

# ***Goodleigh Parish Council***

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 7 May 2024 at 6.40pm at Goodleigh Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs N Thorne, Ms L Boyle, S Clarke, R Gulwell and Dr S Ley.

**In Attendance:** 3 members of the public, Cllr Mrs A Davis (DCC), Parish Clerk.

**1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman**

**1. Chairman**

Cllr Thorne was unanimously elected as Chairman, there being no other nominations.

**2. Vice Chairman**

Cllr Clarke was unanimously elected as Vice Chairmen, there being no other nominations.

**2. Items from the public**

It was noted that the minutes of the last meeting did not record the decision to contact Cllr Mrs Davis regarding highway problems in the parish.

A request was received for the Village Hall to receive an annual grant, as had historically been the case.. the committee were hopeful that some of it could be reinstated. It was reported that the entrance was becoming to be a problem, as it was used by school traffic and South West Water vehicles. The Village Hall was responsible for the upkeep of the entrance.

When arranging for a new website, the Village Hall Committee expressed a wish to be included, as this had been a valuable means of advertising.

**3. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Prowse (NDC).

**4. Approval of Minutes of meeting held 2 April 2024**

The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed as a true record.

**5. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

None.

**6. Planning Applications**

None.

**7. Playing Field**

The Chairman explained that it was extremely difficult to find someone to cut the grass in the Playing Field that was affordable.

The Clerk agreed to check with West Buckland Parish Council, to see who they used.

As the school was the main user of the Field, it was agreed to enquire if they would be willing to make a contribution towards the cost. Cllr Dr Ley offered to draft a letter.

**8. Playground Bark**

It was noted that the bark in the Play Area needed topping up.

Cllr Gulwell offered to forward details of contractors used by Torridge District Council.

It was agreed to organise a work party to rake the existing bark.

**9. New Defibrillator Pads**

New defibrillator pads had been purchased, which the parish council agreed to finance.

A donation had been received from a parishioner towards the costs.

**10. Correspondence Received**

NDC were currently updating its records of priority projects that could qualify for s106 contributions should any become available in the parish.

**11. County Councillor's Report.**

A report had been received from Cllr Mrs Davis, and circulated to councillors.

**12. Surface Water/Drains/Highways**

It was reported that some of the potholes had been repaired. Others had been reported to Highways.

**13. Matters from the Chairman**

**Website**

Cllr Gulwell reported that he considered Parish Online offered the best option for a new website as the ready made template was designed for parish councils. At £300 it was comparable with other companies. Clerk to organise.

**Precept.**

The Chairman reported that he considered that it may be necessary to make a substantial increase in the Precept for next year if the parish council was to provide the necessary improvements. It was agreed that it would be necessary to make a list of potential costs before this decision could be made. It was agreed that councillors should meet on 17 May to start the process.

**13. Finance**

It was noted that the income from the Christmas Lunch had been omitted from the accounts. The Clerk stated that he was also still waiting for some bank statements for the year end.

It was agreed that the adoption of the accounts and completion of the annual audit forms should be deferred to the next meeting, by which time all the figures should be available.

**1. Receipt:** NDC – 50% Precept                    £2200.00

**2. Payments**

NDC - emptying dog bins	£117.00	Cheque No. 1047
Goodleigh Village Hall	£ 30.00	Cheque No. 1048
Clerk’s Salary & Expenses	£ 67.42	Cheque No. 1049
HMRC	£ 16.40	Cheque No. 1050

DALC – subscription                                    £192.18

The first four accounts were agreed for payment.

It was agreed not to renew the DALC subscription due to the large increase in cost from the previous year. It was not considered that membership offered value for money.

**14. Items for the next Agenda:**

Playground, Website, Playing Field, Defibrillator.

**15. Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 4 June 2024

The Clerk advised the meeting that he would be unable to attend the July meeting. Cllr Ms Boyle offered to take the minutes if that would help. Her offer was gratefully accepted.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.25pm.

Signed .....

Chairman

Date .....