

Minutes of Goathurst Parish Council Meeting
Held on Monday 14 July 2014 7.30 pm, Goathurst Village Hall

Present: Parish Cllrs Jo Purvis (Chairman), Terry Howard, Richard Kilbey, John Capell, Isabel Shute, District Cllr Julie Pay, Ann Manders (Clerk), four members of the public.

1. **Apologies:** County Cllr John Edney and District Cllr Mike Caswell.
2. **Declarations of interest on agenda items:** none.
3. **Public Forum:** nothing to report.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the meetings held on 12 May 2014:** these had been previously circulated, were deemed as read, approved and signed as a correct record.
5. **Matters Arising:** the Clerk reported that the end of year accounts had been approved by the Internal Auditor, thanks were given to Colin Chalmers, they had now been sent to the External Auditor. Terry Howard reported that he had spoken to Richard Newby at County Highways regarding speeding through the village, who had suggested he could arrange to monitor the situation. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Newby. The Clerk reported that she and Isabel Shute had met with a representative from the Forestry Commission in the Thickets to discuss the current clear felling operation. This was part of a ten year management plan for the area which will be reviewed next year, the Parish Council will be consulted. Terry Howard read out a draft of a letter he had composed to Development Control at Sedgemoor, it was agreed that the Clerk will sign and send this.
6. **Roads and Flooding:** Jo Purvis reported that there are two potholes on Goathurst Hill – the Clerk was asked to report these.
7. **Planning Applications:**
 - 29/14/00009 Alterations to windows in rear (East) elevation and internal alterations. Dorford House, Goathurst TA5 2DF (Listed Building Consent)
 - 27/14/00003 Restoration of Rotunda Dome and minor restoration works to the Ice House, Temple Rotunda, Goathurst (Listed Building Consent)

The above applications were considered by the Parish Council – no comments were made on either application.
8. **Grass cutting in Goathurst:** Tony Crocker who had been previously employed to cut the grass in the parish had not appeared this year. Various parishioners have taken over responsibility for different areas as volunteers. Neil Evans will cut around the sign and tub on the Goathurst Hill side, Tony Milroy will do the same at Park Lane and Rodney Coate with deal with Shepherds Corner. Gary Rowles will cut the grass on the green and John Capell will do the area in front of the Old Rectory. Thanks were expressed to all those who had volunteered.

9. **Footpaths:** Terry Howard reported that he had carried out some work with the parish strimmer and would be clearing more stiles over the next few weeks.
10. **Finance:**
 - **Approval of payments due:** £30 Nether Stowey Parish Council, Cluster contribution; £9.83 AON Insurance.
 - **Insurance Additions:** it was agreed to add two village benches to the policy, cost as above.
 - **Review of Financial Procedures:** the Clerk reported that the adopted Standing Orders require an annual review of the Council's financial procedures, she will circulate a draft copy for consideration at the next meeting.
 - **Modification of bank mandate:** the Clerk was asked to arrange to add Jo Purvis as a signatory. Clerk to arrange the relevant paperwork.
11. **Correspondence:** a copy of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Somerset had been received and was considered by the meeting. A copy will be displayed in the Village Hall.
12. **Any other business:** Jo Purvis thanked John Capell for putting up the sign on the wall next to the Jubilee Oak. The Clerk reported that Mill Wood had now been purchased by Edward Strachan, the owner of Halswell House, the purchase of an acre of the adjoining land had also been agreed but not yet completed. Edward Strachan has pledged to undertake the essential repairs required in Mill Wood and it is hoped some public access will be negotiated in the future. Jo Purvis reported that there is currently no remit for Parish Councils to have a Health and Wellbeing Officer and will not, therefore, pursue this item further at this time.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

Date of next meeting Monday 8 September, 7.30 pm, Goathurst Village Hall.

Ann Manders, Clerk
Lockyers, Broomfield, Bridgwater TA5 2EP 01278 671500