

North Cadbury & Yarlington Parish Council

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Minutes of Parish Council Extraordinary Meeting

held on **Thursday 14th November 2024** in

The Reading Room, North Cadbury commencing at 5.00pm

Councillors Present:

Andy Keys-Toyer (Chairman)

Nick Garrett

Clare Leavold

Maria Viney

Johnnie Counsell

Chris Jose

Nerissa Northover

In Attendance: The Clerk and fourteen members of the public.

Public Question and Comments: Cllr Counsell introduced himself to members of the public as the acting Chairman and encouraged those present to consider applying for the vacancies on the Council.

Mr Malcolm Hunt, retired Chairman and ex-councillor gave a brief history on how the Council had evolved over the years. He also wished to encourage residents to consider becoming a parish councillor, which he believed could be an enjoyable and important role in serving your community.

24/142. Election of the Chairman of the Council and receive his/her Declaration of Acceptance of office:

To elect a chairman to serve until May 2025. The 2024/25 vice chairman Cllr J Counsell called for nominations.

RESOLVED: One nomination was received for Cllr Johnnie Counsell, which was seconded and approved unanimously, however, he did not wish to accept the office of Chairman as he considered there were other more suitable councillors for the role.

A second nomination was received for Cllr Andy Keys-Toyer, who agreed to hold the office of Chairman until May 2025. He was elected unanimously and duly signed his DAO as Chairman.

24/143. Election of the Vice Chairman of the Council and receive his/her Declaration of Acceptance of office:

The Council may choose to elect a vice chairman to serve until May 2025.

RESOLVED: Deferred until next ordinary meeting.

24/144. Apologies for absence:

To receive any apologies for absence.

RESOLVED: Somerset Councillors Henry Hobhouse and Kevin Messenger tendered their apologies.

24/145. Roles and Responsibilities:

To discuss priorities in designating the immediate responsibilities and appropriate training.

RESOLVED: Councillors appointed as follows:

- a. Village Hall Committee representatives – deferred to Annual PC meeting.
- b. Parish Path Liaison Officer and Footpath Warden – Mrs S Fone, Cllr Garrett.
- c. North Cadbury Allotment Association Representative – Cllr Keys-Toyer.
- d. Precept / Finance Committee – The Clerk and Cllr Garrett.
- e. Highways and Byways - Cllrs Garrett and Jose.
- f. Personnel Committee – Cllrs Counsell, Keys-Toyer, Northover and Viney.
- g. Environmental, Climate Change and Sustainability – Cllrs Jose, Keys-Toyer and Viney.
- h. Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Monitoring Group – Cllrs Counsell and Viney. ALL councillors responsible for reviewing planning applications against the NP.
- i. Emergency Planning (EP) Working Group – Cllrs Leavold and Viney for Yarlinton and Mareike Beyer, Flood Warden, to liaise re flooding element of EP.
- j. Media and Communication – The Clerk.
- k. Local Community Network representatives – ALL.
- l. Parish Strimmers – Cllr Counsell and Mr Tim Gilbert.

24/146. ‘Lessons Learnt’:

To discuss experiences distilled from past activities that should be actively taken into account in future actions and behaviours in accordance with the Council Code of Conduct.

The Chairman believed that “The most important lesson is that we need to respect and support each other. We all have our strengths and weaknesses, but that doesn’t mean we can’t work together as a team. None of us are paid to do this work and some of us have more time than others. We give our time because we know it is important to have a fair and strong and effective Parish Council. Only by being that can we hope to gain the respect of our residents and stakeholders.”

RESOLVED:

- a. To respect each other and work as a Team.
- b. Respond to communications swiftly [within 48hrs].
- c. Copy all councillors and Clerk in to emails to ensure open communication and awareness.
- d. To be flexible and give time/consideration to each individual’s circumstances.
- e. To keep up to date with training. All councillors attended Code of Conduct Training except Cllrs Northover and Jose. Clerk to re-circulate dates for training.

24/147. Parish Council Vacancies:

Consider recruitment/advertising four casual vacancies on the Parish Council to be filled by co-option.

RESOLVED: There was one eligible candidate for one of the vacancies, Mr John Rundle, who stated that he would be willing to serve until May 2025. The PC voted unanimously in favour of John Rundle who was co-opted onto the PC and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office (DAO). The Clerk would notify SC and advertise the three remaining vacancies.

24/148. Items for Report and Future Business:

Recognise work of all councillors recently resigned.

RESOLVED: The Chairman read out the following statement: “It is with regret that I have to announce that three of our councillors have stepped down from the Parish Council. Diane Rickers has been our Lady Chairman for almost three years. She proved to be unswerving in her devotion to the task, giving countless time and effort while being in full time employment with her nursing career.

Alan Rickers has been a councillor for many years pursuing innumerable tasks with his usual vigour for the Council, in general, and those relating to Galhampton, also while in full employment.

Mareike Beyer, who joined us more recently, working tirelessly on flood related issues at a time when she had little of her own time to spare following the flood damage to her own house. You will all be greatly missed and we owe you our thanks and gratitude. We wish you all well for the future.

- a. Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Rundle encouraged all councillors to re-read and familiarise themselves with the NP.

b. Remembrance Wreaths. Cllr Counsell asked that the PC considers laying wreaths on Remembrance day at North Cadbury and Yarlington Church services. Agreed in principle and to be approved when setting the precept for 2025/26.

c. 21/01455/OUT- Land at Ridgeway Lane, North Cadbury. Cllr Rundle reported that the period of time for the Applicant to appeal SC's refusal of the application with all matters reserved except access for up to 81 dwellings, a new access road, a new junction on to the A359, open space, school parking and drop off, landscaping and associated works had expired and the Applicant would need to re-apply .

Next meetings: Ordinary meeting to be held on Wednesday 27th November in The Reading Room, North Cadbury and on site planning meeting/s to be held on 18th December 2024.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.30pm.

Signed

DatedChairman