

# North Cadbury & Yarlington Parish Council

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Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on  
Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024 in Yarlington Village Hall,  
following the Yarlington Annual Parish Meeting which commenced at 7.00pm.

## **Councillors Present:**

Diane Rickers (Chairman)  
Mareike Beyer  
Chris Jose  
Nerissa Northover  
Maria Viney

John Rundle (Vice-Chairman)  
Nick Garrett  
Andy Keys-Toyer  
Alan Rickers

**In Attendance:** The Clerk and nine members of the public.

## **Public Session**

A member of the public wished to note the recent passing of Mr Rodney Palmer who was a constant supporter of the parish and regular attendee of the PC meetings; he would be missed.

## **Report from The Newt and Emily Estate**

Report given at the preceding Yarlington Annual Parish Meeting.

## **Reports from Somerset Council (SC)**

None present

## **24/50. Apologies for Absence and to consider the reasons given.**

Council to receive apologies for absence and, if appropriate, to resolve to approve the reasons given.

**RESOLVED:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs John Counsell and Clare Leavold.

## **24/51. Declarations of Interest.**

Members to declare any interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Local Authority (Model Code of Conduct) adopted 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

(NB this does not preclude any later declarations).

**RESOLVED:** None declared.

## **24/52. Minutes.**

To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

**RESOLVED:** The minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

## **24/53. Planning.**

### **a. Somerset Council Decisions.**

- i. **PA 24/00493/LBC** - Alterations to create linked kitchen/dining room at Home Farm, Cary Road, North Cadbury, BA22 7DJ - **APPROVED**.
- ii. **PA 24/00452/HOU**. Erection of single storey rear extension at 2 Ferngrove Cottages, Ferngrove Lane, North Cadbury, BA22 7BP – **APPROVED**.

#### **24/54. Finance.**

##### **a. Balance of the Councils Bank Account & Bank reconciliation.**

To report on Council's Bank Account.

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk previously circulated the PC's Accounts reconciled to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, which were agreed.

##### **b. Accounts for payment:**

To review and approve a schedule of items of expenditure:

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| i. Grant – North Cadbury PCC Churchyard Maintenance | £1,200.00 |
| ii. Galhampton Village Hall Hire 27 Mar 24          | £24.00    |

**RESOLVED:** Items of expenditure approved unanimously.

##### **c. Parish Council Insurance:**

To receive and consider Zurich Municipal Parish Council Insurance Renewal Premium £344.25 (Long Term Agreement until 31 May 25).

**RESOLVED:** Renewal schedule received and approved.

#### **24/55. Emergency Planning and Flood Mitigation.**

Update on the formation of a Community Emergency Plan (EP) and flood mitigation.

**RESOLVED:** Cllrs A Rickers and Beye gave their reports as follows:

a. Community EP. Cllr Rickers reported that Galhampton Village Hall had started to formulate its EP. As soon as Yarlington's and North Cadbury's were received the plans would be merged to form the draft Community EP for consideration and adoption by the PC.

b. Flooding. Cllr Beyer reported that, unfortunately, they were unable to hold an event to mark the anniversary of the May floods in North Cadbury Village Hall as both rooms were already booked. If possible, she would look into organising something else to mark the day. Information was still being collected for SC's Section 19 report and information could still be submitted during May, the whole process of the Section 19 investigation is expected to take about 18 months. She had arranged a call with Anna Mears who is in charge of writing the report to find out what information they still need. The final number of the houses that had internal flooding were still unknown; it was important to deliver this information.

Cllr Beyer had met with Zoe Young, The Newt, who visited her property so that she could show the impact of the floods. It was hoped that there would be ongoing engagement with Emily Estate with regards to potential flood mitigation. She had also met with Lorne Thompson from the Yeovil Rivers Community Trust, to talk about the formation of a community group, which would help with securing funding and liaising with landowners. She had also contacted Paul Ellison, Somerset Rivers Authority, to see what funding was available.

The flood warning gauges continue to be adjusted. Calibration of the devices would be a long process to reach the optimum level for warnings on each device. This is being done under the technical advice from the Environment Agency as the gauges were installed as part of its pilot project.

Cllr Beyer continues to be involved with the Flood Working Group on the Local Community Network.

#### **24/56. Highways and Rights of Way (RoW) Report.**

PC Representatives to provide progress reports.

**RESOLVED:** Cllrs Rundle and Garrett gave their reports as follows:

a. Highways. Cllr Rundle reported that, in addition to his report given at the preceding meeting on the situation on West Street, Yarlington, he reminded that Sandbrook Lane was to be closed for a week commencing 29th April.

b. RoW. Cllr Garrett reported that since March Zoe Young had been the key point of contact for resolving issues with RoW over land now owned by Emily Estate. This has eased communication. There had been issues of livestock and surrounding electric fences blocking

public RoW, these need to continue to be reported if encountered either directly on SC website or via the 'Useful Links' on the Parish Website [Report a problem with a public right of way \(somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.somerset.gov.uk)

The broken stile on WN 19/27 from the driveway of The Rag into the field had now been replaced with a gate. He had not received any other reports or seen other issues over the last month.

Cllr Garrett wished to thank Tim Gilbert, as the volunteer Parish Strimmer, who had also volunteered to become an 'Ease of Use Surveyor' for SC, which was another voluntary, unpaid role, to help survey randomly selected paths in our local parishes on a quarterly basis. Volunteer surveyors had been monitoring the condition of the public RoW in Somerset since 2006. The information gained from these surveys was extremely valuable and forms part of an ongoing rolling program of path surveys with the whole county network being completed in a ten-year period, which is no small task when the network is over 6,100km in length! It would be interesting to see how this develops.

Walkers are still encouraged to report, via the website, via Parish Councillors, or the Parish Paths Liaison Officer, Susan Fone, any issues that they are finding with RoW across the Parishes.

#### **24/57. North Cadbury and Yarlington Neighbourhood Plan.**

Update from the NP Monitoring Group.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Rickers reported as follows:

a. Road Safety Improvement Plan. During the last meeting it was reported that the Galhampton Community Speed Watch (CSW) was no longer operational due to the increase in aggressive attitudes towards those members, however, it has since been clarified that the CSW is still operating in Galhampton, although some members have considered whether to continue.

Galhampton had been granted permission from SC to install two Village Gateway road signs on the A359, similar in design to those in Sparkford. Funds had been raised to purchase the signs from members of the village with support from local businesses.

Cllr Rickers was in contact with Transport for Somerset with a view to getting the bus stop outside the Orchard Inn marked on both sides of the road. This would hopefully be in the form of markings painted on the road with a visible bus sign.

The Group had funding approved from The Newt to purchase automatic number plate recognition cameras on the A359. Despite much lobbying, the Group had been unsuccessful in gaining support from Avon and Somerset Police for the installation of the cameras, therefore, they were identifying suitable land owners adjacent to the A359 that would be happy to have the cameras mounted on their property. Currently there were two possible locations, however, they were awaiting confirmation from the manufacturer that these sites would be suitable and would continue to work with the Police and Cllr Henry Hobhouse to find an acceptable solution.

b. Historic Buildings of Local Importance. Cllr Rickers reported that the Group were in the process of identifying which buildings in the Parishes were deemed to be 'Locally Important Buildings'. In addition to scouring the Parish they would also be in communication with significant land owners, including the Montgomeries, The Newt and James Buxton.

#### **24/58. Local Community Networks LCNs).**

Report from LCN meeting on 22 Feb 2024.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Keys-Toyer previously circulated his report of the LCN meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at Queen Camel Memorial Hall, which was also attended by the Chairman and Cllrs A Rickers and Beyer. Following the main agenda item, Health and Wellbeing, there was a robust discussion initiated by a representative from North Cadbury and Cllr Henry Hobhouse on the lack of response and communication from Somerset Police regarding speeding vehicles on the A359 and antisocial behaviour in our community. They were promised that it would remain a top

priority. Planning issues and lack of enforcement were also discussed and, although the LCN does not deal with planning, a planning officer would be present at the fortnightly City, Town and Clerks Working Group online briefing. Minutes from the meeting would be circulated upon receipt.

The next meeting would be held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2024, 7.00pm at Wincanton Sports Centre.

**24/59. Charity/Community Work.**

To consider offer of a charity workday from thirty people staying at Cadbury Court September, i.e., litter picking/gardening for a charity etc.

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk agreed to find out if the B Corp company had its own risk assessment and whether there was any scope on what they could and couldn't do.

**24/60. Items for Report and Future Business.**

a. Councillor Refresher/Update Training. Cllr Keys-Toyer previously circulated his notes on the training he attended on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024, which was provided by the Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC). As some of the points raised may be pertinent to the PC, he asked for this to be an agenda item at the next meeting.

b. Wessex Internet (WI). The Clerk reported that she had received a response from Christine O'Grady, WI who confirmed that there is currently no government funding allocated to North Cadbury, which would mean that WI would bear the construction costs themselves if they were to build the network. At the moment, their focus as a business was to connect those areas where funding is available as a priority.

As Christine didn't want to cause any unnecessary work for the PC and the parish in the short term, she suggested that the situation is reviewed in early 2025, so that they would be in a better position to make a decision. WI could then look into seeing what the interest would be and proceed from there.

**Next meetings:** North Cadbury Annual Parish meeting, Annual Parish Council meeting and Ordinary Parish Council meeting to be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 in The Reading Room, North Cadbury.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed .....

Dated .....Chairman