



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN BANWELL YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7:30pm ON MONDAY 15th AUGUST 2022

PRESENT: Councillors: Paul Blatchford (Chairman), Phil Adams, Steve Davies, Paul Harding (Vice Chairman), Nick Manley, Maggie McCarthy & Matthew Thomson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Liz Shayler (Clerk)
WARD COUNCILLOR: Cllr Haverson
AVON & SOMERSET POLICE: None
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Two

Cllr Blatchford welcomed everybody.

Before the meeting was convened, members of the public were invited to speak.

i) **Members of the public**

The following points were raised by members of the public

Residents of Eastermead Lane spoke about the Bypass.

- Question to Cllr Haverson about the Planning Application and whether it will be called in to Committee instead of being approved by a Planning Officer.
- Concerns that the current design and their alternatives have not been considered thoroughly
- Concern that the plan does not go into enough detail in particular the height of the road at the eastern end and its screening.
- Mitigation is not detailed enough in relation to the southern link route.
- Concerns about noise during construction and the final surface of the road.
- Concerns about water run off.

Concern was also raised about the removal of the 126 bus service and the importance of rural bus services.

ii) **Community Beat Manager's report**

The following report was received for the period 14/07/2022 to 11/08/2022.

Calls from Parish = 23 with the following selection of crimes reported: 5 abandoned 999 calls, 2, animal, 4 antisocial behaviour, 1 concern for welfare, 2 harassment, 1 missing person, 2 suspicious activity, 3 traffic related and 3 threat.

The neighbourhood team continue to offer free home security checks, bike marking, tack marking, tool marking as well as dealing with day-to-day police incidents. Residents are asked to contact them, if they are holding an event and would like the team to be involved. Residents were asked to get in touch via the Avon & Somerset website, follow them on social media, Facebook "Weston & Worle police or Twitter "NSPolice".

iii) **Ward Councillor's report**

Cllr Haverson gave a brief report on the removal of the 126 bus service. It is a commercial service which First Bus have chosen to stop. According to First Bus the route has not recovered well following the pandemic and is now not considered commercially viable and there is insufficient driver resource to maintain it.

North Somerset Officers are working to analyse the impacts and options further however an initial evaluation of the services suggests that if the 126 route is to be terminated then North Somerset could modify the 51 service (which they have more control over) picking up as much as possible from the 126 route within North Somerset. They would be unable to justify sustaining the link to Wells given the lack of patronage along the mid-section of the route.

North Somerset haven't yet received the government funding to deliver their Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) and unfortunately the government will not allow them to use this funding to replace routes like-for-like or those which are not commercially viable. BSIP funding is for new routes and frequency improvements to existing commercial and supported services, however funding has not yet been confirmed by Department of Transport and is not expected to land until mid to late Autumn.

The meeting was convened.

118/22 To receive apologies for absence (agenda item 1)

Apologies were received from Cllr Kevin Gibbons,

119/22 To receive and consider two applications to fill casual vacancies by co-option from Mike Bailey and Tara Wright (agenda item 2)

Resolved – To co-opt Mike Bailey and Tara Wright on to Banwell Parish Council.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

Cllr Bailey and Cllr Wright read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

120/22 To receive members' declarations of interest on any agenda item (agenda item 3)

No declarations of interest were received.

121/22 To approve as a correct record, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on the 18th of July 2022 (agenda item 4)

Resolved – That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 18th of July 2022 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous with 5 abstentions due to absence)

The minutes of the meetings will be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

122/22 To note the Planning Committee Meeting Minutes of the 1st of August (agenda item 5)

The minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting were noted.

123/22 To comment upon planning application 22/P/1768/R3EIA Banwell Bypass, land to north and east of Banwell, including mitigation highway land in Sandford, Winscombe and Churchill (agenda item 6).

Each Councillor was given the opportunity to express their opinions and the following points were raised.

- Whilst it had been suggested that the bypass would mean a lot of housing development then it had to be remembered that the houses had been planned within the local area for many years and stopping the bypass would not stop the houses.
- Whilst there were a lot of comments about the A38 then these should not be taken into consideration in Banwell Parish Councils submission.
- Concern about the impact of the closure of Wolvershill Road and whether this would contribute to the centre of the village being cut off. Also, the necessity of mitigation measures along Wolvershill Road if it was to become a cul-de-sac.
- Concern about the impact on Church Street / Riverside due to the removal of the Moor Road junction and the location of the new road proposed north of the scrap yard.
- Concern about the placemaking in the centre of the village and the long-term responsibility for its maintenance.

- Concern that there is not enough detail on the planning application in some areas
- The bypass has been proposed for many years and is welcomed by a lot of the Parish.

Resolved – That the following be submitted as the Parish Councils comment.

The application for the Banwell Bypass is both very large and technical. The Parish Council has consistently supported the Bypass and continues to do so. We, like others, have been able to interrogate and comment on the plans as they developed. While we still have some concerns regarding traffic flows inside the village, after completion, we are also aware that those concerns are based on anecdote and intuition rather than hard evidence. Looking at the Banwell public comments on the North Somerset Council website the majority are in support. It is clear that the objections mostly relate to Sandford and Churchill and presumably come from there, as such this is not of direct concern to this Parish Council or our Parishioners. There are a few objections in regard to the widening pavements near the centre of the village which may need further explanation. Overwhelmingly the Parish is in support of the Bypass as is the Parish Council.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

124/22 To review the following committee / working group memberships and agree any changes (agenda item 7).

i) Planning Committee

The Planning Committee membership was noted

ii) Youth and Community Centre Committee

Resolved – That Cllr Wright to become part of the Youth & Community Centre Committee.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

iii) Banwell Sustainability / Environmental Working Group

Resolved – That Cllr Wright and Cllr Bailey to become part of the Environmental Working Group.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

125/22 To receive the Clerk's report/Exchange of information (agenda item 8)

i) Discontinuation of the First Bus 126 route Weston to Cheddar

First Bus is planning to withdraw three commercial service routes in North Somerset. The service affecting Banwell is the removal of the 126 service WSM to Wells via Locking, Banwell, Sandford, Winscombe, Cheddar & Axbridge. North Somerset Council (NSC) are currently in an ongoing dialogue with First Bus to seek solutions.

ii) Youth Club Social Prescribing Grant

We are halfway through the Parish Council's summer holiday positive activities. The trips are the most popular being fully booked and a waiting list for 'The Wild Place'. The feedback from young people has been good.

iii) LED light refit at YCC

Thanks to 'The Sunshine Fund' and 'Griffiths' for their grants to the Parish Council. This has enabled the Parish Council; to replace all the light fittings inside and outside the Youth & Community Centre to LED. The work is due to be finished this week.

126/22 To note the training and events available and agree any attendance (agenda item 9)

i) Introduction to Local Councils E-Learning Course FREE

The Clerk to organise Cllr Wright & Bailey to complete the course.

ii) ALCA e-learning on nimble

The training was noted

iii) Communications Training via ALCA

The training was noted

iv) Finance Training via ALCA

The training was noted

v) 'Scribe' Finance Training via ALCA

The training was noted

vi) Various dates Council Climate Emergency Workshops £100

The training was noted

vii) 15th September ALCA Planning in Plain English 6:30pm £40

Resolved – That Cllr Thomson attend the Course on the 15th September.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

viii) 19th September ALCA Essential Councillor Course 6:30pm £40

The training was noted both new Councillors wanted to attend but it clashed with the next PC meeting.

127/22 To agree a contractor to repaint the Youth & Community Centre (agenda item 10).

The Clerk updated the committee that the fourth quote had come in at £8950.

Resolved – To agree that Contractor 3, Banwell Property Maintenance complete the works to Banwell Youth and Community Centre.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

128/22 To note the external audit for the 2021/22 accounts and agree any recommendations (agenda item 11)

The external auditors report was noted with no recommendations.

129/22 To authorise bills for payment for August (agenda item 12)

The Clerk tabled an updated bills for payment sheet for August.

Resolved: To authorise the bills for payment sheet for August of £7640.22. Cllr Harding and Cllr McCarthy to authorise the BACs payments.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

130/22 To note the Parish Council's end of July's net position, bank balances and bank reconciliation (agenda item 13)

The Parish Council's end of July's net position, bank balances and bank reconciliation were noted.

131/22 Dates of the next meetings (agenda item 14)

- Monday 5th of September, 7pm Planning Committee at the YCC
- Monday 5th of September, TBD Youth & Community Centre Committee at the YCC
- Monday 5th of September, TBD Employment Committee at the YCC
- Monday 19th of September 2022, 7:30pm Parish Council Meeting at the YCC.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20:30

.....Chairman

.....Date