

Clatworthy Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 August 2019 at 7.30 p.m. in Clatworthy Village Hall

Present: S.Moran (Chair), M. Blackburn, A.Cowling, M.Deer, J.Ward, F.Nicholson (Somerset County Councillor), N.E.Martin (Clerk)

Members of the public attending: P.Howard, L.Sharp,

1. Apologies: S.Branfield, S.McIntosh. Also M.Blaker and D.Mansell (Somerset West & Taunton District Councillors)

2. Co-option of Marcus Blackburn

Following advertisement and direct approaches since the parish elections in May 2019, Marcus, proposed by Sally and seconded by John, was agreed co-opted by all members present.

3. Minutes of meeting held on 14 May 2019

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14 May 2019 were accepted as correct and were signed by the Chair.

4. Matters arising not covered on the agenda

Clearing of new guttering outside village: A road sweeper came through the village recently clearing the detritus at the road edges, but failed to clear the new gutters. He said he was responsible for sweeping the road, but the gutters were drains, which were not his responsibility. It was confirmed that road sweeping was the responsibility of the district council, whilst drain clearance was down to the county council. Councillors agreed that the new guttering was part of the road and should therefore be covered by the road sweeper. This will be taken up with the District Council.

Cllr Dave re-confirmed by e-mail prior to the meeting that the District Council was responsible and that the road sweepers were now clearing the haunchings. **Action: Complete**

5. Update from District/County Councils

County Councillor Frances confirmed that precautionary salting has been reinstated as far as Clatworthy but that SCC was trying to move away from providing road salt in bags. Some parishes were buying salt bins instead, but she acknowledged there was a problem in this area of the bins being destroyed by hedge cutting. There is a meeting at Winsford on 3rd September when the matter of road salt provision will be on the agenda and she strongly urged Clatworthy to have a representative there.

Local concerns were raised about traffic speeding through the village when approaching down the hill from the direction of Forches Cross. There was a discussion of possible actions and Cllr Frances recommended that the first step should be to ask Highways to determine the speeds involved. She would investigate the options of making the village a 30mph area, of using a speed sensor display and of erecting additional signage (and confirm suitable wording), but she suggested that the most effective approach might be to arrange for a vehicle to be parked on the road to act as a chicane. **Action: Frances**

Parishioners had also noted that the recent hedge trimming was done shortly after the roads were swept so that the roads were almost immediately in need of another clearance. It was suggested that it would be more sensible if those tasks could be better co-ordinated. Cllr Frances will pass this on to Highways.

Cllr Frances reported that Ash dieback was now a very serious problem and a county wide approach was being taken. Trees needed to be felled as soon as signs of dieback are identified as the internal damage was much worse than might be thought, making the trees dangerous very quickly. Land owners were reminded that they are responsible for dealing with diseased trees on their land and would be required to remove any endangering the public highway.

District Council: No report. No District Councillor attended.

6. Roads

Clearing of haunchings outside village: see above.

Speeding through Clatworthy: see above

Stray animals: It was suggested that a reminder should be sent to villagers, as winter approaches, that sightings of animals straying on the road need to be reported to the police to enable them to take action. It might also be appropriate to notify parishioners of other items at the same time such as the reinstatement of the winter precautionary salting route to Clatworthy and the installation of the defibrillator.

Winter gritting: see above.

7. Planning

Concern had been expressed that the constraints placed by the Planning authority when granting planning application 3/06/17/002 (relating to the construction of devon banks and planting of trees and shrubs) have not been adhered to. Held over – complainant unable to attend meeting.

8. Defibrillator

Chair Sally gave an update on progress. The defibrillator is installed in the phone box, a training session, supplied by First Responders, was well attended by villagers and two Wessex Water employees, and regular monitoring of the defibrillator is being carried out.

The funding situation is as follows

Clatworthy Defibrillator Costs			
Item	Purchased	£	
AED + training kit	yes	1170.00	
Cabinet	yes	645.60	
Child pads		116.00	
Clatworthy Defibrillator Donations			
Total Cost	Donor	Amount	Received
£1931.60	BHF	570.00	yes
	Orchid walk and cream teas	234.50	yes
	Clay Shoot	130.00	yes
	PCC	200.00	

It was agreed that child pads should be purchased to ensure all potential users could be treated.

Grant applications are outstanding with Wessex Water, The Jim Laker fund and the Motor Cycle club; Clatworthy Village Hall has promised a donation from the Fête takings. The PC can make a contribution under S.137 rules, but is limited to just over £600 for the FY 2019/20. When the funding situation is clearer a decision will be taken as to how the total outstanding will be met.

Given the success of the training session, which was provided free by First Responders, the PC would like to make a donation to them, if they are self funding. The Clerk will find out if they are a charity.

Action: Norma

The PC would like to put on record how much it appreciates the considerable time and effort that Chair Sally has put into researching, planning and implementing this project and also for her ongoing commitment to monitoring the equipment.

9. Financial report

9.1 Current position and spend against budget

	£		
Balance at Lloyds Williton 14/5/2019	4043.83		
Receipts	£	Ref	Details
Defibrillator fund – donation	130.00	500003	Clatworthy & Upton Shoot
Defibrillator fund – donation	234.50	500004	Orchid wander and teas
Total Receipts	364.50		
Payments	£	Cheque #	Details
Community First Trading	175.77	45	Parish Council Insurance
British Heart Foundation	600.00	46	Defibrillator
Imperative Training Ltd	645.60	47	Defibrillator cabinet
Total Payments	1421.37		
Balance at Lloyds Williton 19/8/2019	2986.96		

Spend against budget

	Plan	Actual
Audit fees	40.00	
Insurance – Parish Council	175.00	175.77
Clatworthy VH – Insurance	350.00	
Election expenses	100.00	
SALC membership	30.00	
Clerk/Councillor training	50.00	
Newsletter	50.00	
Postage & stationery	30.00	
Wivey Link - donation	100.00	
Highways	500.00	
Contingency/Misc	500.00	
Total	1925.00	175.77

Spend against budget is quite low, but the following items are expected to come up very shortly and the Clerk asked for authority to pay them without further consultation, provided they are within budget: Village Hall insurance, election expenses, SALC membership and councillor training.

Note that income and expenditure on the defibrillator are handled through the PC bank account, but are recorded separately and do not appear in the budget figures.

9.2 Payments authorised

Village Hall Insurance	£350 (max)
Election expenses	£100 (max)
SALC Membership	£30 (max)
Clerk/Councillor training	£50 (max)
First Responders	£50 if a charity
Child pads for defibrillator	£116 (approx)

10. Correspondence (previously distributed by e-mail)

10.1 Consultation documents on Somerset West and Taunton (SWAT)

Licensing policy

Gambling policy

Community Involvement policy

The PC has no comments.

10.2 Other items (details previously distributed by e-mail)

Survey regarding May 2019 election: members to respond (or not) as individuals

VE day celebrations 2020: probably not appropriate for Clatworthy

Fire service plans: no substantive changes in Wiveliscombe. PC has no comments.

Electric vehicle charging points: not appropriate for Clatworthy.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.10.

Meeting dates for 2019/20

Tuesday 14 May, Tuesday 20 August, Tuesday 19 November.

Tuesday 18 February 2020, Tuesday 19 May 2020.