WRAXALL AND FAILAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the discussion between Parish Councillors that took place remotely on Zoom at 7.30pm on Thursday 11th April 2024.

Present: Councillors Parsons (Chairman), Bracey, Malpas, Robinson, Sheppard, Vallentine and Wolff.

District Councillor McQuillan.

Parish Clerk: Tony Jay.

1. To invite public speaking.

   No member of the public had requested to speak.

2. To receive any apologies for absence.

   Apologies were received from Councillors Gorford and Sandeman. Councillor Amos was not present.

3. To receive the Clerk's report.

   The 2023-24 accounts have now been submitted to the internal auditors. The current account bank balance is £35,033 at present. We will be receiving the first precept payment of £26,804 and a VAT refund of £4,313 in the next few weeks, meaning that we will then be holding around £63,000 in our current account. The Clerk will consult with the members of the Finance Team to consider investing some of these funds with the CCLA.

   The Parish Council has been informed of two road closures in May (West Hill, Wraxall and Sandy Lane, Failand). Any council comments regarding these closures need to be submitted before 20th April.

   Nailsea Town Council and Backwell Parish Council would be prepared to meet with us to discuss the CCTV at Nailsea and Backwell train station not working. The Clerk will arrange a meeting between all three parties. Councillor McQuillan said that North Somerset Council are not prepared to remove their CCTV signs at the station, even though the system is not working.

   The revised planning application for the Battleaxes is now available to be viewed on the North Somerset Council website, reference 23/P/1704/FUL. A Zoom meeting will be arranged to discuss the Parish Council's response.

4. To receive a report from the Long Ashton ward District Councillors.

   Councillor McQuillan provided the report.
   The consultations regarding 1) parking charges in areas of the district including Nailsea and 2) the three weekly non-recyclable black bin collections are underway and receiving a lot of public responses. The Green Bus services are expanding, and they may be operating as far as Failand. This will be reported on again when further information is available.

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5. To comment on the following planning application.

   24/P/0493/FUL. Land to the south of Bristol Road, Wraxall. Proposed formation of a mezzanine floor for the creation of a classroom within an agricultural building including provision of an external staircase to the West elevation and associated works.

   It was unanimously decided to object to the application for the following reasons:

   There is change of use from Agricultural. We believe it should be F1(a) Provision of education .

   It contravenes policy DM33 (Inclusive access into non-residential buildings and spaces), as there is no disabled access.

   It contravenes policy DM26, as there is no Travel Plan included at a location where there are existing traffic concerns (raised by the Highway Authority for Application 18/P/4925/FUL internal memorandum Addendum dated 21.05.19) i.e. poor sight lines for a 40-mph busy road. There is poor vehicular access to the location.

   There are no facilities such as toilets included on the plans.

   The plan lacks credibility and falls short of the detail expected on such a change of use application.

6. To consider whether the Parish Council should use the services of the Community Payback Team to carry out work in the parish.

   It was agreed in principle to use the services of the Community Payback Team. The Clerk will contact them to find out more information and make the initial arrangements.

7. To receive a report on the Vehicle Activated Sign data.

   The new Vehicle Activated Sign will be in operation shortly. There is no report from the existing sign available this month.

8. To receive an update on the purchase of a new dog bin to be situated in Failand.

   Councillor Wolff has received a quote for the fitting of the post and bin. Final written confirmation will be requested from Honey and Ginger to confirm that they are content for the dog bin to be installed on their land, and then the work will be going ahead.

9. To consider the purchase of new play equipment for the Millenium Green.

   Councillor Valentine presented the proposals for the new equipment. Further information including lead times for supply and installation and part replacement costs will be obtained by Councillor Valentine and circulated to all Councillors. A Council meeting will to be held at 6pm Thursday 25 April to make the final decision

regarding the placement of the order for the new equipment, based on the further information Councillor Valentine will obtain.

10. To receive an update regarding the new play equipment for The Elms.

This is due to be installed in the next two weeks. Councillor Robinson will liaise with North Somerset Council regarding publicising this opening of the equipment. Councillors Sandeman and Robinson were thanked for their work on this project.

11. Councillor reports.

Councillor Malpas reported on a meeting that had taken place between Parish and District Councillors and the National Trust at Tyntesfield. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the problems on the B3128 caused by traffic unable to enter Tyntesfield when the car park is full, and parking occurs on the verges. The National Trust wish to resolve the problem by extending the car park into an adjacent field.

During the meeting it was emphasised that the district and parish council will work with the National Trust to solve the problem and to develop more sustainable transport option for visitors, in line with the transport plan submitted when the existing car park was approved.

Councillor Robinson explained the improvements for the Festival Way which have been implemented. There has been good feedback from users of the route regarding the improvements.

Improvements have been made to the footpaths in Lodge Lane.

The Neighbourhood Plan has been recommended to North Somerset Council following the independent examination. This will be considered by the North Somerset Council executive in May, following which there will be the public referendum.

North Somerset Council will be contacting the owners of the land adjacent to the junction of Whitehouse Lane and the B3218 asking them to cut back their trees which are obstructing the views of motorists and pedestrians at the junction.

End of minutes.