

# PUXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Puxton & Hewish

**Clerk: Donald Hill**

18 Mitford Slade Court, Mendip Road, Yatton, Somerset BS49 4JG  
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**You are summoned to a Council Meeting In the Village Hall at 6.30pm on May 17th 2022**

All are welcome, unless precluded by a procedural resolution. You will not be entitled to speak, except within the Public Session

*We have vacancies for Councillors - contact the Clerk or a Councillor, in the first instance, to apply*

**Don Hill - Clerk**

## AGENDA & AGENDA NOTES

*It is expected that members of the public attending Parish Council meetings will be respectful of the Councillors and of all attendees. Unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated and the offender will be asked to leave. Parishioners will be invited to speak for 3 minutes in the Public Session. Their contribution must be to do with an agenda item or on current matters only and should be in the form of a statement; to be noted and followed up as necessary. It is at the discretion of the Chairman to suspend standing orders so that contributions from the public can be sought during the meeting if it is thought to be useful.*

### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

## ANNUAL MEETING

### 2 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

### 3 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

### 4 RECONFIRMATION OF RECENTLY APPROVED GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK FOR 2022-23

### 4 CHAIR'S REPORT

## ORDINARY MEETING

### 6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS: *(Dispensations apply to resident Cllrs re setting the percept, and to all Cllrs relating to Village Hall matters).*

### 7 PUBLIC SESSION 15 minutes - Contributions are limited to 3 minutes: they should be concise and to the point

### 8 LAST MEETING MINUTES + MATTERS ARISING April 7th minutes to be agreed and signed.

### 9 PLANNING *Details at <https://planning.n-somerset.gov.uk/online-applications/>*

- i. **New: 22/P/0817/FUL** SJH Machinery site change of use. **22/P/0969/EA1** proposed re-application re lapsed 2014 approval of a solar farm at New Orchard Farm, Puxton Lane.
- ii. **Decisions Due: 19/P/0815/FUL** Puxton Park car park. **22/P/0288/FUL:** Amendments to 21/P/3150/CQA.
- iii. **Planning Appeal: 20/P/1438/FUL** Park and Ride near Heathfield Park on A370 - noted.

### 10 FINANCE .

- i. **2022-23 Accounts to date:** for information.
- ii. **2021-22 Accounts:** Query free audit completed. Public Notice to be posted by June 6th.
- iii. **Payments Due: Cheque: 273:** L R Redding reimbursement of Jubilee Mugs outlay (agreed at April meeting but not registering for online payment) £266.02. **Online: re Audit -** Phil Smith £45.00.

### 11 HIGHWAY MATTERS

- i. **Puxton Lane/Puxton Road Finger Post:** New finial awaited; it will be securely fixed.
- ii. **Banwell bypass and building project:** The NSC consultation response was agreed via email and delivered on April 20th.
- iii. **Puxton Lane:** Highway subsidence beside the open section of rhyne just past the Garden centre. NSC highways officers are investigating, at the instigation of our Area Officer.

### 12 OTHER MATTERS - Queen's Platinum Jubilee: Cllr Redding update.

### 13 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

### 14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING **There is no meeting in June** as it falls during the Jubilee Holiday. **The next meeting of the Parish Council will be in the Village Hall at 7pm on July 7th 2022**

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## Minutes of the Meeting Held at 7pm on Thursday 7th April 2022

All meetings are held at 7.00pm in the Village Hall unless stated otherwise - Phil Neve, our NSC Ward Cllr, attends when possible

*There are vacancies for further Councillors - please contact a Councillor or the Clerk if you are interested in becoming involved*

**Present:** Cllrs Lynda Redding (*Chair*), Jim Corbett, Peter Penfold, Clayton Penfold, Helen Riddell (the arrival of Cllrs Corbett & Riddell were delayed by some minutes after the start of the meeting)

**In Attendance:** Don Hill (Clerk)

**Public Attendance:** 6

**032/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr Phil Neve (NSC) due to essential presence at rearranged Congresbury PC meeting.

**033/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS:** (*Dispensations apply to all Cllrs resident in the Parish re the setting of the percept, and to all Cllrs relating to Village Hall matters.*)

None.

Before the meeting got under way, the Chair read the notice at the head of the agenda:

*It is expected that members of the public attending Parish Council meetings will be respectful of the Councillors and of all attendees. Unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated and the offender will be asked to leave.*

*Parishioners will be invited to speak for 3 minutes in the Public Session. Their contribution must be to do with an agenda item or on current matters only and should be in the form of a statement; to be noted and followed up as necessary.*

*It is at the discretion of the Chairman to suspend standing orders so that contributions from the public can be sought during the meeting if it is thought to be useful.*

This was followed by an impassioned plea by the Chair, prompted by constant, long-term, vilification from a particular source, for an understanding of the efforts involved by local families to fund and build the hall, and the huge amount of willing and voluntary effort that has gone into securing its future since it was learnt that the lease was due to lapse. She also stressed the vital contribution of free local professional efforts that have been put in by a range of people to help the project progress affordably.

Cllr P Penfold added his full support - echoed by the other Members - in the face of the deeply felt hurt and frustration underlying the plea of the Chair. He also pointed out just how much personal effort and commitment Cllr Redding has contributed to the purchase, renovation and running of the Hall during the past five years - redolent of the commitment of the original families - including that of Cllr Redding, whose members poured so much effort into establishing the Hall in 1965.

**034/22 PUBLIC SESSION** 15 minutes - Contributions are limited to 3 minutes: they should be concise and to the point

The key (apparently only) protagonist against the survival of this wonderful community asset was given 4 minutes to make a statement. The Chair deemed this to have been a repeat of a range of past issues that have been constantly put to the council in person or by email over the past few years: these issues have already been dealt with and were not related to current agenda matters. This person stayed for the duration of the meeting. He purported to be recording the meeting (a legal right, but being done without the courtesy of seeking the permission of those present) and

also purported to be ringing the police to report his maltreatment during the public session. The police did not attend.

No other public contributions were made.

- 035/22 LAST MEETING MINUTES + MATTERS ARISING** March 3rd minutes were agreed and signed.
- 036/22 GOVERNANCE:** The Annual Governance Statement, being Section 1 of the Annual Internal Audit Report 2021-2022 was approved and signed.
- 037/22 PLANNING** Details at <https://planning.n-somerset.gov.uk/online-applications/>
- i. **New: 22/P/0288/FUL:** Amendments to recently approved 21/P/3150/CQA. **No Objections.**
  - ii. **Decisions Due: 19/P/0815/FUL** Puxton Park car park.
  - iii. **Granted: 22/P/0015/FUH Villa Farm:** rear extension.
  - iv. **Planning Appeal: 20/P/1438/FUL** Park and Ride near Heathfield Park on A370 - noted.
- 038/22 FINANCE**
- i. **2021-22 Accounts:**
    - a) Year end accounts had been circulated for review were agreed, and will now go to the internal auditor, together with the AGAR forms. **Clerk to process.**
    - b) AGAR 2021-22 Part 2 - The Certificate of Exemption from external audit, was agreed and signed.
    - c) Section 2 of the Annual Internal Audit Report 2021-2022 - The Accounting Statement, was agreed as a true record of the accounts, and was signed.
    - d) The financial year-end 2021-2022 Bank Reconciliation was agreed and signed.
  - ii. **Budget Adjustment to be ratified:** Movement of £200 from Parish Maintenance head to Other Costs head. This adjustment to the 2022-23 budget was agreed unanimously.
  - iii. **Payments Due: Cllr Redding** re her cash-with-order purchase of Jubilee Mugs - £266.02. **ALCA** Annual Sub - £99.43. These two invoices were presented to the meeting and approved for payment. **Clerk to process.**
- 039/22 HIGHWAY MATTERS**
- i. **Oldbridge River Bridge:** New bridge planned for 22-23 financial year.
  - ii. **Puxton Lane/Puxton Road Finger Post:** Re the stolen finial, a replacement is on order and Adrian Leonard, who renovated the post, has offered to fit the finial free of charge. Cllr Corbett asked that, if possible, it be secured in a theft-proof way. **Clerk to so inform Adrian.**
  - iii. **Banwell bypass and building project (shaping the emerging parish highway strategy):** There is an NSC consultation running, which does not provide for an online response from those areas, such as Puxton, that will have to cope with a significant consequential increase in already problematic rat-run traffic through the parish lanes linking the A371 with the A370. A draft written response was reviewed and its general thrust agreed to. **Clerk to prepare this as a formal response to be agreed by email and sent to NSC by the consultation deadline of April 22nd.**
- 040/22 OTHER MATTERS**
- i. **NSC Footpath initiative:** Cllr Redding received a report from NSC about upgrading proposals to some paths. Most of her proposals had been accepted and much of the work has already been completed. A summary of the report is appended to these minutes. Cllr Corbett said that each year, Councillors and others used to walk a selection of the footpaths to ensure they remained open and to note their condition. Cllr Redding does do this now, but finding a team of volunteers to do it on a more organised basis may prove difficult.
  - ii. **Queen's Platinum Jubilee:** Following a recent board meeting of Hewish & Puxton Village Hall Ltd, the charitable company running the Hall, Cllr Redding presented a draft programme of events for the Jubilee Celebration to be held at the Hall on Sunday June 5th. Members agreed that this was a good and well balanced programme. Cllr P Penfold offered

assistance with the raffle, for which the donation from National Grid of a generous food hamper has got the prize list off to a good start. Detailed arrangements, including printing and delivery of the proposed publicity poster, will now go ahead.

- iii. **Annual Residents' Meeting:** The Clerk agreed to prepare and print a leaflet publicising this event, to be circulated with the Jubilee leaflet. No charge would be made for this work.

#### 041/22 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Everyone is concerned at the highway subsidence beside the open section of rhyne just past the Garden centre, on the left hand side of Puxton Lane. **Clerk to report this to the Area Officer for most urgent attention.**

#### 042/22 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Neither the Chair, nor the Clerk are able to make the scheduled 1st Thursday date - May 5th - for the May Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and the Annual Residents' Meeting, both of which are mandated to be held during May.

Members agreed that **Tuesday 17th May** would be the date of the May meetings as under. As already agreed and publicised, there will be no meeting in June as its scheduled date marks the beginning of the Jubilee Holiday.

**The next meeting of the Parish Council, and the Annual Residents' Meeting will both be held on Tuesday May 17th 2022 in the Village Hall, as under:**

#### **6.30pm: The Parish Council:**

This will include the Annual Meeting of the Council and will be followed at 8pm by the Annual Resident's Meeting.

#### **7.30pm: The Annual Residents' Meeting:**

This is an open meeting of residents at which they may raise matters of concern or interest within or directly affecting the parish. Any matters arising from the Annual Residents' Meeting that need to be progressed are passed to the relevant body to ensure that that happens. We hope there will be a good attendance and a lively discussion.

**The meeting closed at 8.06pm**

## **PUBLIC FOOTPATHS**

*summary of email from NSC Project Access Officer - 4th April 2022*

I have now walked the routes nominated by the Parish and happy to say that most of the work requested has already been completed by a colleague of mine. The list below was the original submission and I am aware of other work in the location I can update you on. If there are other paths that require more attention I am happy to look at these again

### **Puxton 1      AX24/1/10   07783, 07784, 07785**

Maintain existing path. Commences on A370 at 402644 going south to meet footpath going along the river from Waterman's Bow. One stile of the A370 but no other stiles at the field boundaries

Oldbridge River by the motorway has recently had gates installed . Further along the route over the A370 has also seen new gates installed. The path across the railway lines and out to the A370 does have stiles and contact is being made to have this reviewed with Network Rail. Where this meets Wick Road there is a further stile where the landowner is resistant to change.

### **Puxton 2      AX24/25/10**

Maintain existing path. Right of Way on May's Lane, between Maysgreen Lane and Puxton Lane. 2 wooden footbridges, 1 at North end one at south end.

This path is clear and fit for use and has recently had two new bridge and gates installed on link paths either side

### **Puxton 3      AX16/46/20**

Maintain existing path. Foot path off Puxton Road at Willow Farm. Wooden footbridge

This footpath is clear for use and has recently installed gates. It does however link to a footpath with stiles nominated later which the landowner does not want changed

### **Puxton 4      AX16/52/30**

Maintain existing path. footpath gate at The Elms 401648. New gate put in a couple of years ago.

Footpath gate in good order, no change required

### **Puxton 5      AX28/25/20   01483, 07083, 01414**

Improve signage. Bridge across Oldbridge River 391646. Metal footbridge.

New gates and way-marker signs installed at location

### **Puxton 6**

Upgrade a permitted path. Connects footpaths at Phipp's bridge SW to Oldbridge river. Field gates with no styles and one amateur style.

This path is not a Public Right of Way and the Improvement Budget cannot be used here. As a permissive path it falls outside the criteria for Public Rights of Way Improvement however changes to the location can be made with landowners consent if approached

### **Footpath from the A370 by the Full Quart to the Oldbridge River.**

There are three stiles on this route, two of which the landowners have previously stated that they do not want changed. The stiles are recently installed and fit for purpose. The stile on the A370 we understand is now under new ownership. It is my opinion that the three stiles should be changed at the same time or not at all, rather than encourage walkers with limited mobility to a dead end.

I am happy to discuss these issues further and welcome any feedback that you may have.







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## HEWISH & PUXTON ANNUAL RESIDENTS' MEETING

**HEWISH & PUXTON VILLAGE HALL - TUESDAY 17th MAY 2022 AT 7.30 pm**

*This is not a Parish Council meeting – it is a meeting of residents in the Parish - a place to raise issues of concern or interest to the Parish and to Parish life*

**As only residents of the Parish are able to participate in the meeting, do come along and take part!**

### AGENDA

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Matters arising from minutes of the 2021 Zoom meeting**  
These minutes were circulated to and approved by attendees of that meeting - they are printed on the reverse of this agenda
- 3. Reports from Interest Groups**  
Parish Council Chairman's report / Financial report  
North Somerset Council  
Hewish & Puxton Village Hall Ltd  
And others, if received
- 4. Open Discussion**  
An open forum on issues of concern to the parish and its residents



# PUXTON CIVIL PARISH

## 2021 ANNUAL RESIDENTS MEETING

### Held Via Zoom On Thursday 6th May 2011 At 7.30 pm

6 Residents attended the meeting, which was Chaired by Jim Corbett, Chair of Puxton Parish Council

**Minute Taker:** Don Hill

## MINUTES

### ARM21/01 APOLOGIES

No apologies were received

### ARM21/02 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF MAY 9TH 2019

These were circulated to attendees and signed off in June 2019 and were therefore not a formal agenda item for this meeting. There was no meeting held in May 2020 due to Covid-19.

### ARM21/03 REPORTS TO THE MEETING

Due to the restrictive circumstances prevailing during the past year there were no reports from local organisations called for this meeting, which, of regulatory necessity, had to be held via Zoom.

### ARM21/04 DISCUSSION

**Environmental Issues:** Three significant concerns were raised and were recognised by everyone to be very hard to crack - viz. Speeding along our lanes: Overweight vehicles using the Oldbridge River Bridge: Fly-tipping.

NSC are known to be studying the feasibility of extending 20mph zones to cover wider village areas. Whilst this will help with driver awareness, the limits have to be enforceable to be effective.

NSC has planning permission to replace the current Oldbridge River bridge with an entirely new structure which will be safer for all users, albeit less visually appealing. There is not a date set for the work yet.

Flytipping on the highway is removed by NSC, off the highway it is the responsibility of the landowner.

**The Village Hall:** The Hall is open for a limited range of activities already. It will open up to more activities as Covid-19 regulations permit. Freedom for everyone to 'return to normal' may yet be some time off, though.

The final tranche of funding is now in place to complete the updating programme. Various internal items such as curtains can now be fitted, and, most significantly, a bio-digester can be installed to replace the existing septic drainage.

There were no further topics raised so the Chair thanked everyone for attending, and for taking part in this very short meeting!

**The meeting closed at 7.40 pm**