



**Correspondence address: c/o Andrew Bramston, Chair
Orr Farm, Chantry BA11 3LJ**

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 7:00pm
at Holy Trinity, Chantry**

26th November 2024

Member Present:

Councillor Andrew Bramston (Chair)
Councillor Will Palmer
Councillor Jon Scott

Officers Present: No clerk was present, Cllr Clarke from Somerset Council was in attendance

Members of the Public: None

Agenda

- 112024.1 Chairs Welcome**
- 112024.2 Apologies for absence:** Cllr Evans
- 112024.3 Declaration of Councillors' interests and requests for dispensation:**
None received
- 112024.4 Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 11th September 2024**
Minutes approved and signed.
- 112024.5 Co -option of Councillor**
Due to the resignation of Cllr Boorer, a vacancy notice was posted . As of the meeting there not been a response. It was agreed that ideally there would be a councillor co-opted from Whatley. Councillors agreed to speak to members of the community to see if there was any intertest.
- 112024.6 Somerset County Councillors' report**
The report from Councillor Clarke was circulated prior to the meeting. The ongoing problems of Somerset finances present issues for the Parish. It may be that some services previously offered for Somerset Council will no longer be available.
- 112024.7 Public Participation relating to meeting agenda items**
None received
- 112024.8 Presentation from external organisations:**
None received

Signed by the Chair

Dated

- 112024.9 Clerks Report**
Update regarding activities undertaken by the Clerk was circulate prior to the meeting. No Issues arising.
- 112024.10 Finance: (Responsible Finance Officer)**
The council resolved to approve:
- Current Expenditure at 31st October
 - Invoices for payment in November & December 2024
 - Draft Precept for 2025/2026 was for initial discussion
- Given the report from Somerset Council. The precept budget for 2025/2026 will need to reflect that some activities may need to be paid for by the Parish Council if Somerset are unable to continue with the works/services.
- 4 Grit bins have been acquired for the Parish. Somerset highways have been notified of the locations so they can be filled for this winter.
- Cllr Palmer has identified a company to provide Defibrillator and CPR training. It was agreed that the PC would fund the training – initially 4 sessions @ £100 per session. Cllr Palmer to organise – ideally 2 in Chantry and 2 in Whatley.
- Cllr Bramston highlighted that following discussions with South-West Ambulance (SWA), SWA will shortly implement a support network for early response through the GoodSAM app. SWA will be able to notify people that are on GoodSAM responder - who are within 500 metres of the emergency – to retrieve the defibrillator and apply CPR until the ambulance arrives.
- The responder app requires people to sign up, and they will undergo an online Defib and CPR training. We need to encourage as many local residents as possible to join the GoodSAM program. Cllr Clarke said that this should be shared with the other Parishes – Cllr Bramston to ask the Clerk to arrange this.
- 112024.11 Local Farmers Liaison**
No update received following the resignation of Cllr Boorer
- 112024.12 Roads & Highways Liaison**
Cllr Scott reported there has been no further update from Somerset Highways regarding the work to alleviate flooding on Boorer corner. He will chase them again.
- Village signs - whilst it is acknowledged the Whatley signs need replacing, there is no consensus about what type of signs are required. Further discussion required, and there will be a cost that will need to be considered. The Chantry signs were largely funded by Heidelberg Materials.
- There is as ongoing concern in both villages of speeding. Councillors are requested to establish if any residents would be interested in being part of a speed watch group. There is a mandatory requirement for these volunteer groups to identify there is an actual problem with speeding. Then established speed cameras / warning signs can be sited
- 112024.13 Chantry Village Liaison**
Friends of Chantry have successfully received a grant for an oil treatment for the wood in Holy Trinity Church from Halecombe quarry. The grant covered the cost of materials, and the community will undertake to do the cleaning and applying the oil.

An exhibition is ongoing of portraits from five decades by the celebrated Photographer and local resident Tim Mercer. This has been a huge success.

A Whatley and Chantry community skittles evening is planned for Friday 15th Nov at Tuckers Grave.

Friends of Chantry have been able to obtain a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) for its events to allow it to serve alcohol. Discussions with Somerset Council have indicated that in the future the PCC or Friends of Chantry itself can obtain a licence for events. The ecclesiastical insurance covers events in the church and away from the church for Public liability.

A program of Christmas activities is also planned and will be communicated to residents in due course.

112024.14 Whatley Village Liaison

Cllr Palmer reported that Friends of Whatley is being established as a Community Interest company. This is in order to address insurance and obtaining an alcohol licence.

The group had a successful Harvest event, and further events are planned around the Christmas period. An email will be circulated to residents informing the Christmas activities.

112024.15 Quarry Liaison

At the last Whatley Quarry liaison meeting, there had been an increase in complaints on blasting and noise. There have been more complaints received from Whatley residents on both issues. Whatley Quarry have installed monitoring in Whatley.

Overall, the level of complaints is significantly lower this year compared to previous years. However, there are too many examples of HGV's servicing the quarries using Whatley and Chantry as rat runs.

Heidelberg are issuing instructions to drivers not to do this, but as their drivers are now contracted, compliance is less of a given. Whatley Quarry are addressing our concerns, but we have made it clear that lorries using the villages as a rat run is illegal and totally unacceptable.

A town hall meeting with Whatley Quarry is foreseen at Chantry Holy Trinity church. A date needs to be confirmed. At the last liaison meeting it was suggested that Westdown would open at the earliest in 2026, and possibly early 2027 as there are a few planning areas still to be finalised.

112024.16 Communications

No issues to report.

112024.17 Local Business Liaison

No issues to report

112024.18

Planning Applications

Council considered 3 planning applications. There was no representation from local residents.

Appeal Proposal: Erection of residential dwelling (resubmission of application 2021/0761/FUL)

Appeal Location: 2 Mells Lane Chantry To Mells Green Chantry Frome Somerset

Application Number 2024/0547/FUL

Proposal: Demolition of existing barns. Proposed erection of five dwellings and associated development.

Location: Orcadia Farm Chantry To Mells Green Chantry Frome Somerset

Application Type: Full Application

Application Number: 2024/1837/FUL

Concern was raised that Mells Lane is not suitable for the increased traffic that both Chantry planning applications will create. Cllr Bramston to discuss with local residents.

Proposal: Change of use from Air BnB to form one dwelling Location: The Grange Old Wells Road Whatley Frome Somerset

Application Type: Full Application

Application Number: 2024/1981/FUL

No concerns were raised.

Please visit the below link if you wish to find out more about any planning application:

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/planning-buildings-and-land/view-and-comment-on-a-planning-application/>

112024.19

WCGT Update

A report was received prior to the meeting. No projects had been proposed this quarter.

Cllr Palmer suggested that a solution to the grass cutting for the Parish Field would be for WCCGT to acquire a ride on lawn mower – and that volunteers take responsibility for using it to cut the grass on the playing field and Bullen Mead.

This might be difficult to administer, and there would be the concern of damage / repairs and maintenance. An alternative idea could be to acquire the machine and provide it to a local landscaper for their use in return for cutting the Parish green areas.

Councillors to identify if there is any interest in such a scheme.

112024.20

Items for next Agenda / Items to Report

- Draft precept for 2025/2026

112024.21

Date and venue of Next Meeting

Wednesday 9th January 2024 at St George, Whatley

112024.22

Exclusion of press and public

Not required

Meeting finished at 8:00pm

Signed by the Chair

Dated