

NEROCHE PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: Mark Palmer

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CLERK: Emily York

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Draft minutes of the meeting of Neroche Parish Council held at Neroche Hall on Tuesday 9th May 2023.

Members Present: Cllrs Mr M Palmer, Mr D Macey, Mr J Parsons, Mr D Knight, Mr M Prosser, Mrs S Hayman, Mrs K Street, Mrs F Gledhill, J Hole

In attendance: Mrs E York (Clerk)

2023/1 Election of Chair

Councillor Mark Palmer was elected as chair. Proposed by Cllr Daniel Macey and seconded by Cllr Mrs Karen Street

2023/2 Election of Vice Chair

Councillor John Parsons was elected as Vice Chair. Proposed by Cllr Daniel Macey and seconded by Cllr Malcolm Prosser.

2023/3 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

It was noted that since the April 2023 Parish Council, both Adrian Aplin and Mike Vacher have resigned as Councillors. This leaves vacancies for Staple Fitzpaine, Bickenhall and Orchard Portman and Thurlbear Councillors.

Clerk to inform the monitoring officer and advertise the vacancies.

2023/4 Declarations of interest and dispensations

Cllr Karen Street declared an interest in agenda item 2023/24 – Rights of Way Update.

2023/5 Approval of the minutes from previous meetings

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Thursday 13th April 2023 were approved without amended and will be signed by the Chair.

2023/6 Reports from County Councillor and District Councillor

Neither were present and no reports were received.

It was noted that Cllr Ross Henly had promised an update regarding Curland Planning Enforcement, which has not been received. Clerk to follow up.

2023/7 Actions from the minutes of the last meeting

- Dog Waste Bins. Quotes were circulated for these ahead of the meeting. It was resolved that Cllr Macey obtain an alternative quote for a stainless steel bin, and Clerk to follow up with Somerset council regarding collection. To obtain alternative quotes from private companies. Cllr Mrs Sue Hayman to draft an article for the parish magazine.
- Grass Cutting – Curland Green – Clerk to follow up. Cllr Mark Palmer to strim a path to the bench so that it remains accessible through No Mow May.

- Church Parking issues – Cllr Dave Knight has installed signs and cones along the piece of road in question, and regular Church users have been briefed. One vehicle has been identified as parking between the cones and will be contacted individually. Clerk to price permanent signs.

2023/8 To consider co-option of suitable candidates to fill vacancies on the council

A few individuals commented via the community review that they might be interested in being co-opted to the council; Cllr Fiona Gledhill to follow up.

2023/9 To appoint a representative to Village Hall Committee

Cllr Karen Street confirmed that she is happy to continue as the Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Committee.

2023/10 To appoint members to the Finance Advisory group

Cllrs Mark Palmer, Daniel Macey, Sue Hayman and John Parsons are to continue to form the Finance Advisory Group.

2023/11 To receive the Annual Accounts for 2022-23

The accounts for 2022-2023 were received and approved.

It was resolved that some funds be transferred to the Deposit Account following receipt of the precept.

2023/12 To receive the internal audit report for the council

The internal audit report was received and approved.

Gilliam Midworth carried out the internal audit again this year and has kindly not charged the Council.

2023/13 To approve AGAR section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2022-23

The Annual Governance Statement was received and approved; and signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

2023/14 To approve AGAR section 2 – Accounting Statements 2022-23

The Accounting Statements were received and approved; and signed by the Chair

2023/15 To confirm that the Council wishes to certify itself as exempt from a limited assurance review

Councillors confirmed that they wished to certify the Council as exempt from a limited assurance review. The Certificate of exemption was signed by the Chair and RFO.

2023/16 To review and renew the Parish Council Insurances

Copies of the Parish Council Insurance were circulated to Councillors ahead of the meeting. It was resolved to renew with Zurich.

2023/17 To review and approve the Parish Council Asset Register

The Parish Council Asset Register was reviewed and approved without amendment. It was noted that although the Fingerposts were restored by the Parish they are not the property of the PC. It was resolved that the seat at Curland Green needs renovation.

2023/18 To review and confirm the annual risk assessment

The annual risk assessment was reviewed and approved without amendment.

2023/19 Planning

No planning application were received between April & May meetings.

There is no update on the enforcement issues in Curland; pending update from Cllr Ross Henly.

2023/12 Financial

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Salary & Expenses of Clerk	£487.53
Insurance Renewal	£344.21
Neroche Hall	£384.60

Cllr Fiona Gledhill was appointed as the new bank signatory.

It was noted that due to the new payment system at Somerset Council, the precept is yet to be received. Clerk to follow up and confirm to Councillors in due course.

2023/21 Items of Report and Correspondence

- Chairs Award for Service to the Community – It was resolved that all consider potential nominees to discuss at the next meeting.
- Ruishton & Thornfalcon Neighbourhood Development Plan - Reg16 Consultation- To be circulated by the Clerk for all to consider, especially in relation to A358 development.
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2023/22 Traffic Management

It is noted that any progress with the Village Gateway project is now in the hands of Traffic Management at Somerset Council. Clerk to continue to chase.

It was noted that there have been two accidents along the road in the last month and resolved that Cllrs will feedback accidents in the locality at each meeting in order to collate an ongoing record of accidents.

It was noted that a large quantity of stones is being washed down the road and has potentially blocked a drain.

Cllr Daniel Macey has spoken to the Highways Superintendent who has confirmed that the drain cover in Bedger Street is a separate job to the potholes which have been marked up to fill. Underhill Lane will be undergoing a large resurfacing project for a stretch of 300m, after it was reported as being “the worst road in Somerset” in local press.

2023/23 Community Plan

The draft report should be with the Steering group by 11th May with the final report being finalised by 8th June. A community focus is being held on 3rd June at Neroche Hall. Draft actions will be generated based on the results of the survey.

2023/24 Rights of Way Update

Cllr John Parsons to provide an account of his visit to the landowner regarding T2/8.
Cllr Sue Hayman to contact RoW department and arrange to meet with Sam Jackson.

2023/25 Date of Next Meeting and Items for the Agenda

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th June 2023 at Neroche Hall at 7.30pm

- Wych Lodge Bike Park
- Thurlbear Speed Limit Sign
- Land Registry Access for PC

The meeting was declared closed at 9.31pm