

HATCH BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Hatch Beauchamp Parish Council held on Wednesday 11th September 2024 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall

Present: - Kevin Comer (Chair), Pippa Fowler (Vice Chair), Shaun O'Dell, Jill O'Connor, Katie Piper, Jan Walton and Andy Grant plus attendees as below and eight members of the public

Apologies: - Sue Wright, Annette Cox

In Attendance: - Cllr Wakefield, Ms Chadwick as Clerk

Public Forum

- Four attendees representing Friends of Hatch Beauchamp School (FOHBS) gave an update on their fundraising activities for Hatch Beauchamp School and the work on the garden conducted over the summer. Sadly, numbers at the school have dropped and the group outlined plans for further work to raise the profile of the school and attract new pupils. They asked whether the parish council could offer support. It was agreed that this would be further discussed under agenda item 7.
- Cllr Wakefield gave her update including updates on Somerset Council cost reductions and upcoming roadworks in Taunton. There is no update on the notice which was being considered by Somerset Council re the caravan at Neroche View, the Station Road planning or the A358.
- Cllr Wakefield reported funding will be available for those affected by the cut in Winter Fuel payments. Details to be circulated.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Sue Wright and Annette Cox. It was resolved that the apologies and the reasons for them be accepted.

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th July were approved with one amendment.

4. Community Updates and Councillor external contact reports

4.1 Greener Hatch Beauchamp

A Repair Café was held on 7 September and raised £125.

4.2 Neighbourhood Plan

Neighbourhood plan responses have been analysed and comments addressed. Minor updates are being made and a final consultation is planned later this year.

4.3 LCN update

Three working groups have been formed to pursue areas of priority, being Roads & Transport, Climate Change, and Heath & Wellbeing. There is some lack of engagement from some parish councils.

Any highways suggestions to be copied to Andy and the Clerk.

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Signed: Dated.....

4.4 Footpath update

Pippa and Annette offered to act as volunteer Footpath Officers.

4.5 Any other reports

A drain survey has been conducted and circulated. A government review of road projects is underway including the A358.

5. Social media

Following consideration, it was agreed that the parish council do not need a separate policy on social media. Clerk to report if the parish council is tagged on Facebook and continue to post links to agendas of the village Facebook page.

6. Bus service

Councillors reviewed the usage of the Thursday bus service as presented by the Chair. Average takings are £13.89 vs costs of £50.00. The Clerk reported the no invoices have yet been received. The Chair has been chasing an update from Somerset Council on funding.

It was agreed that the service would cease to be funded and that notice should be given. Chair to action. The costs for the notice period will likely be covered by the remainder of the £300 already approved for free summer holiday travel on the Thursday service offered to under 18's approved, which the cost was £35.

7. Projects for 2024

Following discussion, the actions on the potential projects for 2024/25 are as follows:

Road signs – Clerk to circulate costing for 20's plenty signs

Drain clearance – Pippa has circulated a report. Thanks were expressed to Pippa, Jill, Annette and Liz for their work

Noticeboard / VH frontage – a meeting has been held with representatives from Village Hall, and awaiting costings from Village Hall.

Youth Club reactivation – Katie to conduct a survey. Clerk to assist with putting in a format suitable for sharing on social media.

School support – it was agreed to pay FOHBS £1000 towards school support of potential after school club and literary festival.

8. Plans for Autumn Village Tidy

It was agreed to schedule the next village tidy on 16th November including the worst of the drains, plus the inside of the MUGA, the other bus shelter near the Capland end of Village Road, the path to the school and Station Road edges/kerbs.

Clerk to answer requests for gravel to fill holes on path between Home Orchard and Playing Field

9. Finance

9.1 Bank Reconciliation

The Council approved the bank reconciliation.

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Signed: Dated.....

9.2 Schedule of Cheques

The Council approved the Schedule of Cheques as follows, with exception of the SALC affiliation fee which will be discussed further at the next meeting:

Summary of Payments Due						
To pay:						
Clerks wages	5 Jul to 5 Sep 9 weeks			577.80		12.84 x 9 weeks x 5 hrs
Chairs expenses	for bus service			35.00		
SALC	affiliation fee 24/25			175.77		inv 1034
SALC training Nov 22, not previously billed	checked vs email booking and payments			190.00		inv 1806, 1823, 1842
Cheques to pay:				<u>788.57</u>		

It was also agreed to pay the Friends of Hatch Beauchamp School £1,000 as approved in item 7 above.

10. Agenda Items for next meeting

It was agreed to discuss the following at the next meeting.

- Road signs/ speed indicator device
- Noticeboards
- Youth club
- Bus
- Drains
- Moving the defibrillator

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

To be signed by the Chair at the next meeting (Wednesday 13th November 2024):

The minutes reflect an accurate record of events subject to any amendments listed below.

Signed:

Print Name:

Date:

Amendments:

Produced by:

Helen Chadwick, Clerk
hatchbeauchamp.pc@gmail.com

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Signed: Dated.....