

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 4th December 2019 at 7.30pm in the Old School, 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 fifteen minutes 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 at any other appropriate point in the meeting.*

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 6th November 2019 to be agreed and signed.
Enclosed.

5. Matters Arising – information updates only.
None at present.

6. District and County Councillors' Reports

An opportunity for the District and County Councillors to report on matters relevant to the parish, either in person or in writing. In light of the forthcoming election, reports should be non-political and our District and County Councillors may wish to leave their reports until the next meeting.

7. Sewage Treatment Plant at Ash Tree Cottages

The Chairman and/or the District Councillor to update on progress.

8. Allotments

The allotment rents were due on November 1st and all allotment holders were sent a reminder beforehand. Four have been paid and a second reminder will be sent to those whose rent is outstanding.

Gary Butler has been asked to cut back the hedge. The Chairman to update on progress with repairing the tap on the water tank.

9. Footpaths and Highways

The Chairman has sent a letter to Somerset Highways regarding the lack of salting in Batcombe and the limitations of the proposed Community Snow Warden Scheme and asking for more dumpy bags of salt. In response Somerset Highways have arranged for the delivery of three 1-ton dumpy bags of salt to be placed in Batcombe: one at the top of Hincombe Hill by the entrance to Valley View Farm; one at the top of Mill Lane; and one in Westcombe at the junction of Westcombe Road and Spargrove Lane.

10. Playground.

Maintenance Report: *Work has begun on the electricity cabinet box but is not yet complete. The moles disappeared for a while but have now returned.*

New Play Equipment: *Donations and fundraising for the new play equipment now totals £7,258. This is money actually received and doesn't include monies that have been promised but not yet received. Clare Kingston is organising another Bingo Evening on Saturday December 7th. Clare has received a grant of £200 from the Evercreech Co-op and a promise of £150 from Hauser & Wirth. The grant from the County Councillor's budget has been held up by the period of election purdah.*

Six play equipment suppliers have been asked to provide quotes for the new play equipment in time for the next meeting in January. There might be an issue with the Christmas holidays in some of the companies getting quotes ready by January 8th. When we have the quotes, we will be able to apply for a grant from Viridor Credits.

11. Planning Applications:

None at present.

Planning Application Updates.

Listed Building Consent has been granted for the extension and internal alterations to Donegal Cottage on Kale Street. As noted at last month's meeting this allows some minor variations to the Listed Building Consent previously granted.

12. Batcombe Heritage Room

To note that the Village Hall Trust have taken advice from the Charity Commissioners and that there are no issues with the arrangements between the Heritage Room and the Trust.

13. Administrative Issues

To decide on the arrangement for the Clerk's annual appraisal.

14. Authorisation of Payment

£???.00 Dominic Conway – Grass cutting in November. *(Invoice not yet received.)*

15. Other Business – matters of information only. Music Festivals at Gilcombe Farm – apparently the Shindig Weekender will take place elsewhere next year (according to a report on SomersetLive, the festival will take place at Dillington House). We wait to see if another music festival will fill the slot.

Budget and Precept 2020/21 – A decision on the precept has been deferred to the January meeting when the tax base for 2020/21 will be known.

16. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Wednesday 8th January 2020 at 7.30pm in the Old School, Batcombe.

Rob Sage