

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023 COMMENCING AT 6.30PM AT BROADWAY HILL METHODIST CHURCH, HORTON.

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**PUBLIC FORUM** One member of the public attended the meeting. Cllr Sue Osbourne (Divisional Member) was in attendance at the meeting. Refer to **Appendix 1** for a copy of their report.

**4043 ATTENDANCE** Councillors Ray Buckler – Chairperson, Ann Winter, Mike Schmidt, Rob Hutchinson, Dave Johnson, Ray Buckler, Peter Babbington, Julie Layzell and Andy Johnson.

**4044 APPROVAL OF APOLOGIES** Cllrs Barry Mosley – Vice-Chair.

**4045 DECLARATION OF INTEREST** None.

**4046 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (MAY)** The minutes of the meeting held in May, having previously been circulated, were approved, seconded, and unanimously agreed upon. Amend cheque numbers.

**4047 TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE UNDERMENTIONED**

- 5.1 Local Community Network – Cllr Ray Buckler put himself forward and the Council unanimously agreed. RB would like to take this on.
- 5.2 Cllr Peter Babbington informed the Council that he is taking over the police liaison representative position.

*Action: Clerk to update the website.*

**4048 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

6.1 20/03277/FUL – LAND NORTH OF BROADWAY HILL, HORTON – UPDATE

The application was refused following the planning committee meeting. The applicant now has a right of appeal. Please refer to **Appendix 2** for a copy of the decision notice.

6.2 23/01157/TEA - The removal of the existing 17.8m monopole with 3 antennas with its replacement with an 18m monopole with 3 antennas, 2 no. 0.3m relocated microwave dishes, 1 no. equipment rack, and ancillary equipment and works ancillary thereto - CS 12367401 Nyeworthy Farm Horton Ilminster.

Cllr Barry Mosley was not in attendance at the meeting nevertheless, provided his comments on the application to be read out during the meeting. Cllr Mosley's comments are as follows:

- 1) Concerns that there could be further applications in the future to add equipment sited on the pole.
- 2) Are there any running noise associated with the new equipment?
- 3) The proposed pole is 2 metres (corrected to 20cm) taller and of greater diameter with more equipment located on the top, therefore visually unattractive with more impact from surrounding areas.
- 4) No screening at ground level.

The Councillors looked at the application documents and discussed the proposal.

The Council voted to support the application.

- 6.3 22/02709/OUT - Land Formerly The Lamb Inn Horton Cross Ilminster - Outline application for the erection of dwelling houses with all matters reserved.

The Councillors looked at the application documents and discussed the proposal.

The council voted to support the principle of the development but reserve the right to object at the Reserved Matters stage.

- 6.4 22/02710/OUT - The Lamb Inn Horton Cross Ilminster - Outline application for the erection of retirement housing with all matters reserved.

The Council object to the application for the following reasons:

1. Concerns raised by highways under previous applications have not been addressed.
2. No evidence for the need for this type of housing/development has been provided.
3. Retirement housing is better suited in town centre locations, with easier access to local services (GP, supermarket, bus service).
4. Unsuitable walk (crossing A303/A358) for pedestrians from the site to local services at either Horton Cross or Ilminster.

- 6.5 ADJOINING PARISH NOTIFICATION - 23/01245/TEA - Land At Shave Farm Cheshays Hill Horton - The removal of the existing 12.5m monopole with 3 antennas and its replacement with a 17.5m monopole with 3 antennas, 1 no. 0.3m microwave dish and ancillary equipment, the installation of 1 equipment cabinet and works ancillary thereto.

The Councillors looked at the application documents and discussed the proposal.

The Council voted to support the application.

*Action:* Clerk to inform Somerset Council of the above outcomes.

#### **4049 GRANT FUNDING**

- 10.1 Horton and Broadway Youth Group – The Council received an email from a resident in the village who informed the Council that a youth group was being set up and that the group were looking for some funding to purchase game equipment. The group will be for 11-14-year-olds and will have 3 leaders running each session. A maximum of 20 children will be able to attend a session which will take place on Sunday evenings between 6.30pm and 8.00pm at Broadway Hill Methodist Church.

The funding request would support the purchase of sports equipment (bats, balls, football cones, table tennis bats/balls etc) and first aid training and are looking for no more than £500. Cllr Ray Buckler requested that an itinerary of equipment and costs is submitted to the Council as they would be willing to support the request and provide between £200-£300 in funding.

- 10.2 Defibrillator for the Village Hall – Cllr Ann Winter (also a committee member of the village hall) advised that the village hall committee are interested in purchasing a defibrillator, with the parish council's help, for the village hall. The Clerk is to contact 'London Hearts' to enquire if further grant funding is available. Once the costs are known Cllr Winter will liaise with the village hall and agree on splitting the cost.

*Action:* The clerk is to contact 'London Hearts' regarding grant funding.

- 4050 DBS CHECKS** Somerset Council has decided that all divisional members of the Somerset Council need to be DBS checked. Cllr Ray Buckler, Chair of Horton PC, recommends that all parish councillors are also DBS checked.

Action: Clerk to obtain quote from Spark Somerset.

- 4051 SALC TRAINING COURSES** Various training courses are being offered to parish councillors. The clerk is to advise SALC of the following:

Booking form:

Name:	Council:	Event Name / Date:
Barry Mosley	Horton PC	Being a successful Chairman July 6 @ 17:00 – 19:30
Ray Buckler	Horton PC	Being a successful Chairman July 6 @ 17:00 – 19:30
Rob Hutchinson	Horton PC	National Planning Update July 24 @ 18:00 – 18:45
Ann Winter	Horton PC	Neighbourhood Plan July 24 @ 19:00 – 20:00
Rob Hutchinson	Horton PC	Neighbourhood Plan July 24 @ 19:00 – 20:00
Ray Buckler	Horton PC	Neighbourhood Plan July 24 @ 19:00 – 20:00

Action: Clerk to book the above courses.

- 4052 PLAYING FIELD UPDATE – GENERAL UPDATE** No further signs of deterioration on any equipment. The clerk has appointed The Play Inspection Company to carry out this year's audit. Cllr Ray Buckler to chase GB Sports to required repair works.

Action: Cllr Ray Buckler to chase GB Sports to required repair works.

- 4053 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE – UPDATE** SID is in place on Broadway Hill Road and is working and providing information. The data being captured includes maximum speeds, number of vehicles, averages etc. Recurring pattern with one driver, driving 70mph same time weekly and therefore police attendance will be requested to monitor.

Action: Cllrs Ray Buckler/Barry Mosley to speak with Broadway Way Parish Council about siting the SID temporarily on the border of both parishes.

- 4054 DEFIBRILLATOR POWER SUPPLY – UPDATE** No further updates currently, still awaiting the installation date.

Action: Cllr David Johnson to contact the energy supplier.

- 4055 MAINTENANCE AROUND THE VILLAGE – UPDATE** Trotts Lane footpath is in a really bad condition and needs some maintenance work urgently. Cllr Mike Schmidt to contact the rights of way team to request footpath be cleared. Maintenance work previously carried out is growing back rapidly.

Action: Cllr Mike Schmidt to contact the rights of way team. Cllr Ray Buckler to contact Lee Norman (highways) regarding general footpath maintenance.

- 4056 PARISH NEWSLETTER TO HORTON RESIDENTS** Cllr Ray Buckler has produced a draft newsletter highlighting the recent work of the parish council. Enquiries were made about including a copy of the newsletter in the Horton Gazette however, the printing of the most recent issue was already complete and therefore not able to be included. The newsletter was to include a section asking what projects the residents would like to see happen next along with asking for volunteers to circulate the newsletter.

Action: Clerk to obtain a quote from Mac Printers in Ilminster.

**4057 FINANCE**

- 15.1 To Approve Financial Statement 2023/24 - Unanimously approved.
- 15.2 Review of Asset List – All councillors are to review and list items on next agenda.
- 15.3 Proposal – To approve payment of the following cheques:
- 15.3.1 Broadway Hill Methodist Church – Hall Hire – No invoice received.
- 15.3.2 Elan City Ltd – Defibrillator - Cheque No. 000850 - £5,400.00 - Unanimously Approved.
- 15.3.3 Mr L D Hardiman – Village maintenance - Cheque No. 000851 - £250.00.

**4058 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1. A358 Update –  
“Good afternoon

*We are writing to provide you with an update on the A358 Taunton to Southfields Dualling Scheme.*

*In his [Written Ministerial Statement of 09 March 2023](#), the Secretary of State Mark Harper advised that Road Investment Strategy (RIS) 2 schemes will continue to progress. The A358 is one of the RIS2 schemes currently in its planning phase.*

*We continue to work with HM Treasury officials and Ministers closely to fulfil the necessary governance arrangements. As we progress through the governance process, we expect to have a clearer indication on the Development Consent Order (DCO) application submission date.*

*In the interim, we have published our [‘Supplementary consultation – summary of your feedback’](#) booklet.*

*The booklet explains how we delivered the supplementary consultation, which ran from 24 May to 26 June 2022, and provides a summary of the feedback we received. Thank you once again to everyone who took the time to provide us with feedback and those who took the time to come along to one of our in-person events or join one of our webinars.*

*Our DCO application will include a full Consultation Report, which will summarise all the feedback and our response from both the 2021 and 2022 consultations.*

*We remain confident that our proposed scheme presents the best solution to the ongoing issues along the A358 and as part of the wider A303/A358 corridor.  
We will continue to keep you informed of the project's progress.*

*For any further questions, please feel free to get in touch with us via email: [A358TauntontoSouthfields@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:A358TauntontoSouthfields@nationalhighways.co.uk) or call 0300 123 5000.*

- 2. Citizens Advice –  
“Dear Councillors

**Citizens Advice Somerset Merger Plans**

*We published a statement in January 2023 announcing that four of the Citizens Advice organisations in Somerset were exploring the option of merging. Over the subsequent months the Trustees of Citizens Advice Mendip, Taunton, Sedgemoor and South Somerset have worked together to complete a rigorous appraisal of the option to merge. We are pleased to advise you that having completed Due Diligence we have made the decision to merge and will do so by the 1st October 2023. From that date forward we will be known as Citizens Advice Somerset.*

*The merger is partly in response to the unification of four Somerset District Councils into a single Unitary Authority and will ensure that our services continue to align with those of the Local Authority. It is also felt that by coming together we will create a stronger and more sustainable foundation for advice services in Somerset. The new structure will ensure that we are best placed to respond to the ever increasing demand for our services and enable us to optimize our resources in support of the valued staff and volunteers working on the frontline..."*

**4058 ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

- Clerk to produce a 'To-Do' list following each meeting and circulate within 24-48 hours after the meeting.

**4060 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023 commencing at 6.30pm.

*Meeting closed: 20:38*

*Government support for Bus Services: Bus users across the County can now travel on most routes for just £2 until October 31. The major fare cut is part of the Government's initiative aimed at boosting bus use while helping passengers to save money and had been due to finish on 30 June. The Government have also announced that from 1 November fares for single journeys in the County will be capped at £2.50. The initiative also applies to cross-county services.*

*Road repair funding: The Government have awarded Somerset Council an additional £5.4m to carry out essential repair works across the county's road network. This year's extra funding from the Government recognises the challenges facing authorities after a year of extreme weather conditions. A blistering summer followed by a winter of sustained flooding and freezing temperatures which has led to an increase in defects on roads across the UK and with standing water getting under surfaces before freezing.*

*Gritting Season Ends: Somerset Council's gritting teams are standing down for the season after travelling the equivalent of twice around the world this winter. The fleet of 23 gritters were needed on 67 occasions (an increase of eight days over the previous winter season) when freezing temperatures were forecast, treating around 900 miles of road each time. The team covered 83,200 miles during the 2022/23 season, a significant increase over the previous winter season when they covered 45,000 miles. Recent winter seasons included 70,200 miles in 2020/21, 44,000 miles in 2019/20 and 32,800 miles in 2018/19. The lowest road temperature was recorded at -8.4 degrees on the A396 Exebridge on 16 December 2022. During the season, more than 9,850 tonnes of salt was utilised – almost double last year's quantity.*

*Repairs to Tarr Steps: Somerset Council has carried out repairs to the ancient Tarr Steps footbridge in Exmoor after some of its giant stones were washed away in floods. Known as a 'clapper bridge', Tarr Steps spans the River Barle and is a structure made up of slabs of grit stone arranged over stacks of stones without using mortar or cement. The footway is 150m long and is Grade 1 listed. It is believed to date back to the medieval period, but it's thought there could have been a structure on the spot as far back as the Bronze Age. Damage due to flooding is not unusual – this happened in 2012, 2016 and 2017.*

*Consultation on licensing policy: Residents and businesses are invited to comment on Somersets updated Licensing Policy which must reviewed every five years. The Policy document sets out an approach to the Council's licensing functions in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003. When the consultation has ended, the Council will consider responses and make any appropriate amendments to the Statement of Licensing Policy. The final draft will be considered and agreed at a Full Council meeting. The closing date for comments is 13 July 2023 and the consultation is available to view online <https://somersetcouncil.citizenspace.com/licensing/licensing-policy/>.*

*Recycling Centres: Cartons and Tetra Pak will no longer be taken at recycling sites from Monday 12th June as a result of the impact of increased kerbside collections. The move is down to the huge success of Recycle More expanded collections which mean cartons are collected from the kerb every week with the rest of the recycling. Last year Somerset recycled close to ten tonnes of cartons each month, with less than 500 kilograms having been collected across the recycling sites.*

*Volunteers (1): The beginning of June marks the start of the 39th year of Volunteers' Week when thousands of charities and voluntary organisations recognise the contribution volunteers make across the UK. Somerset Council has almost 1,600 volunteers with many supporting services that are so important to the county's residents of all ages from libraries and the environment to children, young people and the NHS. Volunteering opportunities are available on the Council's dedicated [www.assemblevolunteers.somerset.gov.uk/opportunities](http://www.assemblevolunteers.somerset.gov.uk/opportunities). Volunteers (2): Somerset libraries are looking for volunteers to help support this year's Summer Reading Challenge, 'Ready, Set, Read!'. The challenge, which runs across all Somerset libraries, aims to encourage children to read six books during the summer holidays, while also engaging in a host of fun events and activities, online or at their local library.*

*In 2022, a total of 6,595 children participated in the challenge and now Somerset libraries are looking for volunteers, aged 14 and over, to help this year's challenge become another great success.*

*Cycle Routes: Somerset Council have produced an all-new leaflet and updated route section guidance for residents and visitors to enjoy a circular 80-mile cycle route across the south of the County. The route is fully waymarked and divided into eight sections which vary in length; with the shortest at 10.5km, Section 6 Ilminster to Merriott, and longest at 24km, Section 4 Somerton to South Petherton. The route provides detours including Cadbury Castle, Stembidge Tower Mill and Ham Hill Country Park.*

**Appendix 2 – Copy of decision notice**

Galion Ltd  
C/o Mr Eric Telford  
Wienerberger Limited  
Wienerberger House  
Brooks Drive  
Royal Business Park  
Manchester  
SK8 3SA

**Town and Country Planning Act 1990**

**Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (as amended)**

**DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION (FULL)**

APPLICATION NO **20/03277/FUL**

APPLICANT **Galion Ltd** PARISH: **Horton**

DESCRIPTION: **Erection of 49 dwellings and formation of vehicular access.**

LOCATION: **Land North Of Broadway Hill Broadway Hill Horton Ilminster Somerset TA19 9QU (GR:331874/114829)**

*In pursuance of powers under the above Acts and Orders the Somerset Council gives you notice that its decision upon your application described above and in the plan(s) which accompanied that application is to:*

**REFUSE PERMISSION FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:**

01. Notwithstanding the acknowledged benefits deriving from the delivery of housing including policy compliant affordable housing, the site is located within a rural settlement the subject of Local Plan policy SS1 which defines such settlements as comprising part of the countryside and to policy SS2 which defines the circumstances under which development will be permitted and having regard to the provisions of paragraph 5.30 of policy SS2's preamble which explains that within the rural settlement tier there is scope to deliver higher levels of growth at larger settlements for instance with strong employment and good sustainable transport links. Despite the range of facilities that are available within Horton many of these do not meet day to day service needs and those within Broadway are sufficiently separate as to likely require access by private vehicles. As such, the scale of development proposed is likely to result in a significant reliance upon private modes of transport and departs from the provisions of Policies SS1 and SS2 of the Adopted South Somerset Local Plan 2006 - 2028 to manage the levels of growth within rural settlements and for development scale to be commensurate with the range of services and facilities that are available.
02. At the point of determination the application does not satisfactorily deliver social and community infrastructure and necessary nutrient neutrality mitigation required by developments within the Somerset Levels and Moors Ramsar site, and is therefore contrary to the provisions of policies SS6, HG3, HW1 and EQ4 of the Adopted South Somerset Local Plan 2006 – 2028
03. The design of the dwellings framing the site access represents an overly prominent built form that is alien to the more low density dwelling pattern that is located back from the highway reducing the impact of built form that characterises the entrance to the village along Broadway Hill. As such, this part of the development departs from the requirements of Policy EQ2 of the adopted South Somerset Local Plan 2006 - 2028.

Date: 24 May 2023