

# BATCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Rob Sage

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**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Batcombe Parish Council held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023 in the Jubilee Hall, Batcombe, commencing at 6.45pm.**

**Present - Councillors:** Janet Jones – Chair, Jayne Cox, Peter Glaisher, Bryony Harling and Ian Sage.

**Also Present:** The Clerk – Rob Sage and one member of the public.

**5395 – Apologies for Absence and Acceptance of Reasons for Absence:** Tom Price.

**5396 – Declarations of Interest:** Ian Sage and Jayne Cox declared interests in the planning application for Stonecot and in the authorisation of the payments to the Clerk and to Ian Sage.

**5397 – Public Participation:** None.

**5398 – Minutes of the Meetings held on Wednesdays 1<sup>st</sup> March and 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023** were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair after one amendment to the Declarations of Interest. Jayne Cox had declared an interest as a member of the Village Hall Trust in the planning application for Church Barn and not in the premises licence application for The Three Horseshoes.

**5399 – Matters Arising:** Allotments – One of the two vacant allotments had now been let. Peter Glaisher checked the allotments every week and reported that they were tidy but that the remains of the car were still left in the allotments field.

Ian Sage offered his apologies for engaging in discussion with a member of the public at the last meeting. The Chair felt that there was no need for an apology, noting that it was a difficult meeting and that in future, at such a meeting, stricter rules for public participation would be followed.

Premises Licence Application – Some Councillors had watched the premises licence hearing for the Three Horseshoes online and felt that the Chair had presented the Parish Council's concerns very well. There was no information on the outcome of the hearing.

Coronation Mugs – Ian Sage showed Councillors a sample of the coronation mugs which had already been delivered. It was proposed that the mugs be given to 100 senior citizens in the parish and others who had made significant contributions to the life of the community. Ian Sage to send a list of suggested recipients to the Chair. There was a discussion of how the mugs were to be distributed.

**5400 – Footpaths and Highways:** It was noted that the Harris fencing around the building work on Bailey's Lane was blocking the entrance to the footpath when opened for access to the site. Peter Glaisher had spoken to the landowner and would keep an eye on it.

**5401 – Playing Field – Maintenance Report:** Nothing to report. A local resident had expressed an interest in environmental projects for children in the parish.

**5402 – Planning Application:** Planning Application No: 2023/0411/FUL – Change of use from agricultural land to residential garden. Creation of driveway, hardstanding, turning and

parking area. Stonecot, Batcombe – Full Application. Ian Sage and Jayne Cox left the room for this item. An application for the creation of the driveway, hardstanding, turning and parking area had been considered a year previously by the Parish Council, who had recommended approval before the application was withdrawn. Concern was expressed that the plans for the application had only been available on the planning website from that morning. The Parish Council decided to recommend approval subject to the views of Somerset Highways on the new entrance.

**Planning Application Updates:** The application for a rear extension at Churchill Cottage and the application for tree works at Pastoral (crown reduce an Apple tree and fell a Juniper) had been approved. An application for prior approval for the conversion of a barn to a dwelling on land opposite Higher Greenscombe had been refused.

**5403 - Authorisation of Payments:** Councillors authorised the following payments:

£1,158.43	The Clerk – Salary for 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter.
£96.97	The Clerk – Expenses for 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter.
£180.00	Kevin Gale – Grass cutting in March
£509.40	Ian Sage – 150 Coronation Mugs (includes £84.90 in VAT)
£25.00	SALC – Councillor Training – Responding to Planning Applications.

**5404 - Other Business** – matters of information only.

The Annual General Meeting of the Somerset Association of Local Councils Ltd would take place April 29<sup>th</sup>. There were no volunteers to represent the Parish Council.

**5405 - Date and Time of Next Meeting:** Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 at 7.30pm in the Old School Rooms, Batcombe. This would be the Annual Parish Council Meeting at which the Parish Council Chair is elected for the year.

*Janet Jones*  
*3/5/23*