

ALLER PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 11th November 2024 at 7.30pm, Aller Village Hall

Prior to the meeting beginning, a presentation was given by the Community Speedwatch Group Coordinator, Judith Bailey. Judith will be stepping down from her role in the group in January and Lea Reid will be taking up the role of the group co-ordinator. Thanks were expressed to Judith on behalf of the community for her dedication to the group over the years.

1. Attendance and Apologies

Present: Cllrs Tucker, Dunton and Sharratt; Mrs Larsson (Clerk);

Apologies: RESOLVED to accept apologies and the reasons given from Cllrs Perkins, Laird and Geary.

2. Parish Council Vacancy

There is currently 1 member vacancy on the council. Interested parties should contact the Clerk for more information and an application form.

3. Declarations of interest: None.

4. Minutes of last Parish Council Meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 9th September 2024 were an accurate record of the meeting, and duly signed by the Chair.

5. Planning Applications: There were no applications to consider.

6. Finance

6.1 Finance statement: RESOLVED to approve the financial reports.

6.2 Payments: RESOLVED to approve the schedule of payments. A list of payments is annexed at the end of the minutes.

Following resignation of Cllr Brown, the bank mandate requires updating to remove her as a signatory. This will be actioned by the clerk.

7. Playground remedial works

In addition to previously agreed works, it was identified that critical repairs were needed for the aerial runway and that the trim trail would benefit from steel feet as agreed for the multiplay equipment. The additional costs, combined with cost savings made in other areas would increase the overall cost of repairs by £1,485.11. RESOLVED to agree the increase in total costs by £1485.11 to allow these extra works to be carried out.

The need for post-installation inspection of the completed works was also agreed and it was RESOLVED to organise inspection for once the works were completed. Estimated cost for inspection is up to £150.

8. Speed Indicator Device (SID) purchase

The Memorandum of Understanding between Somerset Council and the parish council for additional SID location is in the process of being completed. Once in place grant funding can be sought and purchase of additional devices considered formally.

9. Updates and associated actions

9.1 Village improvement works: Focus of works remains on the play equipment currently.

9.2 Footpaths: Damaged Bristol gate post at the recreation ground has been reported to Somerset Highways Rights of Way. Report of a damaged sleeper bridge will be investigated by Cllr Sharratt.

9.3 Highways: Drains on the Drove are still blocked. A sunken manhole cover on Whitehill which has been repaired twice is in need of attention, the Clerk will report to Highways.

9.4 Aller Recreation Area: As per minute 7.

9.5 Aller burial board: The cemetery rates and regulations require a review. This will be planned for early 2025.

- 9.6 Aller Village Hall: No updates to report.
- 9.7 Training: Cllr Sharratt attended the recent SALC Health & Wellbeing session. The Clerk is undertaking training in preparation for the CiLCA qualification.
- 9.8 Levels and Moors Local Community Network: An application for funding through the Nature Towns and Cities fund has been submitted which hopes to create active travel routes between town and parishes in the LCN.

10. Other actions from previous meeting:

- 10.1 The Clerk has been in contact with Netwise and will action the transfer of the website and implementation of the email addresses as previously agreed.

11. Correspondence

General communications received have been circulated to Councillors.

12. Any other urgent matters: None raised.

13. Items for the next meeting: 2025/26 Budget

14. Date and time of next meeting: Monday 13th January 2025, 7.30pm.

Confidential Items

RESOLVED: Under Standing Orders 3d and 10xi the Parish Council resolves that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted (legal, personal or commercial), the press and public be excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

15. Local Government Services Pay Agreement: To note revision to the SCP salary rates effective 1st April 2024. Clerks hourly rate to be amended to reflect the new pay scales, with the increase backdated to 1st April 2024.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

Signed

Dated

Annex 1. Payments Authorised

DRAFT