

Claverton Parish Council
Minutes of Annual Meeting of the Council held on 13th September 2023 at St Mary's, Claverton

Present:

Councillors: Anna Beria, Glennis Naylor, Julian Stirling, Sarah Shore and Martin Mitchell

Clerk: Lesley Watkinson

Other: Ward Councillor, Fiona Gourley

1. **Open forum** - Local resident provided update on Ash trees on Ferry Lane. The trees, which are the responsibility of B&NES, are in very poor condition. Works are scheduled but no date available, though unlikely to be imminent.

2. **Apologies for Absence** - Mark Mackintosh

3. **Declaration of Member Interests** - None

4. **Approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 14th June 2023.**

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 14th June 2023 were agreed as accurate and signed by the chair of Parish Council, Councillor Beria.

	Actions
<p>5. Matters arising from the minutes</p> <p>Councillor Mackintosh will continue to investigate the potential for a solar powered bus information board on the bus shelter and should have update at July Ordinary meeting.</p> <p>Councillors Beria and Mackintosh will draft an emergency response plan as recommended by B&NES Council.</p> <p>Councillor Mackintosh will arrange to speak to Matt Amos, AM, for an update on overflowing drain.</p> <p>Cllr Beria highlighted the issue of poor state of the grass verge along the A36 (opposite Ferry Lane) to Sean Walsh, Route Manager with National Highways during a meeting in Bathampton on 12th July.</p> <p>Clerk posted all relevant 2022/23 Audit documentation and Notice of Public Rights to Village Noticeboard and Parish Council Website. Clerk mailed signed Certificate of Exemption - AGAR 2022/23 Part 2 to BDO LLP (External Auditor).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MMac</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AB/ MMac</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MMac</p>
<p>6. Planning Matters</p> <p>Councillor Naylor contacted B&NES planning regarding the Claverton Neighbourhood Plan. It was confirmed that there is no requirement to update at this stage, though we need to keep abreast of new developments.</p> <p>Councillor Stirling advised that CRT wish to build a permanent crane and will apply for planning permission.</p> <p>23/00226/UNDEV - Orchard Fields - Sam Grant (BNES Planning) confirmed that he was informed by the landowner that the unauthorised dwelling has been removed. Case closed.</p>	

	Actions						
<p>6. Receive Financial Officer's Report</p> <p>BDO LLP acknowledged receipt of the Claverton Parish Council exemption certificate for 2022-23. No further information required and 22/23 review is complete.</p> <p>The following invoices were presented for payment at meeting. Cheques signed by two councillors:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>289</td> <td>Zurich Insurance renewal premium</td> <td>£257.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>288</td> <td>Donation for use of St Mary's</td> <td>£350</td> </tr> </table>	289	Zurich Insurance renewal premium	£257.60	288	Donation for use of St Mary's	£350	
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<p>7. Correspondence File</p> <p>All correspondence relating to Claverton has been circulated to the councillors in advance by the Clerk.</p> <p>A Parish Councillor alerted B&NES Environmental Health and Mr J Palmer (Warleigh Weir landowner) regarding the deplorable state of the portable toilets. Toilet hire company agreed to clean toilets at earliest opportunity and will ensure toilets do not get into this state again.</p>							
<p>8. Reports and Feedback from External Meetings</p> <p>Councillor Shore will attend University of Bath residents meeting on 18th September and will update the Parish Councillors on matters pertinent to Claverton.</p> <p>Councillor Beria attended the Bathavon Forum in July and reported back to Parish Councillors. Of particular interest is the role of the "village agents". It is a pilot initiative which consists of reaching out to vulnerable members of the community to help them access services that are available but that they might not be aware of. An agent may be able to attend a Parish Council meeting to present their work.</p> <p>Councillors Mitchell and Beria attended a meeting with National Highways on 12 July to discuss A36 severance issues. Councillor Beria confirmed to NH that the Parish Council will continue to press for a reduction in the current speed limit on safety grounds. Councillor Beria confirmed that the PC would welcome a (unsignalled) road crossing which should be as close as possible to the two bus stops. NH advised that a recent survey has determined that a crossing by the bus stops could not be considered due to visibility issues and the speed of traffic on that stretch of the A36. It was assumed that this study was based on the current 50mph speed limit. Cllrs expressed concern that, because of visibility requirements, an official crossing, wherever located, is likely to result in a loss of parking space on the village-side verge, with vehicles being displaced either to the village road(s) or further along the A36, especially at height of the bathing season. This consequence, however unwelcome, would be acceptable if the crossing was actually placed where it would be most likely to be used all year round, especially by our residents. At the meeting, Councillors Beria and Mitchell signalled that the PC would welcome signage indicating to motorists the possibility of pedestrians crossing, with or without an official crossing point. There is agreement that traffic speed on the bend is currently too fast to consider an official crossing. The view of the PC, is that the speed limit should be reduced and have requested that the NH have been asked to re-run the study using lower speed limit to provide a more rational basis to make a final decision.</p> <p>Councillor Mitchell attended BNES Local Plan Workshop.</p>	AB						
<p>9. Village Maintenance</p> <p>Counillor Mitchill will report (via FixMyStreet) that the road surface on Claverton Hill drops away significantly at the junction with Limekiln Lane.</p>	MMit						
<p>10. Transportation update, including actions arising re Warleigh Weir</p> <p>Councillors discussed issues at Warleigh Weir. Clerk prepared an overview of issues and risk analysis. Clerk will update report with feedback received from councillors.</p>	LW						

	Actions
<p>11. Exchange of Information</p> <p>None</p>	

The meeting closed at 8pm.

Future Council Meetings: Wednesday 11th October 2023 , Wednesday 8th November 2023

Signed Date

Cllr Anna Beria, Chairman, Claverton Parish Council