

Trudoxhill Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th September 2024 at 7.30pm (Village Hall)

Present: Diana Francis (Chair), Chris Kenyon
Clerk: Sam Winstanley
Members of Public: 2

24/547 Apologies

CBC, SS, JS

24/548 Disclosure of Interest

CBC – 24/550.1

24/549 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved.

Meeting suspended to take questions or comments from the Public

Member of Public – Commented that they are neighbours to the planning application agenda item 550.2 but received no notification from the planning authority. This is not the first time and is a consistent failing. The clerk will notify the relevant authorities and ask for explanation.

Member of Public – referencing agenda item 550.1; The property was a large farm originally, buildings were well used for agricultural use. Most buildings were removed upon the sale except large piggery and one other barn; the piggery was half changed into stables and half remained as sow stalls. It currently already is zoned for split use, agricultural and equestrian. Current owners are not looking to return to farming but are looking to improve the estate. The proposed conversion will have the same footprint, simple design, no neighbours overlooked. Currently empty as cannot store anything outside agricultural and equestrian equipment, of which they have neither, so it is unused. After conversion, the residence will be used by elder generations of their family. The clerk raised a question from an email about access from the highway – planned for same access as existing, no new curb cuts or hedging removal.

24/550 Planning

(Whilst not quorate, all recommendations will be made by the clerk through delegated authority)

24/550.1 2024/1385/FUL – Conversion of Stable to 3 Bed Dwelling, Cricket Farm

Councillors discussed the unused building and that it is still zoned for previous uses, although the property is used as residential otherwise. The applicants have followed a 9 month process to complete bat surveys, which are clear. There were no further concerns or objections.

RESOLUTION – To recommend approval.

24/550.2 2024/1362/FUL – Barn Change of Use: Agricultural to Equestrian/Agricultural, Gare Hill Road

Councillors discussed that there are multiple equestrian properties in close proximity and although the change of use would increase the range of what could be stored, they couldn't see any reason for objection. There was a discussion on a map submitted by rights of way consultee which shows the right of way cutting through the hardstanding surrounding the barn – although the footpaths officer has approved the diversion, this has not yet been made official in records. Councillors recommended the applicant follow up with the officer to complete the process and make diversion clear to users of the footpath.

RESOLUTION – To recommend approval.

Councillors discussed that this application was prompted by the new classification of dirty water, so everything on a yard is now classed as slurry including rainwater. This causes a larger volume of slurry that needs more storage. Councillors agreed the need to comply to environmental regulations, so were happy to recommend approval.

RESOLUTION – To recommend approval.

[24/551 Finance](#)

24/551.1 Financial Report

The clerk reported £5,155.76 in bank, £400 under budget with no unexpected expenses.

24/551.2 Accounts for payment

Rospa – £93.60, Clerk – £339 (+ £4.60 printing reimbursement), K Gale – £120
All were approved for payment.

[24/552 Reports](#)

To receive reports and updates on:

24/552.1 Highways (SS)

A full report will be delivered at next month's meeting.

24/552.2 SpeedWatch & Speed Abatement Project (SS)

The clerk reported that the SID had been delivered successfully, will now await Highways to install the poles at the same time as the works to complete the 20mph zone.

24/552.3 The Village Hall

No report was made.

24/552.4 Unitary Update – LCN

The clerk shared details of the highways warden program, which appears to be highly cost prohibitive at over £700 per day. However, the delivery of a free public training scheme will be well received. Some ditches need clearance in the parish, the clerk asked for locations marked on a map and will coordinate with highways.

24/552.5 Parish Plan

Plan is published and at the printers, awaiting OS parish map – every household will receive a copy.

[24/553 Correspondence and Emails Received](#)

24/553.1 Litter Bin Response

The clerk reported that after some discussion, it was agreed that Somerset own the bins in the parish, not the council. This means they will continue to empty them free of charge after the devolution deadline.

[24/554 Other Business referred to the Clerk](#)

24/554.1 Grass Cutting Quote

The clerk reported a quote from K Gale for the Somerset owned land that will stop being maintained in April. Ashfield Close verges and greenspaces: £60 a visit, suggested twice per month. Gare hill churchyard: £60 a visit, suggested once per month. Current spend on grass cutting is £120/month for two visits. If the council took the suggested schedule, the price would increase to £300/month. As an additional quote which could be added ad hoc, St Leonard's Churchyard:

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£160 a visit. The council discussed that maintaining these areas was important but needed to be considered along with other budgetary items when the time comes.

24/554.2 Ridgeway Underpass Gate Replacement & Maintenance

The clerk reported that after notifying Bristol Water of the damage they replaced the gate and the fence within a short time. The gate is freely operable and seems suitable for all the users of the pedway.

24/555 [Date of next TPC meeting](#)

October 3rd

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