

Minutes of the Goathurst Parish Council Meeting held on

Monday 11 March 2019 @ 8pm, Goathurst Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Jo McDonagh (Chair), Isabel Shute, John Capell, James Roberts, District Cllr Julie Pay (left the meeting at 8:30pm), 4 members of the public; Sharon Piron (Clerk).

1. **Apologies:** Richard Kilbey
2. **Declarations of interest on agenda items:** None.
3. **Public Forum:** Cllr Julie Pay expressed her 'honour' in serving Goathurst for the past four years. Elections will shortly be held and she hopes to continue to support us going forward. John Capell reciprocated and said Julie's support had been appreciated.
4. **Approval of Minutes of the meetings held on 14 January 2019:** agreed and signed by Jo McDonagh.
5. **Matters arising:**
 - **Item 8a – Footpaths/Rights of Way:** Time expired. No further action.
 - **Item 9 – Roads.** Ongoing. John is in discussion with Tony Fairfax from the Highways Dept about the blocked culvert and will raise the issue of 'verge creep' causing deep ruts at the roadsides. **ACTION: John**
 - **Item 10 – Phone box.** A free-standing metal or plastic shelf unit has been advised. Herbs are unlikely to thrive in the conditions available. See item 12 in the minutes below.
 - **Item 12 – Old Quantocks Cluster meeting.** Richard attended. To be included on next agenda.
6. **Planning Applications:** None received
7. **Financial Matters:**
 - a) **Accounts 2018-9.** Sharon distributed latest accounts and gained approval for the format.
 - b) **Bank mandate.** Sharon is pursuing the change required to the account that means that two signatories are required to authorise payments. **ACTION: Sharon.** John advised he is willing to authorise on-line payments if necessary, while he is away. Thank you, John.
8. **Footpaths:**
 - a) **Parish Council Consultation.** Time expired. No further action required.
9. **Roads and flooding:**
 - John advised he continues to monitor two potholes (Huntstile corner and outside Sherwood).
10. **Attracting potential Parish Councillors:** Discussed and agreed approach.
11. **Litter Pick:**
 - a) **Date agreed:** 27 April 2019. Sharon to contact Sedgemoor for resources and draft magazine article seeking volunteer helpers. **ACTION: Sharon**

Isabel advised that two young people in the village would like to carry out regular litter picks as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award. This idea was supported. Sharon to contact Sedgemoor about resources for them. **ACTION Sharon.**

12. Phone box use:

It was agreed that 'The Telephone Exchange' will be introduced as an initiative whereby plants, produce and non-perishable items (jam, honey etc) can be exchanged. James to provide materials to make shelving. John to build shelving. Sharon to draft article for magazine. **ACTION: James, John, Sharon.**

13. Somerset Wood. Further clarification of costs required. **ACTION Sharon.** In principle, the idea of 'sponsoring' one tree to commemorate the eight fallen WW1 soldiers from Goathurst was supported, as long as costs are not prohibitive.

14. Village Hall documentation.

- James offered to arrange for copies which will be held by the Parish Clerk and passed on as part of any handover when there is a change of Clerk. **ACTION James.**
- Originals to be stored at the South West Heritage Centre for safe keeping. **ACTION Sharon.**
- James offered to seek advice about registering the village hall with the Land Registry. **ACTION James.**

15. Correspondence:

a) **NALC survey about elections.** Answers given and will be submitted on-line. **ACTION Sharon.**

16. Other Matters:

- None
- **Date of next meeting:** Monday 13 May 2019 @ 8pm. **Note: this will be the annual meeting followed by the Parish Council meeting.**