Ansty Parish Council

# Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held at St. James’ Church on Monday

# 11th December 2023 at 6.30pm.

## 11.12.01 Those present and apologies for absence

Present: Councillors M. Norris (Chairman), T. Martin, L.Gooding, H. Lockley, T. Rowley

In attendance: T. Culver-James (Clerk), A. Martin, M. Brewer, J. Gooding.

Apologies: Wiltshire Councillor N. Najjar, Residents C. Plumptre, L. Simm, C and G. Smith.

## 11.12.02 Declarations of Interest

None made.

## 11.12.03 Chairman’s Introduction

The Chairman opened the meeting expressing condolences for the recent passing of Tim Plumptre, which were shared by those present. He also expressed thanks to T. Martin who had assisted in the preparation of the meeting.

## 11.12.04 Co-Option of new councillor

Following the councils appeal for potential new members, T. Rowley had expressed an interest. Welcoming the extra breadth of experience that Dr. Rowley would bring to the council, he was proposed by Cllr. Gooding, seconded by Cllr. Martin, and unanimously welcomed. A Certificate of Acceptance of Office was signed. The Clerk had previously supplied him with the “Good Councillors Guide”.

## 11.12.05 Report from Wiltshire Councillor

None made.

## 11.12.06 Approval of Minutes of meeting held 21st August 2023

Having been agreed as an accurate reflection of the meeting, these were approved and signed into the record.

## 11.12.07 Planning matters requiring Consideration/Resolution

PL/2023/09033 Meadow Cottage, Kings Lane, Ansty SP3 5QA-no objection

PL/2023/09250 83 High Street, Ansty SP3 5QD-no objection

PL/2023/10541 – works to holly tree at Maypole Cottage – outstanding.

## 11.12.08 Financial matters requiring Consideration/Resolution

During this agenda item considerable discussion was had regarding the council’s support for the village May Day celebrations and its liabilities concerning the provision of insurance for the event. Given their complexity, these will be discussed at the next meeting, although it was proposed by Cllr. Martin, seconded by Cllr. Gooding and passed unanimously that Cllr. Lockley act as the liaison with the May Day committee.

The PC income and expenditure report to 11th December was noted. A draft budget has been prepared, and whilst the final precept figures are not available, a precept for FY 2024-25 of £2,550 was agreed. Proposed Cllr. Martin, seconded Cllr. Norris, and unanimously passed. In future, it will be minuted that the income and expenditure report, as a paper of the meeting is to be regarded as noted and approved at the meeting.

## 11.12.09 Road safety matters

The cost of a new Speed Indicator Device is to be researched by the Clerk, with consideration to data compatibility with Wiltshire Police requirements. Also to be considered are the portability and locations for the device.

## 11.12.10 Matters raised at last meeting

It was decided not to pursue the idea of the council providing any form of public toilets. The council will continue to consider the acquisition of a green space of some sort for the village.

## 11.12.11 Parish Steward update

Cllr. Norris noted that generally road drainage in the area seemed to be satisfactory. Concern was noted over Wiltshire Council’s hedge cutting contractor leaving debris which may obstruct ditches and gullies. It was noted that most verges are the responsibility of Highways to maintain, although this may devolve to landowners in some cases. The usefulness of the MyWilts app for reporting these issues was emphasized.

## 11.12.12 Footpaths and ROW

The steepness of FP2 and its inaccessibility for the majority of village residents was discussed. It was resolved to approach the Wiltshire Council footpaths’ officer with a view to the installation of handrails near the summit. The possibility of an alternative and more accessible route to Swallowcliffe via a permissive or concessionary path was mentioned. Should this fail to become available, the proposed handrails to FP2 may need to be of greater extent. Some cost would be incurred in either case. Proposed Cllr. Martin, seconded Cllr. Lockley, passed unanimously. FP4 remains obstructed with barbed wire, although there is indication that a stile may be intended by the landowner.

## 11.12.13 Village Website

The meeting expressed great gratitude for the work of Rob Wilkinson and noted that he and Cllr. Lockley had been engaged in an orderly transition of its administration. It is anticipated that building on the work already done, the website will continue to evolve in the same positive manner.

## 11.12.14 Defibrillator

The Chairman asked Cllr. Rowley his views on this matter. The ensuing discussion broadly took the view that there were a number of issues which meant that the idea was not sensible. Given the geography of the village, there was no obvious location to obtain maximum benefit, given the time critical nature of likely incidents. Also, the location needs to be served by electricity and the unit regularly maintained which would be at a cost. A better suggestion would be to promote the uptake of training in basic first aid and CPR. The matter will remain under review.

## 11.12.15 Matters for next agenda

Location for new notice board. Gaining interest on bank deposits, to be actioned by the Clerk and Cllr. Martin and any other bank signatories as required. Further discussion on the status of the May Day committee in relation to the Parish Council will also be undertaken.

## 11.12.16 Dates of meetings

Wednesday February 28th 2024

Thursday May 23rd 2024 (including APM)

Thursday August 15th 2024

Thursday November 21st 2024