

BATCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Rob Sage

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You are Summoned to the Monthly Meeting of Batcombe Parish Council to be held on Wednesday 5th April 2017 at 6.45pm in the Jubilee Hall, Batcombe

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.

Agenda

1. Apologies and Acceptance of Reasons for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillors' Register of Interests forms have now been published on the Mendip District Council website. This means that Councillors need only declare interests that have not been disclosed in the Register of Interests. However, it would be good practice to declare any interests.

3. Public Participation – Open village meeting for any member of the public to raise any issue relevant to Batcombe Parish

The Chairman can invite members of the public to speak at this or any other appropriate point in the meeting.

4. Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 1st March 2017 to be agreed and signed. Enclosed.

5. Matters Arising – information updates only.

Co-option – No one has claimed a bye-election and so the vacancy on the Parish Council can be filled by co-option. I will advertise fact that the co-option will take place at the May meeting.

Notice Boards – Peter Glaisher has taken down the Westcombe notice board to repair it. The notice board for Batcombe has been ordered and delivered. Volunteers to help attach it to the churchyard wall in place of the existing one would be appreciated.

6. Footpaths and Highways

Nothing to report.

7. Playground - Maintenance Report

At the last Village Hall committee meeting two issues regarding the Playing Field were raised and reported back by our representative on the committee. One was the lack of "No Dogs" sign on the pedestrian gate and the other was the need to tidy the willow structures and remove any protruding sticks at a child's eye level. We did consider placing a sign similar to the one on the Wanstrow playing field gate and this would cost £25 from Mendip Signs.

Geoff Sparkes has provided a cutting schedule for the Playing Field. In April these will be April 4th and 18th. The Council needs to confirm a date for rolling the field and a date for Mainstay to work on the play equipment that does not conflict with these date.

8. Planning Applications

None at present.

Planning Application Updates.

The District Council had approved the application for tree works on the Horse Chestnut protected by a TPO at Batch Orchard and had no objection to the tree works in the Conservation Area at Pastoral (felling a Willow) and Netherlea (felling a Pine and reducing two Acers). An application to fell an Acer at The Weavers House (Ref: 2017/0434/TCA) was not considered by the Parish Council as the deadline fell before this meeting and it was not felt necessary to call an additional meeting. This leaves the decision to the tree officer.

9. Mendip Local Plan Part II – Local Green Spaces and Sports Provision

There are two proposed Local Green Spaces in Batcombe in Part II of the Mendip Local Plan. One is the churchyard and the other is the gardens of Batcombe House Batcombe House Cottage, Batch Orchard, Stockley Cottage and The Old Rectory. These areas are identical to the Open Spaces of Visual Significance in the old Local Plan. Their significance is that development will not be allowed that would harm the contribution these spaces make to the character of the local area. If we wish to comment on these proposals we are asked to do so by the end of April at the latest.

As part of their work on the Local Plan Part II Mendip are updating their audit of sports provision and have send out a list of sports pitches, asking us to update this with any playing pitches not listed – and the Batcombe Playing Field is not included.

10. Review of Risk Management Policy

The Risk Management Policy should be reviewed annually before the independent examination. Enclosed is a copy of the Risk Assessment and Management document, unchanged from last year.

11. Review of Insurance Policy

The Insurance Policy should be reviewed annually before the independent examination and before it is due for renewal in June. We are coming to the end of the three-year binding agreement with Came & Co. and so can consider alternative arrangements if we wish. Our insurance cover arranged by Came & Co cost £265 a year and included Public Liability and Employers Liability of £10 million each and Fraud and Dishonesty Cover of £150,000 (in case the Clerk runs off with the precept). The Playing Field equipment, the notice board opposite Church Farm and the Westcombe Telephone Kiosk are also insured. We need to decide if we wish to obtain alternative quotes to those provided by Came & Co.

12. Review of Schedule of Assets

The Schedule of Assets should be reviewed annually before the independent examination. Enclosed is an updated copy of the Schedule which is unchanged from last year. The new notice board will need to be added and the old one removed when we have completed the purchase.

13. Authorisation of Payment

£40.00 Community Council – Annual Subscription for 2017/18.

Payment of this subscription will need to be made by resolution under the s.137 power.

£318.00 Whitehill Direct Limited – New notice board.

£????.00 Gardens of Avalon – Grass cutting in Playing Field in March. *Invoice not yet received.*

£967.51 The Clerk – Salary for 4th Quarter. *See enclosed sheet.*

£96.21 The Clerk – Expenses for 4th Quarter. *See enclosed sheet.*

14. Other Business – matters of information only.

Field Trip Festival at Gilcombe Farm. We have been informed by the organisers of another music event at Gilcombe Farm, similar in size to the Shindig Weekender. This will take place over the

August Bank Holiday weekend. The organisers say that they will accept similar conditions to those imposed on the Shindig event and have sent me a copy of their Licence Application, Event Management Plan (137 pages) and Noise Management Plan.

- 15. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Wednesday 3rd May 2017 at 7.30pm in the Old School Rooms, Batcombe.** *This is the Annual Parish Council Meeting at which the Parish Council Chairman is elected for the year.*

Rob Sage

Rob Sage – Clerk

30th March 2017