Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of ALL SAINTS PARISH COUNCIL of Tuesday 17th January 2023 at 7.30pm, held in All Saints Village Hall

Minutes approved on 7th March 2023 at FULL ORD meeting of the Parish Council

Present (for all or part of the meeting):

Cllrs. Galvin, Hall and Hubbard (Quorate)

Clerk, Paul Hayward. (also representing Yarty ward, EDDC)

Mr. Tim Pedder, Hon. Footpath Warden

18 members of the public present.

Meeting started at 7.30pm.

In the absence of the Chair, Cllr. Forbes, and as there is currently no Vice-Chair of the Council, it was proposed by Cllr. Galvin, seconded by Cllr. Hall, that Cllr. Hubbard take the Chair for the duration of this meeting. Resolved "nem con". Cllr. Hubbard took the Chair accordingly.

Acting-Chair welcomed all in attendance and outlined fire regulations and exits from the hall

Public Forum:

- a) No Police Report available for review. 0 reported crimes in the rural Axminster area.
- b) The Honorary Footpath (P3) warden asked to speak on the relevant agenda item later in meeting. Agreed.
- c) Cllr. Hall (DCC) was not in attendance but had sent a DCC Members Report via email.
- d) Cllr. Hayward (EDDC) asked Chair for permission to provide a verbal report. Received and noted.
- e) Chair invited representations from members of the public in attendance.

Mr. Walsh made a representation to Council and the public regarding former Councillor, Andrew Lightfoot.

Clerk advised members that the points raised were not a Council matter as Mr. Lightfoot was no longer a Councillor and was not subject to either the Code of Conduct or any censure that Council could lawfully apply. There was an item on the agenda later (22/106a)ii) that members may wish to discuss at that time that had

a direct correlation to the representation made by Mr. Walsh.

Mr. Pedder also made a representation relating to verge damage by HGV's at Catmoor Cross.

Clerk explained that as property was not in the ownership of the Parish Council, the PC would be unable to lawfully contribute towards remedial repair works.

Acting-Chair closed public forum at 6.45pm.

22/097 To record members present at the meeting:

Those members shown as present above.

22/098 Apologies Received:

Cllr. A Forbes (Chair). Conflicting engagement.

Approval of reason proposed by Acting-Chair, seconded by Cllr. Galvin. Resolved unanimously.

22/099 To note members not otherwise present or with approved absence,

To receive any other apologies for absence:

Apologies received from Michael Davis, Hon. Tree Warden, Cllr. Ian Hall (DCC) and Kevin Feeney. Noted.

22/100 Declarations of Notifiable Interests:

None declared.

22/101 To consider minutes of previous meetings:

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held Tuesday 22nd November 2022

Approval of minutes proposed by Acting-Chair, seconded by Cllr. Galvin. Resolved unanimously.

Signing of minutes as a true record of proceedings was deferred.

Matters arising raised:

Clerk was asked to send the letter regarding inconsiderate parking at Socks Hill to all adjacent properties. Noted

22/102 Chair's Announcements / Matters of urgency for report only:

Clerk highlighted the EDDC Street Trading Consultation which had been received after agenda publication. Given that matter was not on the agenda and could not be formally discussed or resolved upon, and that the response deadline would pass prior to the next meeting, it was agreed that the PC would not respond.

Acting-Chair also noted the death of the former Yarty Ward member, Paul Diviani.

22/103

To consider any matters listed on this agenda that Councillors consider should be dealt with as confidential business as per the provisions of The Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960:

No matters considered as confidential other than agenda items already listed (see 22/113)

22/104 To consider matters pertaining to the Casual Vacancy that exists on the Council.

Clerk reported that no candidates had come forward for co-option and so the vacancy remained unfilled. Members agreed to continue asking parishioners if they would consider standing for the role. Noted.

22/105 Footpath and Highway Matters:

Acting-Chair proposed suspension of Standing Order's to permit representations from non-members of Council. Approved.

i) Footpaths / P3 matters

Mr. Pedder kindly reported on Footpath/P3 works across parish.

Some paths were becoming overgrown as they were not being used as frequently as before.

Mr. Pedder mentioned that some residents were using Facebook to report footpath issues but he did not use Facebook and so asked that all enquiries either come to him directly via phone or email or are directed via the Parish Clerk, whereupon they could be forwarded on and dealt with accordingly.

Annual P3 survey forms had been completed and were being merged with Financial Reports prior to submission to DCC PROW team by mid-February. Noted.

ii) Highway Safety and Parish Maintenance Matters

In the absence of DCC Cllr. Hall, no further discussion on this subject was felt necessary.

iii) Matters relating to traffic speeds and congestion; to receive report from Clerk on VAS project. Report received from Clerk and noted.

Acting-Chair proposed (at Clerk's request) that an additional £50 expenditure be authorised for the purchase of an additional VAS mounting bracket to allow both North and South traffic speed monitoring when VAS pole and speed unit were installed by DCC. Resolved unanimously. Clerk: please note and action when appropriate.

22/106 Planning Matters:

a)i) To consider planning applications received prior to agenda publication:

One: 23/0038/FUL - Alston Lodge, Alston. EX13 7LG

Loft conversion, construction of dormer and some internal alterations.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hall, seconded by Cllr. Galvin, that Council support this application.

Resolved unanimously.

Two: 23/0026/CPE - Knights Farm, The Granary, Knights Lane, Smallridge, EX13 7LS Use of the granary as an independent dwelling (lawful development certificate).

It was proposed by Acting-Chair, seconded by Cllr. Hall, that Council do NOT support this application. Resolved unanimously.

It was also proposed by Acting-Chair that the Parish Council should write to EDDC and express concern over the non-payment of residential Council Tax by the tenant over the last 6 years. Resolved unanimously.

Acting-Chair confirmed that the public representations on this application were noted and that this be minuted. Clerk: please note and submit these comments, and correspond with EDDC, accordingly. Please also copy in the Yarty Ward member for their reference.

a)ii) To consider planning applications received prior to agenda publication where a decision was made under Council's extant Scheme of Delegation; decision to be ratified: None to be considered.

b) To consider planning applications received after agenda publication:

None to be considered.

c) To consider tree matters (planning related):

None advised by EDDC Planning Authority.

d) LPA Decisions as advised (determinations):

None advised by EDDC Planning Authority.

e) Enforcement and Appeal matters:

None advised by EDDC Planning Authority.

f) To consider planning correspondence received / planning matters in adjoining wards:

None received.

g) To consider planning applications which are to be heard at forthcoming EDDC Planning Committee meetings:

None advised by EDDC Planning Authority.

22/107 Financial Matters:

a) To consider and, if thought fit, approve payments for November and December 2022.

NOV Payments to value of £2064.53 and DEC payments to the value of £1543.95 were proposed.

Proposed by Acting-Chair. Seconded Cllr. Hall. Resolved unanimously.

b) To receive and review Council's Financial Reports to December 2022 for Q3 (22-23FY):

Received and noted with thanks.

c) To consider items of expenditure paid under delegated authority.

£64 incurred for SLCC subscriptions due for Clerk. Noted.

d) Questions to the RFO.

None raised

e) To consider future broadband costs for village hall.

Clerk was directed to liaise with hall trustees to start negotiation on possible sharing of costs for this service. Noted.

22/108

Business to be conducted:

a) To consider and decide upon Budget and Precept figures for FY23-24.

Acting-Chair proposed that expenditure budget be set at £19,550 and that precept demand remain unchanged for FY23-24 at £16,000. Slightly reduced taxbase figure was noted and accepted. Seconded by Cllr. Galvin. Resolved unanimously.

RFO: Please note and send formal submission of these figures to EDDC by 18/01/2023.

b) To consider content submission for Parish Magazine February 2023.

Topics to be included:

Precept and budget

Casual Vacancy

Elections - May 2023

Potholes

Clerk: Please note and action accordingly.

c) To approve expenditure of upto £200 towards costs of repairing parish noticeboards.

Acting-Chair proposed. Cllr. Hall seconded. Resolved unanimously.

Clerk: Please note and action accordingly.

d) To consider proposed dates for 2023 Parish Council meetings.

Acting-Chair proposed. Cllr. Hall seconded. Resolved unanimously.

Clerk: Please note and publish/publicise accordingly.

e) To receive report from Clerk on forthcoming local elections in May 2023.

Received and noted.

Clerk: Please circulate (and publicise) nomination papers when received from EDDC.

22/109

Acting-Chair to propose suspension of standing orders to permit public representations at this point of the meeting.

Proposed by Acting-Chair. Resolved unanimously. Standing Orders hereby suspended.

Smallridge Party Planners group have kindly offered £50 towards the ongoing repairs to the parish noticeboards. Acting-Chair accepted the donation on behalf of the Council with thanks.

Clerk to liaise with the benefactor accordingly and account for the funds within the published accounts.

With no further speakers, the Acting-Chair drew the final public speaking session to a close.

22/110

Acting-Chair to propose resumption of standing orders to preclude further public representations thereafter at this meeting.

Proposed by Acting-Chair. Resolved unanimously. Standing Orders hereby resumed.

22/111

Date and time of next Ordinary meeting:

The next Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council was scheduled for Tuesday 7th March 2023 at 7pm.

22/112

It was proposed that, under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by Local Government Act 1972, the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

Proposed Acting Chair, seconded by Cllr. Galvin. Resolved unanimously.

All members of the public left the meeting at this point (8.45pm)

22/113

Matters to be considered in committee:

i) To consider matters pertaining to recruitment of replacement Clerk.

Members agreed terms and conditions for the new Clerk, subject to a 6-month probationary period. Existing Clerk to liaise with successful candidate to provide training and support.

Existing Clerk would remain in post to complete handover post-elections May 2023 and to complete the End-of-Financial-Year AGAR (Annual Return) process. Existing remuneration terms would apply.

With no further business to discuss, the Acting Chair closed the meeting at 9.10pm.

Signed:		(Chair)
Date:	7th March 2023	

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