

BATCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Rob Sage Tel: 01749 850934 e-mail: clerk@batcombe-parish-council-somerset.org.uk

You are Summoned to the Monthly Meeting of Batcombe Parish Council to be held on Wednesday 3rd April 2024 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

It is the Councillors' responsibility to declare any interests they may have in any item on the Agenda. If you are uncertain please ask the Clerk before the meeting.

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 6th March 2024 to be agreed and signed.
Attached/enclosed.

5. Matters Arising – information updates only.

Allotments – The allotment holder with two allotments who has not yet paid this year has been in contact to say that he wishes to retain the allotments and will pay the fee. This leaves one vacant allotment – the farthest one from the gate.

6. Footpaths and Highways

We have been notified that Portway Hill will be closed for six hours from 9.30am on Monday April 8th to allow Openreach to replace a telephone pole (by Portway Farm).

7. Playing Field - Maintenance Report

Nothing to report.

8. Planning Applications

Planning Application No: 2024/0507/TCA – T1 - Birch – Fell.
Sunnyside, Gold Hill, Batcombe – Works/Felling Trees in a CA.
Application form not on planning website.

Planning Application No: 2024/0529/TCA – T1 - Cedar – thinning of limb by 30%.
Rockwells House, Batcombe – Works/Felling Trees in a CA.

“Thinning of Cedar limb by 30% to reduce chances of stem splitting out. The tree has a poor union at approx. 12 feet. The owner is keen to retain the stem and tree.”

Planning Application No: 2024/0531/TCA – T1 - Willow – remove dead stems
Provis, Batcombe – Works/Felling Trees in a CA.
No additional information on application. .

Planning Application No: 2024/0532/TCA – T1 – Cypress – Fell.
Lower Farm, Horsehill Lane, Batcombe – Works/Felling Trees in a CA.

“The tree is interfering with BT wires and the owner has concerns regarding the trees proximity to the road should it fail at its unions.”

Details of the above applications can be seen by entering the application number into the search engine on the planning website at [Simple Search \(mendip.gov.uk\)](https://www.mendip.gov.uk). As we have very limited time, please let the Clerk know if you have any concerns about any of these applications before the meeting. We are informed of tree applications on a notification only basis, i.e. were are not being consulted on these. However, the Clerk’s Consultee In Tray on the planning website does provide an opportunity to comment on these applications. Given the shorter consultation period for tree applications and there being no suggestion of extensions, I would suggest that the Parish Council delegate decisions on these applications to the Clerk after consultation with Parish Councillors. This will enable consultation by e-mail without the need for additional meetings.

Planning Application Updates.

The application for alterations to the fenestration and the use of the garage as office space at Pastoral has been approved.

9. Authorisation of Payment

£1,249.43 The Clerk – Salary for 4th Quarter. *See enclosed sheet.*
£88.29 The Clerk – Expenses for 4th Quarter. *See enclosed sheet.*
£180.00 Kevin Gale – Grass cutting in March

10. Other Business – matters of information only.

Nothing at present.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Wednesday 1st May 2024 at 7.30pm in the Old School Rooms, Batcombe. *This is the Annual Parish Council Meeting at which the Parish Council Chair is elected for the year.*

Rob Sage

Rob Sage – Clerk

23rd March 2024