

**Claverton Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Annual Meeting of the Council held on 14th February 2024 at St Mary's, Claverton**

**Present:**

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

Clerk: Lesley Watkinson

Other: Ward Councillor, Fiona Gourley

1. **Open forum** - Ward Councillor Fiona Gourley listened to representations sent by residents and acknowledged concern from residents regarding Sydney Gardens LTN and poor bus service at Claverton

2. **Apologies for Absence** - Councillor Sarah Shore and Councillor Mark Mackintosh

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

4. **Approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 10th January 2024.**

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 10th January 2024 were agreed as accurate and signed by the chair of Parish Council, Councillor Beria.

	<b>Actions</b>
<b>5. Matters arising from the minutes</b>	
Potential supply of a solar powered bus information board for bus shelter at Claverton will be reviewed in 2024.	Review in 2024
Councillors Beria will finalise an emergency response plan for our Parish (Community Resilience) to be submitted to B&NES.	AB
Councillor Mackintosh will follow up with American Museum on what actions have been undertaken to manage drains issue. Clerk requested a wider-ranging meeting between the American Museum and the PC for an annual update. Meeting scheduled for 21st February. Councillors Mitchell and Shore will attend.	MMac/ SS/MMit
Councillor Mitchell reviewed draft Warleigh Weir report prepared by Clerk. Clerk will now prepare a summary letter to residents and a Warleigh Weir update for the Claverton Parish Council website.	MMit/LW
Clerk received correspondence from Warleigh resident regarding recently created works area used by National Highways, downhill from the A36, just south of the village. Councillor Mackintosh will request additional information from landowner as to purpose and likely duration of the works.	MMac
Clerk sent precept form to BNES Finance.	AB
Councillors Beria attended Climate and Nature Emergency Network Meeting (2 Feb).	LW
Clerk will ensure that village defibrillator is serviced as appropriate.	Review Spring
It was noted that the lock on one of the grit bin covers needs attention. To be reviewed in Spring.	Review Spring
Councillor Beria to continue liaising with National Highways regarding pedestrian crossing and verge restoration on A36.	AB
Councillor Mitchell contacted Wessex Water requesting clarification on why the Safer Seas & River Service (SSRS) app is not showing Warleigh Weir storm discharge. Wessex Water confirmed that now that Warleigh Weir has real-time water quality monitoring they have stopped providing overflow data.	
The Clerk wrote to the Canal & River Trust (CRT) asking them to assess the condition of the life belt and to reinstate the safety signage and Warleigh Weir. Email acknowledged not no actual response to date. Clerk to follow up.	LW

	<b>Actions</b>
<p><b>6. Review Correspondence File</b></p> <p>All correspondence relating to Claverton has been circulated to the councillors in advance by the Clerk.</p> <p>A number of Parish residents contacted the Clerk to express concerns about the Sydney Gardens Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) which will limit eastern access options to and from Bath and to complain about the poor bus service available to Claverton residents.</p> <p>Radstock Policing team offered to attend a Parish Council meeting, Clerk to ask Police to attend Annual Parish Meeting in May</p> <p>All other matters covered in agenda.</p>	LW
<p><b>7. Receive Financial Officer's Report and set 2024/25 Parish Precept</b></p> <p>No invoices presented for payment.</p> <p>Councillors set 24/25 Parish Council budget. Income: Precept: £2,500 Expenditure: Staffing £750, Office admin £60, Publications £50, Audit Fees £200, Chairman's allowance £100, Training £200, Subscriptions £200, Grants/Donations £350, Newsletter £50, Website £500, Events £500, Village maintenance £2,000, Insurance £300, Entertainment and refreshments at APM £300, Defibrillator annual maintenance £165 and £200 towards replacement cost in 10 years and Section 137 donation £500.</p> <p>Internal auditor to be found. Clerk contacted AICA to explore reciprocal arrangement with local clerks.</p> <p>Councillors to review capital reserves at March Ordinary Meeting.</p>	LW
<p><b>8. Planning Matters</b></p> <p>It was noted that the Local Plan Options consultations have opened and Claverton Parish intend to send a Parish Councillor to one of the information sessions. Briefing session for Bathavon South to be hosted by our Ward Councillors on 5th March in Camerton. Councillor Beria to attend.</p>	All AB
<p><b>9. Reports and Feedback from External Meetings</b></p> <p>Councillors Beria attended Climate and Nature Emergency Network Meeting (2 Feb) and shared notes with councillors.</p>	
<p><b>10. Village Maintenance</b></p> <p>Councillor Stirling will assess what repairs are required on the kissing gate by the village bus shelter.</p> <p>Clerk to contact BNES "clean and green" team to request that Ferry Lane's margins be swept (before swimming season starts)</p>	JS LW

	Actions
<p><b>11. Transportation up-date, including actions arising re Warleigh Weir and Sydney Road Liveable Neighbourhood trial.</b></p> <p>A through traffic restriction at the junction of Warminster Rd and New Sydney Place will prevent motorists from using the street to access the South side of town. Claverton Parish Councillors were contacted by residents who expressed concerns. At the meeting Parish Councillors voiced such concerns and questioned Ward Councillor Fiona Gourley.</p> <p>In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why were impacted communities, like Claverton, not consulted on the decision to implement the Sydney Road scheme?</li> <li>• Controlled pedestrian crossings were also widely supported by Sydney residents. What analysis was done on whether this measure can deliver residents objectives without need for an LTN?</li> <li>• What was the consultation response from National Highways?</li> <li>• What is the evidence base that car journeys will be reduced and not just displaced? In this context it was stressed that public transport options are poor for Claverton residents.</li> <li>• How will the traffic displacement (onto A36/Beckford Rd, Bathwick Hill and Widcombe Hill) be measured?</li> </ul> <p>Significant discussion ensued regarding the inadequate bus service to and from the village throughout the day. Buses are too infrequent to be useful for e.g. taking travellers to the railway and coach stations, and to tempt people out of cars. This is compounded by busy (but not full) busses failing to stop to pick up passengers at Claverton.</p> <p>Your Parish Council will :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with other Parishes impacted by the Sydney Road LTN</li> <li>• Follow up with B&amp;NES Councillors on questions and concerns</li> </ul> <p>Clerk to write to residents to provide information on Sydney Gardens LTN</p>	<p>AB</p> <p>LW</p>
<p><b>12. Exchange of Information</b></p> <p>It was noted that Green Bin collections, due to resume on 23rd January, were seriously disrupted. If disruption continues Parish Council will contact B&amp;NES waste management.</p>	

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Future Council Meetings: Wednesday 13th March 2024, Wednesday 10th April 2024

Signed ..... Date .....

Cllr Anna Beria, Chairman, Claverton Parish Council