

**CURRY MALLET PARISH COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of Curry Mallet Parish Council
On Monday 20th April 2022 at 7.30pm
in the Curry Mallet and Beercrocombe Village Hall, Curry Mallet**

Present: Cllrs. C Hussey (Chair), D Beck, T Smith, F Wood and W Wilkes Wood.

In attendance: L Gowers (Clerk), County Councillor C Paul and 2 members of the public.

21/ To Note apologies for Absence:

142 Apologies were received from Cllr. Jonathan Scott (work commitments).

21/ Public Participation

143 Members of the public spoke about:

Platinum Jubilee. A working group was in place to organise events. It was anticipated that the church would link with the school to produce a low key art project, which would then be displayed at the church. The church would also display items lent by villagers, to celebrate the heritage and work of the village.

Lombardy Poplars. An update regarding the safety of the trees was requested. The Clerk confirmed that she would contact the County Council for further information.

21/ To approve the Minutes of the previous meeting.

144 It was **AGREED** that the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on Monday 21 March and Thursday 31 March 2022 be **APPROVED**.

21/ Declarations of Interest

145 None.

21/ To receive updates from District and County Councillors.

146 Cllr. Paul reported that Covid continued to be part of life. There was currently no requirement for testing, therefore statistics showed a decline. The reality was different with many people infected but not seriously ill.

21/ To Receive the Clerks Update Report:

147 The Clerk had begun to research signs to encourage safe driving through the village. The signs would be attached to existing "Curry Mallet" signs.

21/ Finance:

148 a. Councillors noted that note that the National Joint Council (NJC) for local government services has agreed an increase of 1.75% applicable from April 2022.

b. It was agreed to approve the payments listed:

- Clerks wages – April: £141.76
- HMRC employee tax and NI: £35.20
- Clerks expenses – McAfee
Virus protection for PC laptop £59.99

c. It was noted that the 4th quarter bank reconciliations had been completed and checked.

21/ Play Area Update

149 Cllr. Smith reported that it had proved difficult for the group to meet recently due to other commitments from all parties. There was a meeting now planned with the South Somerset District Council Locality Officer, who had great experience in helping parishes plan installation of play equipment.

21/ Speeding in the village

150 The Clerk reported that the Traffic Engineer from County Council had sent their superintendent to the village to inspect the condition of lines within the village. The Clerk would contact the Traffic Engineer for feedback.
County Cllr. Claire Paul observed that surrounding parishes were suffering similar problems to this one, with regard to speeding vehicles and solutions to the problem.

**21/ To formally agree to purchase a Broxap Weyburn litter bin at a cost of £370.00 to be
151 located in front of the village shop.**

Councillors **agreed unanimously to purchase the bin to be located on land in front of the village shop.**

**21/ To consider the request for the Parish Council to purchase the services of a drone
152 operator to take photographs of the village for HM Queen's Platinum Jubilee
celebrations at a cost of £500.00.**

Although Councillors had concerns regarding the cost of procuring pictures from a drone, they were minded to agree the purchase, as the Platinum Jubilee was a once in a lifetime event. Following discussion, however, it was agreed that more information regarding the ownership of any video or pictures taken was confirmed.

**21/ To consider the request of the Platinum Jubilee Working Group for a Commemoration
152 Plaque to be funded by the Parish Council.**

It was agreed that the Parish Council would fund a plaque to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee. Following discussion, the Clerk was asked to investigate prices for plaques and benches, although the village would be asked for their thoughts regarding the location for the plaque.

21/ To receive any other Matters of Report

153 Cllrs Hussey and Beck reported on the meeting of the Jubilee Working Group, which they had both attended. The plans included a beacon on Mr Adam's field on Top Road, which was the highest point in the village. Mr Adams had agreed to a beacon providing he had taken his silage crop from the field. This would take place on Thursday 2nd June.

There would be a Community Jubilee Day, around the Village Hall on Saturday 4th June, which would include stalls and games and a parade of Crowns made by children at the school. The afternoon would finish with a Street Afternoon Tea outside the pub.

It was noted that the Annual Meeting of the Parish which would be held on Saturday 21st May, would now coincide with the last day in the pub for the present owners, who planned to have a BBQ and celebration, along with the plant sale to be held outside the village shop. After discussion, it was agreed to continue with the meeting on this date.

21/ Date of the next meeting.

154 Monday 16th May 2022 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.53pm

Signed:

Dated: