



BOX PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD BY 29th AUGUST 2024

- 1. Present:** Councillors: T. Walton (Chair); A. Barton; R. Bean; J. Clifford; R. Davies; D. Dorey; N. Ingledew; I. Johnston; S. Roche; M. Tye; B. Walton; D. Wright

Mrs Carey (Clerk) Ms H. Barbrook (Assistant Clerk)

- 2. Apologies** Cllrs R. Bolton; H. Parker
Cllr D. Walters

The apologies were accepted.

- 3. Absent:** Nil

- 4. Public Question Time:** There was one member of the public present.

- 5. Chairman's announcements and declarations of interest:**

The Chair announced the resignation of Cllr Sheila Parker who had been a Councillor since 1998 and was a past Council Chair. A letter of thanks to be sent to her from the Parish Council for her long service to the community.

Cllr Tye declared an interest relating to the quotation from Greenacres Electrical Ltd, as the person providing this is her son-in-law.

- 6. Minutes:** The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25th July 2024 were agreed and signed as being a true record.

- 7. Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

Climate Strategy Working Group: There were no updates

- 8. Committees:**

- i. **Playing Fields Management** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th August 2024 were submitted and agreed.

Resolved unanimously that the quotation from that quotation from A.J. Rich Landscaping to prepare and install a new 1.4m wide path, 45 m in length along the top of the Recreation Ground including cobble stone in the sum of £6972.70 + vat be accepted. The work will be carried out in October and Mr Rich will liaise with the School.

It was reported that the wall at 5 Mead Villas needs checking before the work is carried out.

- ii. **Planning & Conservation:** The Minutes of the Meetings held on 25th July and 12th August 2024 were submitted and agreed.

The consultation meeting with the Parish Council planned for 3rd September had been cancelled.

- iii. **Box Hill & Rudloe Open Spaces Management:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th August 2024 were submitted and agreed

Resolved unanimously that the Parish Council holds an Apple Day on Sunday 20th October at the Lower Common subject to a Health & Safety Risk Assessment.

Cllr Barton reported that he has an Apple Press that can be used.

- iv. **Finance & Governance:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th August 2024 was submitted and agreed.

Recommendation that a Working Party is set up to take the Prevent/Resilience Plan forward.

There were no volunteers to join a Working Party.

Resolved unanimously that the amended Tree Policy be adopted.

Resolved unanimously that the revised Financial Regulations be adopted.

Resolved unanimously that all Council meeting are recorded. The recorded Minutes will be used for clarification when drafting the Minutes and will be deleted when the Minutes have been agreed. It must be stated beforehand that the meeting is being recorded.

Resolved unanimously that the Attendance Register be published quarterly

Resolved unanimously that the Parish Council does **not** endorse the two applications to become Tree Wardens received from the Wiltshire Council

Discussion of Forward Plans/Risk Assessment for Committees and how these are implemented:

It was suggested that a training session is held with the Councillors to look at how this should be taken forward and the drawing up of a Business Plan for the Council. It was suggested that a facilitator be employed to help with this.

Work to red telephone box, Henley Lane: It was reported that the replacement panel had been fitted. The Insurance Company had also traced the person who caused the damage and the excess of £250 had been claimed and refunded to the Council.

Car Park Lighting: It was agreed that the Parish Council would pay for the work required to reinstate the light in the Car Park at a cost of between £375-£450. The lamp would be the Parish Council's responsibility and the cost of the electricity used and maintenance would also rest with the Council. There would be a meter inside the lamppost to record usage.

ECIR – Jubilee Youth Centre: Quotation received for the ECIR check to the Jubilee Youth Centre in the sum of **£290 + vat**. It was agreed unanimously that this should go ahead.

Wall at Selwyn Hall: Further letter received about the condition of the wall. Clerk to ask Mr Emerson to reinspect the wall when the owners are available.

9. To receive any urgent correspondence:

- a. **Roadworks A4:** Letter received stating that the section of footway on the west side between the Mill Lane junction and number 6 Longdon road will be resurfaced. Unfortunately there is insufficient funding to resurface the entire length.

The road markings at the crossing by the Post Office have been adjusted and are only a temporary solution for a number of weeks. There are plans to resurface the A4 through this section in October, once National Highways resume traffic being able to use the A36 for a short period.

- b. **Project Gigabit:** Information received from Wiltshire Council giving an update on Project Gigabit.
- c. **Volunteering in Box:** Letter from a parishioner offering his services as a volunteer. Cllr B. Walton had contacted him.

10. Items for discussion: Nil

11. Finance:

- a. **Additional Accounts for payment;** The following additional accounts were agreed for payment

<u>Direct debit</u>			
Octopus energy	-	Pavilion gas (£40.49)	
		Pavilion elect (£29.64)	70.13
Octopus energy	-	Council Offices gas	35.84
<u>Debit card</u>			
Post Office	-	Stamps	35.20

12. Statement of balances

Lloyds	
Current Account	£ 13027.80
High Interest account	<u>23214.46</u>
	£ 36242.26
Less payments to go out	<u>432.92</u>
Working balance	£ 35809.34
Held on deposit in Lloyds	£ 25000.00
Balance in Lloyds	£ 58374.18
Held in BIBS	£ 83873.95
Held in Nationwide	£ 57748.52
	£ 141622.47

13. Chairman's Diary, Representatives' reports and report from County Councillors:

There will be a Heritage Open Day with an Exhibition in the Pavilion on Saturday 7th September from 10 am – 12 noon

14. Items of report and future Agenda items:

- Following the Working Party held on the Lower Common it was requested that who does what should be discussed at Personnel/Box Hill Committee
- Local Nature Recovery Strategy – Cllr Wright reported on what had been carried out in Box
- The 20 mph flashing lights by Broadwood School on the B3109 had been installed
- Working Parties – Lower Common Sunday 1st September; Vine Court – 22nd September
- It was reported that the Monkey Bars in the Recreation Ground play area were wobbly. These have been taken out of action and cordoned off. The Groundsmen will look at removing this piece of equipment.

Meeting closed at 8.25 pm

Chair