

North Cadbury & Yarlington Parish Council

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“Draft” Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 26th July 2023 in The Reading Room, North Cadbury
commencing at 7.00pm.

Councillors Present:

Diane Rickers (Chairman)
Nick Garrett
Andy Keys-Toyer
Alan Rickers

Mareike Beyer
Chris Jose
Nerissa Northover
Maria Viney

In Attendance: Somerset Councillor Henry Hobhouse, the Clerk and twelve members of the public.

Public Session

No comments.

Report from The Newt and Emily Estate

No report received.

Reports from Somerset Council

Cllr Henry Hobhouse reported as follows:

Castle Cary Train Station. The deadline of a public consultation on plans to close nearly all railway station ticket offices in England has been extended until 1st September 2023. The aim of the proposals is to bring staff out from behind ticket office windows to offer more help for customers buying tickets and navigating stations, however, Cllr Hobhouse was concerned that there would be no disabled access at Castle Cary Station until the new bridge was built over the track to include a lift. Staff would need to be available to help less able passengers access all platforms and he was uncertain if they would be retained.

Somerset Tree Strategy. A ten-year plan to enhance and protect Somerset trees and woodland has been adopted by Somerset Council (SC). The Strategy sets out a plan for planting 240 hectares of new trees and woodlands each year across the county until 2033, this would increase the county's tree coverage from its current 8% to the national average of 13% and more if possible. Cllr Hobhouse considered that to increase grassland would be far more effective as the increase in woodland would produce eight tonnes of carbon into the soil, whereas the equivalent area in grassland would produce 89,000 tonnes of carbon.

Surface Dressing. SC's Highways team have started to surface dress some roads as part of the summer maintenance programme.

23/109. Apologies for Absence and to consider the reasons given.

Council to receive apologies for absence and, if appropriate, to resolve to approve the reasons given.

RESOLVED: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs John Counsell and John Rundle.

23/110. Declarations of Interest.

Members to declare any interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Local Authority (Model Code of Conduct) adopted 11th May 2022.

(NB this does not preclude any later declarations).

RESOLVED: None declared.

23/111. Minutes.

To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28th June 2023.

RESOLVED: The minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

23/112. Parish Council Vacancies.

To consider applications received and conduct vote to fill casual vacancy on the Parish Council by co-option.

RESOLVED: No applications received. The Clerk would continue to advertise the vacancy. Applications from Yarlinton residents were desirable.

23/113. Planning.

a. Somerset Council Decisions.

i. **PA 23/01247/HOU.** Erection of a 2-storey extension to existing dwelling at Lawn Cottage, Long Street, Galhampton, BA22 7AZ – **WITHDRAWN.**

ii. **PA 23/00620/S73A.** S73A Application to vary Condition 03 (approved plans) and 04 (balcony) for additional cladding, one ground floor opening reduced, opening positions change, roof overhang change to cover balcony and rear extension removed and replaced with steps. Internal alterations have also taken place relating to planning permission 19/01449/HOU; The erection of two storey side extension with west facing balcony and the erection of a porch to north elevation of the dwelling at 6 Cutty Cottages, Cary Road North Cadbury, BA22 7DQ – **APPROVED.**

23/114. Finance.

a. **Balance of the Councils Bank Account & Bank reconciliation.**

To report on Council's Bank Account.

RESOLVED: The Clerk previously circulated the PC's Accounts, which were agreed and bank balance at 26th June 2023 of £22,150.96 reconciled, approved and signed.

b. **Accounts for payment:**

To review and approve a schedule of items of expenditure:

i. Grant – Friends Castle Cary Library	£100.00
ii. Excalibur advert Aug 23 – Jul 24	£60.00
iii. Galhampton Village Hall Hire Jun 23	£24.00
iv. NC Reading Room Hire Jul 23	£19.00
v. SW Broadband – NC domain renewal	£53.88

RESOLVED: Items of expenditure approved unanimously.

c. **To consider online business banking with Lloyds Bank.**

RESOLVED: **APPROVED** unanimously. The Clerk agreed to remove Cllr Hunt as a signatory and add the Chairman and Cllr Garrett.

23/115. Flash Flooding Events 9 May 2023 – Update.

Yarlinton Parish. Cllr Viney reported that the village was drying out and insurance progressing. Despite bringing this to the attention of Cllr Hobhouse at the previous meeting, she had not yet heard from SC Highways or its Flood Management team. Cllr Hobhouse agreed to follow this up. He also reported that Tim Cook, SC stated that it would take six to nine months to receive the Section 19 report following investigation under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Pot holes on Pound Lane had still not been filled in and mud had still not been cleaned off Woolston

Road following the mudslide; there were concerns this may reoccur if not addressed. Drains had not been cleared and were still blocked.

RESOLVED: Cllr Viney to email Cllr Hobhouse with issues and contacts for him to hasten.

North Cadbury Parish. Cllr Beyer reported that Tim Cook and the other relevant representatives at the June 12th drop-in meeting in North Cadbury, very much encouraged and welcomed the forming of a community (or PC) run flood group.

RESOLVED: Residents affected by the floods are invited to contact Cllr Beyer at mareikebeyer@northcadbury.org.uk if they would like to join the community group.

23/116. Highways and Rights of Way (RoW) Report.

PC Representatives to provide progress reports.

RESOLVED: The Clerk reported on behalf of Cllr Rundle that “as far as highways are concerned there is little to report this month, except that the bridge along the Ridgeway has been fully repaired. We must now keep up the pressure on SC to effect repairs on the other two bridges i.e. Cary Road, North Cadbury and Corkscrew Lane - the latter is dangerous because of the narrowness of the lane and the risk of a car tyre going over the edge.”

Cllr Garrett (RoW) presented his report, which can be found at Attachment 1.

23/117. North Cadbury and Yarlington Neighbourhood Plan.

Update from the NP Monitoring Group.

RESOVLED: Nothing to report.

23/118. Local Community Networks (LCNs)

To confirm attendee at the next LCN meeting in the autumn.

RESOLVED: To agree who will attend the next LCN meeting once the date is set and consider what the PC would like to discuss/bring to the attention of the LCN.

23/119. Items for Report and Future Business.

a. Training. Cllr Keys-Toyer encouraged cllrs to attend the online Breakthrough Training event ‘Social Media Skills’, which would be held on 20th September and 25th October 2023.

b. Emily Estate (EE) proposal for Manor Farm, Yarlington. Cllr Viney reported that two meetings had been arranged, for the daytime and evening in August, for each area of Yarlington to discuss with Koos Bekker, owner of The Newt and EE, EE’s proposal to site its new dairy farm in Yarlington.

There then followed a discussion with residents present from Galhampton, who met on 3rd July with Mr Bekker and Cllr Hobhouse and a small group of interested parties from Galhampton, to discuss three possible sites for EE’s new dairy farm; Castle Farm, Castle Cary, Yarlington Manor Farm and a proposed new site 600m west of Manor Farm on Black Eight Acres, which is undeveloped agricultural land. Residents from the meeting believed that the proposed new site would be scoped before plans were produced. Those present believed that Castle Farm was the obvious and preferred site, as it was already operating and would have far less environmental impact.

Action. Cllr Hobhouse agreed to ascertain the level and type of anti-social behaviour in Castle Cary which prompted EE’s cowherd to go against the Castle Farm option and why Mr Paul Rawson supported this decision. At the request of Cllr Keys-Toyer, Cllr Hobhouse agreed to set up a meeting Mr Bekker and residents of North Cadbury.

Next meeting: to be held on 27th September 2023 in The Reading Room, North Cadbury.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Signed

DatedChairman