

Minutes of the Goathurst Parish Council Meeting held on

Monday 14 January 2019 @ 8pm, Goathurst Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Jo McDonagh (Chairman), Richard Kilbey, Isabel Shute, John Capell, James Roberts, District Cllr Julie Pay (left the meeting at 8:35pm), a member of the public; Sharon Piron (Clerk).

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Declarations of interest on agenda items:** None.
3. **Public Forum:** Colin Chalmers commented that the previous minutes recorded that the village diary was proposed, owned and maintained by him. He wanted it noted that Sharon Piron had a major input and worked with Colin to produce it.
4. **Approval of Minutes of the meetings held on 12 November 2018:** agreed and signed by Jo McDonagh.
5. **Matters arising:**
 - **Finger posts:** John Capell reported that no courses are currently scheduled but we are on the waitlist and will be notified when training becomes available.
6. **Planning Applications:**
 - a) **Annual Town/Parish Council Planning Seminars** – Richard Kilbey shared that the 3-hour meeting he attended was very good and well run, although 99% of the content was not applicable to our parish. He advised us that Goathurst is now classified as ‘countryside’ within the Settlement Hierarchy, which is reassuring. Slides used at the seminar have previously been distributed.
 - No new planning applications received.
7. **Financial Matters:**
 - a) **Precept request for 2019/20** was discussed and agreed at £3181 – the same total as the previous 2 years but no contributory grant from SDC is available this year. Completed form to be submitted to SDC **ACTION: Sharon.**
 - b) **Bank mandate.** Sharon is now an authorised signatory and historical signatories have been removed. Barclays did not have John recorded as an authorised signatory and he has now been added. Online banking access has now been granted but this operates with one signatory only. It was agreed that the use of cheque payments with two signatories would continue unless the need for an online payment is required. Post meeting comment: In this case, initiation and processing of the payment would be agreed and recorded by 2 authorised signatories.
 - c) **Payments to be authorised.** John and Richard signed cheques to pay the village hall hire account and repay Sharon for the website fees she paid online to Wix.com
8. **Footpaths:**
 - a) **Parish Council Consultation.** Isabel confirmed she would complete this by the required by date of 31 January 2019. **ACTION: Isabel.**

- Concerns were raised about the footpath across the field between Lovedere and Enmore Road and the electric fence by the footpath in Chantry Wood. These will be investigated. **ACTION Isobel.**

9. Roads and flooding:

- John advised he had reported 2 potholes via the on-line service, which had both been dealt with within 2 weeks. He is monitoring 2 further potholes (Huntstile corner and outside Sherwood).
- Concerns raised about a possible blocked culvert just before the Temple of Harmony and the edge of the road near Lovedere having subsided. Both to be reported.
ACTION: John
- Concerns raised about mud on the road between Lovedere Farm and Goathurst. Responsibility to be determined and subsequent action considered. **ACTION: John** – to contact Sedgemoor for advice.
- John advised that he and Ruth had cleared the verges of litter between Lovedere and Chantry Cottage. Thank you, John and Ruth!

10. Phone box use:

- It was agreed that John will approach Peter Evered about the possibility of installing some shelving to allow for herb growing, books and information. **ACTION: John.** Further discussion to take place at next meeting.

11. Correspondence:

a) Invitation 5th Feb to Quantock Hills Management Workshop – no-one able to attend.

b) Fostering leaflets – consider inclusion in village magazine. **ACTION: John**

c) Citizens Advice seeking donation – donation of £40 agreed – to be sent with letter.

ACTION: Sharon

d) CPRE newsletter – circulated.

e) PCC grant application – grant of £450 agreed. Cheque to be sent with letter to PCC Treasurer, Colin Chalmers. **ACTION: Sharon**

f) Somerset Wood Initiative – information discussed. Clarification to be obtained. **ACTION: Sharon**

12. Other Matters:

- **Old Quantocks Cluster meeting:** being organised by Mike Caswell, taking place 13 February. It was agreed a representative from Goathurst would attend. **ACTION: Richard/Isobel/Jo**
- **Councillor 'attraction':** Article to be written, approved by parish councillors and placed in February edition of village magazine. **ACTION: Sharon.**
- **Litter on roadside verges:** Richard suggested organising a further litter pick. **ACTION:** to be discussed at next meeting
- **The meeting closed at 9:30pm**
- **Date of next meeting:** Monday 11 March 2019

Post meeting note: Anyone planning to act or speak on behalf of the Parish Council must inform other members of the PC in a timely fashion. This is to avoid duplication and any possible contradictions and is just good practice.