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| **DRAFT**  **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF UBLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  **held on Thursday 7th March 2024** |

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|  | ITEM | ACTION |
| Present | Councillors – P. Collins (PC) - Chairman, A. Cole (AC), M. Smart (MS), G. Nettleton (GN), N. Waterman, Clerk – C. Witchard (CW) |  |
| **1** | **To receive and accept apologies for absence** J. Croot (JC) – Vice Chair |  |
| **2** | **To receive declarations of interest in the agenda**  None |  |
| **3** | **Open session to receive comments from the public**  The representative of HeartSafe gave a presentation regarding defibrillators and bleed kits. |  |
| **4** | **To approve and sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 07 February 2024 and go through the follow-up actions**  The minutes were duly approved by Council and signed by the Chairman.  **Matters Arising**: All items covered in the agenda. |  |
| **5** | **Report on Clerk items: To discuss and approve further actions where needed**   1. The Biodiversity Policy was reviewed and adopted. 2. Plans were made in anticipation of the retirement of Cllr. Phil Collins. 3. The Council will consider options for communication with residents through email and/or Facebook. | CW  CW  CW/GN |
| **6** | **Finances**   * 1. The finance report was reviewed and approved by the Council unanimously. A copy is attached to these minutes.   2. To confirm payments (see financial report). These were unanimously agreed.   3. The declaration to open a Unity Trust savings account was signed | CW  CW |
| **7** | **Village Maintenance**   1. Maintenance log. In progress. 2. The Cross. – No updates. 3. The Glebe.   - Repairs and Maintenance. Replacement handholds received and to be installed.  -Benches – no updates  -Bird deterrent to be installed.   1. Churchyard – No updates 2. Hall surrounds. – Quote for gate repair approved, work to commence asap. Clerk to seek quotes for installation of shed. 3. WTC – Clerk to get quotes for planting. PC to purchase shrubs. 4. Innicks Close. No updates. With Curo and residents. 5. Flooding. Several instances of flooding have been reported to B&NES. Including the track opposite the school, Innicks Close and Ubley drove. Clerk to contact B&NES to discuss options for getting help with flooding on private land where it is affecting public highways.   The Council will consider joining the proposed CV area working group to report and communicate flooding in the valley and will consider a village adopt-a-drain scheme.   1. Other. -Knotweed and Balsam to be checked in Spring. | MS  TBC  TBC  CW  CW/PC  CW |
| **8** | **Reports from Councillors**  Chew Valley Sustainable Transport. PC gave an update on the new commuter shuttle service and the rezoning of the WestLink service.  -Neighbourhood Watch. New residents added. No reports.  -PCAA. No updates | PC  MS  PC |
| **9** | Updates: - 23/04001/OUT - Corner Cottage – Revised plans submitted. Pending consideration.  New: - Removal of post box. It is noted that this was removed without any consultation with the Council or residents. |  |
| **10** | **Defibrillator.** Following the presentation from HeartSafe at the beginning of the meeting, the Clerk will investigate acquiring a bleed kit. | CW |
| **11** | **Councillor Recruitment.** Signs have been put up around the village and Cllrs are actively sounding out residents as potential new Councillors. | All |
| **12** | **Rural Community Fund.** The Council decided not to pursue this at this time. |  |
| **13** | **Sweeper.** We are in the process of recruiting a new sweeper and hope they will be able to start work in April. | CW |
| **14** | **To receive an update from the Ward Councillor**  None |  |
|  | **The date of the next meeting is set for 18th April 2024** |  |

**UBLEY PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MEETING 7th March 2024**

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**PAYMENTS approved at the 07 March 2024 meeting of Ubley Parish Council**

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| Date | **Cheque number** | **Amount** | **Description** | **Signed/ Authorised** | **Spend to date** |
| 04/03/2024 | STO | £328.20 | Clerk’s salary and wfh allowance | Pre authorised | Within Budget |
| 08/03/2024 | BACS | £120 | Christmas Tree | MS/PC | Within Budget |

Bank statements report the following closing balances -

* Unity Bank Current Account at 29 February 2024 £25,192.14