

# Odcombe



Parish Council

77 West Street, Stoke-sub-Hamdon, TA14 6QL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ODCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2024 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ODCOMBE (7.00pm to 9.00pm)

### PRESENT:

Cllr D Rennie (Chair)  
Cllr F Cumming  
Cllr R West  
Cllr K Perry  
Cllr R Parr  
County Councillor Hewitson (part-time)  
Mr T M Heath (Clerk)

### 101/24 TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Ashton, Cllr B Duffy, Cllr C Francis, and Cllr D Peters.

### 102/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS

No declarations of interest in agenda items were raised.

### 103/24 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED to APPROVE** the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024, which were duly signed by the Chair.

### 104/24 PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public present

### 105/24 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Councillor Hewitson reported the financial position of Somerset Council had improved very slightly with a £2m underspend seen.

The list of tasks provided by Council to Councillor Hewitson, following the village walkaround were discussed. The majority of these had been passed onto the highways service team for action. The Clerk reported agreement had been reached to replace eight street name plates throughout the village.

It was **AGREED** that the Chairman should meet with Councillors Hewitson and Patrick to discuss Councils letter to Adam Dance MP, reference Chinnock Hollow. Councillor Hewitson left the meeting.

### 106/24 CRIME, DISORDER AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

- (a) The PCSO was not in attendance.
- (b) Safety concerns were raised regarding parking of cars at the Broadway junction. Council **AGREED** that County Highways should be asked to paint double yellow lines at the junction. The Clerk stated he would raise this during the forthcoming meeting with a highways officer.

#### 107/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- (a) The Clerk and Cllr. Parr reported that unfortunately, Play UK were not able to complete the repair of the roundabout. They removed the cover plates and retaining cir-clip from the spindle. At this point, with the use of upward force, the roundabout should have pulled off and then they would have been able to knock the old bearings out. The contractor would have then cleaned up the spindle shaft and installed the new bearings. However, the roundabout bearing cases were seized fast to the spindle, which destroyed their two van wheel jacks trying to lift it off. The roundabout was put back together and has been deemed safe for use. There will be no charge for the work with the contractor providing the new bearing to Council, free of charge. Council **ACTIONED** the Clerk to discuss the feasibility of repair with a local engineering company and if possible, to obtain a quotation for Councils consideration
- (b) The Clerk reported that a small group from the Parish Council and a local resident undertook 'bay marking' of a section of the recreation ground car park. This low-cost option was a trial, and it was **AGREED** to wait and see if the markings withstand wear and the impact of weather before proceeding with the rest of the car park.
- (c) The Clerk reported that a contractor has been tasked with flailing the hedges around the village with work scheduled for early October 2024.
- (d) It was reported that the planned works to cut the hedge along Chapel Hill, recreational ground side, is scheduled to be completed before the end of September 2024.

#### 108/24 FINANCE

- (a) The bank reconciliation statement as of 31st August 2024 was **APPROVED**.
- (b) A list of payments, detailed below were **APPROVED**.
- |         |                             |                        |
|---------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| £29.99  | Mr T M Heath                | Expenses               |
| £535.00 | Premier Landscaping         | Grounds Maintenance    |
| £90.00  | The Play Inspection Company | Inspection & Report    |
| £216.00 | Fern Garden Services        | Tree Survey            |
| £53.60  | Mr D Peters                 | Line Marking Materials |
| £84.00  | Somerset Council            | Greasing of Roundabout |
| £8.09   | Tesco                       | Clerks Phone           |
| £475.97 | Mr T Heath                  | Democratic Services    |
| £4.85   | Npower                      | Electricity costs      |
| £12.70  | Npower                      | Electricity costs      |
| £357.00 | HMRC                        | PAYE                   |
- Council **NOTED** receipt of £23.07 monthly interest from the NatWest business account.

#### 109/24 REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

The annual independent play area and BMX track inspection report was reviewed. Council recommended some minor cosmetic remedial actions be placed onto the parish ranger. Cllr. Parr agreed to undertake some trimming of trees as recommended within the report.

#### 110/24 TREE SURVEY REPORT

The commissioned tree survey report was reviewed by members. Council raised concerns relating to the Oak Tree along Old Road. Recognising legacy 'ownership' issues, members **ACTIONED** the Clerk to write to Somerset Council on this matter as well as obtaining a quote from a specialist tree surgeon.

#### **111/24 SIGNS**

Council **AGREED** that quotations be sort for two bespoke signs to be placed around the play area and one for the area of the BMX track. The signs to reflect the recreation ground usage and access policy, adopted by Council at the August 2024 meeting.

#### **112/24 REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES AND OUTSIDE BODIES**

- (a) Environmental Working Party – Nothing reported or discussed.
- (b) Recreational Area Working Party - Nothing reported or discussed.
- (c) Communication Working Party – A meeting took place with a web designer for to discuss options for a refresh of the website. No cost design options to be developed and provided for Councils consideration.
- (d) Car Park Working Party - Nothing reported or discussed.
- (e) Planning Working Party – It was reported that planning application 24/01689/PAMB - Conversion of a Barn to a dwelling on land at Pit Lane, Ham Hill Road, Higher Odcombe, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 8UA had been refused.
- (f) Finance Working Party – Met 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024, no issues raised.
- (g) Local Community Network - Nothing reported or discussed.
- (h) Asset and Service Devolution Working Party - Nothing reported or discussed.
- (i) Village Hall Representative – Cllr. Cumming reported a Village Hall committee meeting had recently took place with no issues raised for Council to consider.

#### **113/24 RANGER TASKS**

Council **APPROVED** a prioritised list of tasks for the ranger:

- Path to bus stop, junc. Lower Odcombe/Montecute Road
- Drainage Channels – Broadway junction
- Path opposite old school

#### **114/24 HIGHWAY MATTERS**

The Clerk reported that the meeting with County Highways to discuss issues in Lower Odcombe is arranged for the 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024. Council requested the Clerk also discuss opportunities to re-paint speed humps throughout the village, the damage to bollards along Camp Road and the removal of redundant 2t weight restriction poles.

#### **115/24 CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence requiring a decision was discussed.

#### **116/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CLERK'S REPORT**

Members **NOTED** the Clerks report dated 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024

#### **117/24 ITEMS OF INTEREST AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

No specific items were requested.

#### **118/24 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of council is planned for Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024 starting at 7:00pm.