. Clerk will check previous correspondence for suggestions that were made.

Clerk

The Dingle, Winterbourne Down, Hambrook and Whiteshill

Two new memorial benches have been agreed for the Common and the Parish Council is waiting for these to be purchased by the relevant parties so they can be installed.

There has been correspondence between the Chairman and Kevin Thomas of One Planet Matters to discuss the potential at the proposed new allotments in Frenchay for fruit trees, and to also get the new build school involved with the planting of fruit trees by the nature reserve which will be next door.

Suggestions have been made for some sort of nature/play trail on Whiteshill Common which could tie in with school activities. The small wood has been suggested for a nature trail but there are concerns about the amount of brambles to be cleared, which once done would need to be maintained. It would be possible when cleared to make some mulch paths and install bird boxes, insect houses etc. The Parish Council will consult with the Winterbourne Environmental Group.

Clerk

Much consideration has been given to the idea of an enclosed play area but the Parish Council has no land or assets which are suitable in this vicinity. However, we will continue to investigate the possibility if other options should come up.

An enquiry was received in the office regarding horse riders not being allowed on the Commons. Riding is allowed on the small common and a copy of the byelaws has been sent which details the Act under which the laws are made and their sign off and agreement by the Secretary of State.

Clerk

There is a tree on the Common behind the bus stop on the Bristol Road which needs the tree guard removed. Clerk will request handyman to do this.

Greenfield Centre

It was discussed that although a lot of Covid restrictions have been lifted, the Greenfield

Centre will continue with the enhanced hygiene measures it has in place. However, there will no longer be extra restrictions on the number of people using the rooms and it will be at the discretion of hirers if they wish their attendees to wear a mask.
It was concluded that the next Council meeting in August will still take place in the Hall and that this can be reviewed each month.

13.06/21 – A.O.B.

None

Meeting concluded 8.35 pm