

AVETON GIFFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2023

Present	Cllr Sarah Harcus Cllr Ros Brousson Cllr Peter Smith Cllr David Davis-Berry Cllr Rosie Warrilow	SH in the Chair RB PS DDB RW
In attendance	Amy Clayton Cllr Lee Bonham Mr Louis Bodmer (participated as a councillor from item 90/23) Mr Mark Smith	Clerk LB (District Councillor) LBod
Apologies	Cllr Rufus Gilbert Cllr Peter Wade Mrs Niki Harrop	RG (County Councillor) PW
Members of the public	5	

87/23 PARISH REPORTS AND OPEN FORUM

ACA report

In March Sustainable South Hams organised the Rivers Assembly to share knowledge and experience for protection of S Hams rivers, and 2 action groups have now been set up for the Erme and the Avon. One of these is the Avon River Champions, and its next meeting will be held at Heron Valley on 18th September.

ACA chair and Cllr Brousson are both representing the ACA there, but Cllr Brousson as one of 2 parish reps for the SuSH Parish Council Interest Group, requested permission to also represent AGPC at the meeting.

The Parish Council resolved to **AGREE** to let Cllr Brousson also represent AGPC

For the full report please see ANNEX A

Shop

No report received. It was requested that the Clerk contact the Shop Association to ask for a report for next month's meeting.

Parish Paths

AC

The Parish Path Representative gave a report:

It was reported that the mud area by the stepping stones needs improvement. Council stated due to the stepping stones being on private land, negotiations would need to be done with landowners. PP Representative will contact landowners to investigate.

The boardwalk needs some improvement and planks being replaced on Dukes Mills trail. Cllr Brousson stated this should be referred back to DCC Footpath Warden. PP Representative to contact.

Member of public has volunteered to do some labouring on the footpaths. Clerk to contact Gallaghers insurance to get parameters that insurance covers for volunteers.

Stile above Skippers cottage had deteriorated. This has now been amended with gates either side of old stone style.

AG Heritage

No report received

Swoosh debrief and 2024 discussion

Representative from Level Water thanked everyone on PC for their work during this year's Swoosh.

It was stated that there were learnings that could be taken from this year but majority of the feedback had been positive. In the future Level Water want to invest more into traffic management staff. In particular, it was noted that no coaches should be going through the village.

Cllr Warrilow reported significant traffic problems from the Cricket pitch down to Icy Park which were bordering on dangerous at times. Cllr Brousson queried whether it is possible to have a third field for parking to alleviate pressure on Cricket Field..

It was noted that the Traffic team didn't have authority to turn people away from Timbers Car Park as private land. Only councillors have this authority, therefore in 2023 there will need to be a councillor on the gate.

Level Water are proposing a time of day of change to an evening swim on the 6th July in 2023, with approval gained from Bantham and are looking for agreement from Aveton Gifford Parish Council. Hoping to phase the cars coming on over Friday evening. / Saturday morning, resulting in less inconvenience to Aveton Gifford. Numbers of participants will remain similar to last year. The Council indicated a possible preference for an early morning swim, as it felt an evening swim could have increased impact on residents, not less.

Parishioner suggested posting notices on paddleboarding pages/groups to warn car park will be congested. It was also commented on that rubbish from the wristbands was very evident after the event.

It was noted Church Fete is possibly on the 6th July. Need to confirm with Church before decision can be given to Level Water.

PC **AGREED** a decision can't currently be taken.

AC

88/23 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies received from Cllr Gilbert & Cllr Wade. Niki Harrop (co-option candidate) also sent her apologies for not being able to attend the co-option process in person.

89/23 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS

The Council considered the co-option of the three vacant seats. Following advertisement, two applications had been received:

Louis Bodmer was proposed by Cllr Brousson, and seconded by Cllr Harcus. The council **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO CO-OPT** Louis Bodmer as a councillor. Cllr Bodmin completed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the councillors.

Niki Harrop, who was unable to attend in person, sent in a statement which the Clerk read out. Cllr Harcus proposed, Cllr Brousson seconded and the council **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO CO-OPT** Niki Harrop as a councillor.

Mark Smith, attending as a member of the public, also indicated their interest in becoming a councillor and spoke to the council regarding his suitability. Following on from a check of eligibility performed by the Clerk, Cllr Brousson proposed, Cllr Harcus seconded and the council **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO CO-OPT** Mark Smith as a councillor

90/23 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS

There were no declarations of interest.

91/23 CLERK 4 MONTH REVIEW

The Clerk left the room while the council discussed the 4 month review. Cllr Davis-Berry Proposed and Cllr Smith seconded and the council **RESOLVED** that the Clerk had passed the probationary 4 month period

The council asked that a thank you from the Parish Council to the Clerk was minuted for the work to date.

92/23 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

The Clerk read out email report from Cllr Gilbert:

Cllr Gilbert reported that he'll follow up on street light 5 power for defibrillator on his return. Cllr Gilbert also noted that he had read in Cllr Warrilow's article in Gazette that Gigaclears cable over the bridge is to be attended to.

93/23 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

The new Council team have been developing their strategy for South Hams over the Summer, and there will be announcements and a consultation in the next few weeks.

On the question raised about EV charge points in AG, Cllr Bonham understands that SHDC and Devon CC are working on a bid for funding under the Local EV

Infrastructure fund, and that parishes will be asked if they are interested by 17th November.

Cllr Bonham is in contact with the Enforcement team regarding the caravan in field near Venn, case 027222. There is no enforcement action taken as yet.

Cllr Bonham noted the Parish comments regarding Tree Hill Farm, case 0176/23/HHO.

Cllr Bonham is aware that there are two new planning applications received on 6th September.

Cllr Bonham was asked about funding for Defibrillators for both pads and a solar powered cabinet. Cllr Bonham said he would investigate potential funding.

LB

94/23 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6TH JULY AND SIGN

The Council **RESOLVED** that the Minutes from the meeting on 3rd August be accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

95/23 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED AS SEPARATE AGENDA ITEMS

Gigaclear installation over the stream

Gigaclear have now rectified the previous installation to a satisfactory solution. It was noted track hasn't been levelled. Clerk stated that a thank you letter to Gigaclear had already been sent.

96/23 MAINTENANCE OF PARISH OWNED AREAS

Play parks and playing field

Bench for outside fence area

A bench has now been placed outside the fencing area. It was noted, that the bench now placed inside the fenced area is being moved around. Council **AGREED** to look into cost of a ground screw to secure the bench.

Recent inspection of play parks to address faults

The council **AGREED** to postpone discussing quotations to next month's meeting

Campervans in parish owned carparks

Register / potential rules

The council **AGREED** to postpone to next month's meeting

Ex school bus

The council **AGREED** to postpone to next month's meeting

Car with no MOT reported. DDB to give details for Amy to report to police.

DDB

Replacement tidal road signs

One of the community signs disappeared during bad weather. Council **AGREED** that the MOP who originally designed and ordered the signs, will negotiate price

with signage company previously used and order a replacement sign. It was also noted, that the original fixings which were never received should be asked for in the replacement order.

Council **AGREED** to place a community sign before steps down onto tidal road warning drivers of a blind exit.

Clerk asked to contact Helen re Park signs

AC

Clearing of stream

Council **AGREED** to postpone asking Flete to clear stream for another month as vegetation will have died back to make it a more manageable job.

97/23 PLANNING MATTERS
SEE ANNEX B

Land at SX 675 511, Trehele Cross, Modbury: Poultry sheds application – AGPC have been asked to contribute as a neighbouring parish. Council **RESOLVED** to agree to contribute a statement..

98/23 FINANCE AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Financial Statement

The Clerk submitted Financial Statements for August 2023 (See ANNEX C)

Invoices for Payment

The Council **RESOLVED** to agree to the following payments

Invoice date	Payee	For / Reason	Net Payment £	Payment inc VAT £
20/09/2023	First Federation	Electricity & Water costs for Swimming Pool	502.97	525.09
30/09/2023	Clerk	Clerk wages for August	520.69	520.69
02/10/2023	Clerk expenses	Envelope and postage for Declaration of Interest forms being sent to Follaton House	5.20	5.20
03/10/2023	Flete Gardens	Grounds maintenance on Area 2 on 04/09/23	225.00	270.00
11/09/2023	PKF	External audit fee	315.00	378.00
05/10/2023	Tall Orders Landscaping	Grass cutting & strimming from 12 June – 24 August	1015.00	1015.00

Will be invoiced on 12/10	HMRC	National Insurance Contributions	23.38	23.38
Total			£2,607.24	£2,737.36

Clerk training: The council, proposed by Cllr Marcus, and seconded by Cllr Bodmer **RESOLVED** to agree for the Clerk to register on the ILCA course through SLCC at a cost of £120 + VAT

Lottery Grant: Following on from communication, the Clerk reported that the Big Lottery had stated that returning the unspent funds would close the grant as a undelivered project and would have no adverse effect on future funding application. The council **RESOLVED** to agree to return £5150.99 to the Big Lottery and instructed the Clerk to make the payment.

VAT repayment

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council has received £2,797.92 on 10/08/2023 from HMRC for VAT reclaimed for the period of 01/04/22 – 31/03/23.

Tender invoice payments

The council **RESOLVED** to agree that invoices for tender work under £1000 can be paid without approval in a Parish Council meeting. Prior to payment work included on the invoice needs to be verified that it has been completed.

Clerk Overtime

No overtime submitted for August.

AC

99/23 STANDING ORDERS REVIEW & ADOPTION

It was **AGREED** by the council that a sub meeting between the Chaiman, Vice Chair, Niki Harrop and the Clerk would take place to prepare a draft version of the Standing Orders for submission to the council. Meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 19th 10:30am

100/23 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS REVIEW & ADOPTION

It was **AGREED** by the council that a sub meeting between the Chaiman, Vice Chair, Niki Harrop and the Clerk would take place to prepare a draft version of the Standing Orders for submission to the council. Meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 19th 10:30am

101/23 INSURANCE

Joint policy with Allotment Association

Aveton Gifford Allotment Association now have their own insurance and the Parish Council policy no longer names them as joint policy holders.

A Risk Assessment on allotment land needs to be completed to meet our insurance requirements as land owners. Clerk to enquire with insurance company whether

AC
LBod

there is a template to follow. Cllr Bodmer will perform risk assessment once more information from insurance company has been obtained.

102/23 TREE WARDEN

Tree safety inspection is due for early spring. Trees are really showing a lot of stress after terrible summer. This has been confirmed with other councils.

Beech trees at top of Pittens still an ongoing issue with trees overhanging gardens. DDB pursuing this.

Trees by Pittens Barn touching roof. Cllr Davis-Berry will go and have a look and talk to owner.

DDB

103/23 DEFIBRILLATORS

Spare pads requirement discussed and council **RESOLVED** that 2 adult pads and 1 child pad should be sufficient. Cllr Smith to provide details of pads for Clerk to cost.

PS

104/23 EV CHARGE POINTS

Covered in item 93/23 above

105/23 COMMUNITY POOL

Zero hours contracts have been reviewed by Cllr Brousson and Cllr Smith and a slight amendment is needed that they will feed back to Clerk.

RB,
PS

106/23 CAR SHOW EVENT

It has been reported that £3755 has been raised to date.

Discussion followed about how to handle the funds and applications for bids and the council **AGREED** for the Car Show Organisation to manage the funds raised and handle applications for bids from village entities rather than it going through Parish Council. The Parish Council felt strongly that a second person such as a Treasurer should be recruited by the Car Show team to safe-guard the procedure. This will be communicated.

107/23 VILLAGE STOCKS

Nothing to report

108/23 TRAFFIC MIRROR

The Clerk reported that the owner of 3 Taverners has been emailed but as yet has received no response back.

109/23 OUTDOOR TABLE TENNIS TABLE

£540 has been raised by MOP who asked the council to supply further funds of £494 to enable purchase of an outdoor tennis table.

Clerk has emailed contact at Fusion Leisure who has sent through funding suggestions. Council **AGREED** to look into funding as a first option.

The council noted that potential location should be outside the playpark fencing so that availability is for all rather than just seen for children.

110/23 AOB
Request to put Fireworks on November Agenda

The meeting closed at 10.00pm

Signed *S Harcus*
Mrs S Harcus Chair.

Date *05/10/2023*

NEXT MEETING Thursday 5th October at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

ANNEX A: ACA REPORT FOR AGPC SEPTEMBER MEETING

Given by Cllr Ros Brousson

In March Sustainable South Hams organised the Rivers Assembly to share knowledge and experience for protection of S Hams rivers, and 2 action groups have now been set up for the Erme and the Avon. One of these is the Avon River Champions, and its next meeting will be held at Heron Valley on 18th September.

Stuart Watts ACA chair and I are both representing the ACA there, but I am also one of the 2 parish reps for the SuSH Parish Council Interest Group, and if the PC is happy for me to do so, I can represent AGPC there as well. On the agenda will be topics including Designated Bathing Waters Status, training for volunteer water sampling and Kick sampling etc, (As a reminder, to qualify for Designated Bathing Water Status it must be used by an average of at least 100 bathers a day during the bathing season (15 May to 30 September). This does not include paddleboarders, kayakers etc.) Also within 500 m from toilet facilities, and also taken into consideration eg changing, first aid, public transport, easy access including disabled....)

The ACA committee will work together with the Avon River Champions to share knowledge and the results of surveys and research. SW and I are to meet Louise Wainwright on 8th September to discuss a possible working partnership between the two organisations.

ANNEX B: PLANNING REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2023 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

New SHDC applications since the last meeting

Reference: 2867/23/HHO

Primrose Cottage (Bridge End)

Proposal: Householder application for demolition of existing single storey garage, rear conservatory & rear extension, internal alterations to existing layout, modifications to existing door & window openings, proposed side & rear ground & first floor extension with new roof, external alterations to garden to include retaining works relocation of existing oil tank & installation of new flue to wood burning stove.

Response by 12th October

Reference: 2559/23/FUL

Land at Sx 679 503

Proposal: Widening of an existing access gate onto the A379 with a splay to allow improved visibility for forestry & agricultural vehicles, stone & track route from the new splay over the existing culvert to an existing gateway to join an existing track route & turning area/ timber stacking area

Response by 12th October

SHDC decisions since last meeting

None

Withdrawn applications

Reference: 0176/23/HHO

Tree Farm

Proposal: Householder application for proposed roof extension & alterations to existing dwelling (part retrospective)

PC members did visit and respond with comments – the irregularities and conditions for residential use for this farmhouse would need to be addressed before AGPC could comment further.

Since then the application has been withdrawn.

Withdrawn appeal

APP/K1128/X/23/3326543 Land At Sx 687 746, Waterhead. Certificate of Lawfulness for residential use.

AGPC submitted comments to original application (SHDC refused). Since then, councillors invited to visit - this has been postponed until a more convenient date for the owners.

Ongoing planning appeals

South Efford House

AGPC responded to original application and has also submitted updated response for appeal.
Awaiting decision from Planning Inspectorate

Land at SX 675 511", Trehele Cross, Modbury

Provision of poultry building & associated infrastructure including private way

AGPC responded to all 3 applications as neighbouring parish. Any further response for appeal to be submitted by 26th Sept

ANNEX C: AUGUST FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Financial Statement at August 31st, 2023

Total in Treasury account: £ 17,028.09

Total in Instant Access account: £ 7,211.76

Total £ 24,239.85

Restricted/Allocated reserves:

Parish Paths Partnership £ 774.00

Heritage Group Projects £ 1,370.00

Lottery grant for hall £ 5,650.99

Play park fencing £ 0

Play park project £ 363.00

Pool liner fund £ 6,000.00

Total reserves £ 14,157.99

Working Surplus £ 10,081.86

Payments Made: August 1st – August 31st 2023

Folio	Payee	Reason	£GROSS	£VAT	£NET
53	Tall Orders Landscaping	Grass cutting tender - from 22/12/22 - 01/06/23	765.00	0.00	765.00
54	Amy Clayton / Clerk pay	Clerk wages & overtime	933.74	0.00	933.74
55	SLCC	New clerk series training webinar 3	24.00	4.00	20.00
56	Pixl Digital Design	Website work during June 2023	109.80	0.00	109.80
57	Nick Walker Printing	August / September mAGpie printing	242.00	0.00	242.00
58	Gallagher	Additional premium for pool cover	280.00	30.00	250.00
59	Aveton Gifford Pre-School	Pre-school's portion of Swoosh doncation	400.00	0.00	400.00
60	Peter Wade	Pool supplies - DPD 1 tablets, DPD 3 tablets, Calcium hardness increaser	40.00	0.00	40.00
61	P&L Industrial Equipment Ltd	Replacement wheel for goalposts	27.78	4.63	23.15
Total Payments			2,822.32	38.63	2,783.69

Payments Received: August 1st – August 31st 2023

Folio	Payee	Reason	£
28	Lloyds Bank	Interest	5.33
29	HMRC	VAT recovered	2,797.92
Total Receipts			£2,803.25