

PURITON PARISH COUNCIL



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly on 11th April 2023

1. Report of the Chairman of the Parish Council Cllr S Langley for the period April 2022 to March 2023

The Parish council have been active in creating several new and community driven projects throughout 22-23. Funding has been mainly externally sourced in several cases. The Jubilee, partially funded by a grant gratefully received from Villages together and Parish council funds held back from VE celebrations that had to be cancelled, were utilized. The celebrations at the sports centre were well attended and overall, another successful event with the help of Ian Henderson. Sadly the same year we lost our Queen and a book of remembrance was place and attended by our wonderful team of volunteers at the Village hall, providing a tranquil and peaceful place to record your thoughts and kind wishes to our dearly departed monarch.

The IT room at the sport centre has been re invigorated and a storage room refurbished as a breakout quiet room for anyone wishing to use that facility. A youth organisation were appointed to carry out the youth leadership role and equipment including, Bar football, pool and various box games have been purchased to encourage our young people to attend and have a great place to meet and an opportunity to talk with our youth team. Not only does the youth club offer a place to play it also encourages young people to learn about drug issues and educate them in other aspects of growing up. We hope to expand to allow for junior and senior club to run on Wednesday night one after the other.

Our Neighbourhood Plan team are near completion with the neighbourhood plan having worked tirelessly for a few years now to bring this to the village for finalising. The council would like to thank those that have worked so hard on this project, we look forward to the final document being completed in the very near future. This will ensure that future development within the parish will encourage 25% CIL money against the current 15%. This leads me on nicely to our latest project namely the assault course. This project has been funded using Cil money and various other grants awarded to the Parish council. The following year offers new challenges to the parish council following the new somerset council which may push more control and pressure onto parish councils to save time and money. A new housing development by Redrow consisting of 120 houses. Gravity, when that happens. Looking for funding for village assts such as the parks Sports centre and village hall.

A huge thank you to our councillors past and present who give up their time freely to ensure the smooth running of this Parish. A big thank you to our village ranger and Steve Chick who ensure the cleanliness and safety of village amenities and facilities, and of course to our incredible devoted clerk Sally Diaz, without whom we would all be lost.

Thank you Sally for all the hard work you do as part of your duties and being there when

PURITON PARISH COUNCIL

help is needed. Many of these projects could not have happened without your input and advice.

Wishing all a fabulous ongoing year.

2. Financial report for the period April 2022 to March 2023

The Parish Council's finances remain healthy due to the sound financial management of the Council.

At the start of the financial year the Council's bank balance stood at £100238. At the end of March, the balance was £170882.19. A VAT refund of £5344.54 was received in May 2022 and are waiting for a VAT return of £8002.69 for 2022-23 which will be applied after the Annual Parish Council Meeting. Therefore, the Council's cash assets effectively total £178884.88.

The Council have not received any CIL funds during this year. The Council have used CIL funds to increase the size of the patio at J'Dan Pump track and Café £6740 and for the youth club group and space at the Sports Centre £13562.55.

Village grants for 2022-2023 have totalled £7023, there are additional requests made for £1100 at the April Parish Council meeting.

The Parish Council received a grant from Villages Together for the Queens Jubilee celebrations of £2387.14 and funding for the Neighbourhood Plan of £5875.00.

The precept demand has increased by £4500 to £64500. This will mean that a band D house will pay an additional £4.45 more a year to the Parish Council which equates to 8p per week.

This decision to increase the Precept was taken to cover the cost of Youth Club running costs, maintenance for a proposed assault course which has been agreed and the installation funded by grants, and the increase in inflation. The Puriton Nature Reserve is now finished and completed funded by a Somerset County Council grant.

I am very confident that all financial decisions taken by the Parish Council have been the correct ones.

PURITON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 11th April 2023

Present: Councillors V Crow (Acting Chairman), J Coleman, D Saunders, J Lunn, S Tizzard and Parish Clerk S Diaz

- 23/4A To receive any apologies of non-attendance
Councillors S Langley, J Fletcher, B Crow and County Councillor M Healey sent their apologies.
- 23/4B To receive any declarations of interest in items on this agenda.
Councillor V Crow declared an interest in item 23/4G.
- 23/4C To receive and approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 30th March 2023.
It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 30th March 2023.
- 23/4D To receive the County Councillors report.
The report was circulated prior to the meeting.
- 23/4E To receive the Clerks report
Somerset Council have been contacted again regarding the LCN network to be part of the Bridgwater LCN. The first network meeting is planned for June. The move to Unitary on 3.4.23 was relatively smooth, all services will remain in place.
The community team have made one planter from the left-over wood from the youth room refurbishment. They will do another with the remaining wood after easter. They will be asked to stain the planters ready for planting. The Councillors agreed to use locally grown flowers from Annette Scott to be planted and a donation made to the Alzheimer's Society for the flowers.
Cllr Sarah Dyke from Somerset Council visited the nature reserve with the Seed of Hope team. She was really impressed, and the team have done a great job. Signage needs to be added and costs sourced for the May agenda. Somerset Council have donated a plaque to add to the signage. Seed of Hope were pleased that we are supporting an open day and it is planned for May 18th between 3-7pm, details to follow.
The Parish Council received a donation from Gravity toward the assault course of £21000, plus £4000 for a quiet space in the future. I have advised the company Touchwood that we are able to proceed, and they are looking at the timeline of July/August this year.
The newsletter will go out after easter as Keir has created the first issue from bare bones. The newsletter will be planned to go out on time after this issue.

PURITON PARISH COUNCIL

23/4F To consider a grant application from the Village Hall for a marquee.
It was resolved to approve a grant application for £1329.98.

23/4G To consider the maintenance/inspection costs of the gym equipment on the footpath from Puriton to Woolavington and if the Parish Council will take over the responsibility once installed.
This item was postponed until the next meeting.

23/4H To consider the following planning applications. Please note that Applications received after this agenda is published may be considered if comments are needed before the next meeting.

Planning application number	Location	Proposal
42/23/00003/LE	Land At, Rye, Puriton, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7	<p>Erection of 1no. dwelling with new access and detached carport (revised scheme).</p> <p>The Parish Council resolved to make the following comments to this application:</p> <p>The plan is out of character for the area and the increased height of the pitch roof causes concern for adequate surface water drainage.</p> <p>The Parish Council would like to ask highways to look at the drainage on site as there is concern that the natural drainage system is being removed in an area that has a tendency to flooding.</p>
42/22/00029	Land Off, Batch Road, Puriton, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7	<p>Change of use of land to private gypsy and traveller site, including 3no. pitches each with 1no. mobile home, 1no. utility/ dayroom and 1no. tourer caravan. Also with, parking provisions and associated works (retrospective).</p> <p>The Parish Council resolved to send the same response as submitted in April 2021 to application 42/21/00015 as the application is unchanged.</p> <p>It was resolved to object to this application due to the size of the development as it significantly larger than other compared applications in the Parish. If the application is approved by the Planning Department at Sedgemoor, can the following consideration be made: The site shall not be used for any commercial activity. Reason: The access to the site is not suitable for a commercial operation which is likely to generate significant levels of traffic (this is the condition that SDC placed on a similar application 42/15/00013).</p>

PURITON PARISH COUNCIL

23/41 To note the outcome of the following planning applications:

The decisions were noted.

Planning application number	Location	Proposal	Decision
95/23/00001	Land At Former, Royal Ordnance Factory (Gravity), Woolavington Road, Puriton, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 8AD	Compliance Submission in relation to the Gravity LDO (95/21/00001) - Stage One Strategic Landscaping	Granted
42/22/00035	Land To The South Of, Woolavington Road, Puriton, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7	Approval of reserved matters for the appearance, landscape, layout and scale for the erection of 120 dwellings and information to discharge conditions 9, 10, 18, 20, 21 and 22 of planning permission 42/20/00014 (Outline application with some matters reserved, for the erection of up to 120 dwellings with public open space, structural planting and landscaping, surface water flood mitigation and attenuation, and vehicular access point from Woolavington Road (all matters reserved except for means of vehicular access).)	Awaiting Decision
42/23/00001	Land At, Gravity, Woolavington Road, Puriton, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7	Formation of pedestrian, cycle route and outdoor gym equipment, including landscaping and associated infrastructure.	Awaiting Decision
42/23/00002	19 Webbers Way, Puriton, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 8AS	Erection of detached garage to the North elevation.	Granted
42/22/00018	Land South of, Avalon, Downend Road, Puriton, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6	Erection of 1no. single storey dwelling and detached garage.	Committee 28.3
04/22/00009	Land to the North West of, Knowlehill Farm, Crancombe Lane, Bawdrip, Bridgwater, TA7	Redevelopment of the site for the erection of 6no. dwellings with integral garages and parking provisions. Also with improved access from Crancombe Lane and landscaping.	Awaiting Decision
42/22/00035	Land To The South Of, Woolavington Road, Puriton, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7	Approval of reserved matters for the appearance, landscape, layout and scale for the erection of 120 dwellings and information to discharge conditions 9, 10, 18, 20, 21 and 22 of planning permission 42/20/00014 (Outline application with	Awaiting Decision

PURITON PARISH COUNCIL

		some matters reserved, for the erection of up to 120 dwellings with public open space, structural planting and landscaping, surface water flood mitigation and attenuation, and vehicular access point from Woolavington Road (all matters reserved except for means of vehicular access).)	
42/22/00034	Adjacent To A38 And North Of Dunball Roundabout, Puriton, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6	Approval of the details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale, for the erection of 12no. units for Use Classes E(g), B2, B8 and trade counter (Sui Generis).	Awaiting Decision
42/22/00001	Land At, Dunball Roundabout, Puriton, Bridgwater, TA6	Erection of single storey drive-thru (Class E) and associated works.	Granted
42/22/00002	Land At, Dunball Roundabout, Puriton, Bridgwater, TA6	Proposed installation of 11no. internally illuminated signs and 9no. non-illuminated signs.	Granted
42/21/00021	Land At Former, Royal Ordnance Factory (Gravity), Woolavington Road, Puriton,	Scoping Opinion note for the EIA for the Gravity Local Development Order (LDO).	Granted
42/21/00009	Adjacent To A38 And North Of Dunball Roundabout, Puriton,	Installation of 30no. internally illuminated signs and 14no. non- illuminated signs.	Granted

23/4J

To approve the budget, bank statements and payments.

Payments received-RLT2 Funds £19577.48 and £25000 from Gravity toward the Assault Course and quiet room at the Sports Centre. The payments, budgets and bank statements were approved.

The following amendments to the reserves for were agreed in principle and will be ratified at the May meeting:

£71 from general reserves to the neighbourhood plan grant, the unspent balance of £505.25 needs to be repaid, this transfer will take the reserve to 0.

£400 employment contingency that was unspent into its reserve.

£3000 from the village planters into a reserve for maintenance at the nature reserve and Seed of Hope to continue maintaining the project as well as volunteers. Costs for the year will be £2160 from September. We did not include this in the budget for 23-24. The funding from Gravity has allowed us to move funds from the assault course for this. There was £3000 unspent from village improvements which I have moved from the general reserve into the village improvement reserve.

PURITON PARISH COUNCIL

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
9.2.23	S Chick	Pump Track maintenance	£220.00
20.3.23	Seed of Hope	Puriton Nature Reserve	£5000.00
23.2.23	Puriton Village Hall	Grant for Kings Coronation	£1500.00
8.3.23	Sedgemoor District Council	Litter bin emptying	£292.97
25.1.23	Starboard Systems Ltd	Scribe accounting software	£673.92
9.3.23	EDF	Electric supply	£7.36
8.3.23	BT	Broadband	£45.54
23.2.23	Puriton Playing Fields	Room hire Parish Council Room Hire Youth Club	£62.40 £176.40
27.3.23	Stuart Todd Associates	Neighbourhood Plan Consultancy	£5330.70
	Staff costs	March	£2072.66
		Total	£15381.95

23/4K

Councillor Reports

Councillor Tizzard advised that the new paperwork for the Sports Centre is still being completed.

Councillor Coleman reported that the littering is a real concern, especially around Dunball and a post will be added to Puriton People with an easy way to report littering. Photos of the litter can be sent to the clerk who will also report it to Somerset Council.

Councillor Lunn reported that the Starbucks and KFC site is very untidy and unkept with building materials littering the site. The clerk will write to Euro Garages asking them to improve the site.

Councillor Saunders requested Seed of Hope quote to carry out maintenance on the Orchard.

Councillor Crow advised that a resident almost collided with a speeding motorist in the parish. The clerk will liaise with Brent Knoll regarding information on speed cameras.

Items for the next agenda-noticeboard for the nature reserve and amended ear marked reserves, maintenance quote for the Orchard.

The next meeting will be The Annual Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 10th May 2023 at 7pm.
End of minutes.