

**Minutes of a Meeting of Goathurst Parish Council Meeting
Held on Monday 12 March 2018 7.30 pm, Goathurst Village Hall**

Present: Parish Cllrs Jo McDonagh (Chairman), James Roberts, John Capell; District Cllr Julie Pay; County Cllr Michael Caswell; Ann Manders (Clerk); two members of the public.

Jo McDonagh started the meeting with a tribute to Terry Howard, who had passed away in February. His past contribution to the Parish Council was very valued and his calm, reasoned approach would be missed.

1. **Apologies:** Parish Cllrs Richard Kilbey and Isabel Shute.
2. **Declarations of interest on agenda items:** nothing to report.
3. **Public Forum:** nothing to report.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of 8 January 2018:** these had been previously circulated, were deemed as read and agreed as a correct record by the meeting and signed by the Chairman.
5. **Matters Arising:** James Roberts has now provided the Clerk with a copy of his Register of Interest form, the Clerk will forward this to SDC. The Clerk confirmed that she had put Isabel Shute in touch with the person at SCC operating the strimmer volunteer scheme.
6. **Potential for Goathurst Car Share Scheme:** nothing further to report. John Capell to follow up. ACTION JOHN CAPELL.
7. **Financial Matters:**
 - a. **Bank mandate modification:** Jo McDonagh provided the Clerk with her completed form. Any others who had agreed to become signatories need to complete and return their forms as soon as possible.
 - b. **Payments due:** payments of £48 to the Village Hall (rent) and £103.14 to reimburse the Clerk for a payment to Cloudnext (website hosting and domain renewal, bi-annual payment) were agreed.
 - c. **PCC grant:** the Clerk reported that she had received a letter from the PCC requesting their annual grant for 2018, however she had also received contradictory guidance from SALC regarding the legality of council payments to religious organisations – this had been circulated to Councillors. Michael Caswell advised that the grant would be allowed because it is of public benefit to all the residents of Goathurst. The meeting agreed to continue the grant.
8. **Traffic issues:** Jo McDonagh reported that she had had a further meeting with the Traffic Engineer at SCC to discuss the traffic survey results. Due to the difficulty of finding suitable places to install the equipment, two rather than four locations had been monitored (the lane up to Sheppard's Corner - from the Bridgwater side - and the corner coming into the village near The Gables). The Traffic Engineer advised that the police would not support a 20 mph limit in the village because the median speed recorded was below 30 mph. The Traffic Engineer is willing to come and meet the Parish Council, but only

during working hours on a weekday. The Councillors agreed that this would be beneficial and Jo agreed to organise a date and time. ACTION JO McDONAGH.

9. **Adoption of Red Telephone Box:** the Clerk reported that she has now received the signed contract back from BT, but had been advised that it may be some time before the telephone equipment is removed, so for the present time the box will remain a phone box. A number of suggestions for future use had been received, some in writing and some verbally. These included a book swap point, information point and produce swap. Jo McDonagh agreed to write a short update for the next magazine. ACTION JO McDONAGH.
10. **Parish Spring Clean:** SDC had organised a district wide spring clean weekend but this had been cancelled due to the snow. The meeting agreed that a local spring clean should be held on the weekend of 7th April, starting at the Halswell gates at 10.30 am. The Clerk agreed to do an article for the magazine and organise equipment from SDC. ACTION CLERK.
11. **Goathurst Relief in Need Charity Nomination:** John Capell reported that Terry Howard had been a Parish Council nominated trustee to the Goathurst Charity, Terry had resigned from this position shortly before his recent death. John Capell proposed Alison Webster as a suitable candidate for this position. He had discussed his proposal with the other trustees (who had no objections) and had already approached Alison to ask her if she would be willing to act in this role, she had said she would be delighted. The meeting welcomed Alison's nomination and agreed to accept John's proposal.
12. **Village Hall sewage system:** the Clerk had received an e-mail from Julia Griffiths, the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee. Due to the introduction of new regulations the private sewage system shared by a number of local properties, including the Village Hall, will need to be upgraded before 2020. The Village Hall Committee have been asked to make a contribution to the costs, perhaps costing them around £3,000. Michael Caswell advised that if the sewage system had been installed prior to 1935 the water authority (Wessex Water) were legally required to adopt it. The Clerk was asked to report this fact to the Village Hall Committee. ACTION CLERK.
13. **Footpaths:** a member of the public reported that she had recently met a representative of SDC checking the footpath leading to Rook's Castle. Nothing further to report.
14. **Roads and Flooding:** the signs and bollards in the road by the Wessex Water site have been moved over but the resulting ruts on the side of the road remain. James Roberts agreed to approach the site foreman and ask them to reinstate the verge prior to project completion. John Capell had reported three potholes recently which had been repaired by the following Monday one at the crossroads, one near Sherwood and one in the dip towards Huntstile.
15. **Correspondence:** nothing to report.
16. **Any other business:** the farmer is too busy at the moment to help move the flower tub at Sheppard's Corner back to its correct position, the Clerk will ask

her husband to have a look at it and will keep the Chair informed as to progress. ACTION CLERK.

Jo McDonagh reported that Western Power are replacing the sub-station opposite the Church soon. This may cause some minor disruption.

John and Ruth Capell are editing this month's magazine and are asking people to let them have short tributes to Terry Howard.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Date of next meeting: Monday 14th May – Annual and Ordinary Meeting. Date of Annual Parish Meeting Monday 21 May 2018.