

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
ZEALS PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON
Tuesday 23 May 2024, At Zeals Village Hall
zealspc.org.uk**

The meeting was opened at 7.05 pm

PRESENT: Cllrs C Spencer (Chairman), J Gray, P Thomas, M Gibbons, L D’Ambrumenil and D Corbin,
Mrs F Hill (Clerk)

PUBLIC SESSION

4 Members of the public were present.

ZPC 24/1 TO RECEIVE AND AGREE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs A Patch, L D’Ambrumenil - these were approved.

ZPC 24/2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- (i) To consider any written requests for dispensations by the clerk. - none received.
- (ii) To receive any declarations of interest - none received

Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Zeals Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011

Cllr L D’Ambrumenil left the meeting

ZPC 24/3 MINUTES

Council **RESOLVED** to approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the parish council meeting held on the 28 March 2024 and the Planning meeting held on the 21 March 2024.

Proposed Cllr Gray, Seconded Cllr Gibbons

Resolved 5 – 0 - 0
(for-against-abstain)

ZPC 24/4 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (not covered by other agenda items) -
none

ZPC 24/5 FINANCE MATTERS

- (i) Council **NOTED** the balance of the account. **£9,203.39** (30/04/24) in current account and £10,135.25 in the deposit.
- (ii) The Parish Council **reviewed and resolved** to pay the following payments:

Account	Amount	Amount
Mrs Hill Salary 1/03/24 – 30/04/24 39 3/4 @£14.17 = £563.26 Expenses inc Homeworking allowance (£8pm = 8pm) Mar -Apr = £16 Expenses – Microsoft 365 £59.99	£639.25	1138
HMRC Tax and NI for Clerk	£0	By DD
Adrian Light - grass cut @ £45 31/3/24 14/4/24 24/4/24 12/5	£180	1131
Insurance PC - Community First - option of 1 year at £615.64 or a 3 year option at £584.86	£584.86	1132
Insurance Hall - Community First - year 2 of 3	£704.77	1133

Insurance for Green Pastures – Access Insurance Renewed under delegated powers	£1036.41	1134
AOS – Payroll 2024 -2025 to include online filing and production of P60 – Annual Fee	£160	1135
Water2business	£38.40	1136
LHFIG – Bells Lane dropped kerb	£312.50	1137

(iii) To note payments paid out under delegated powers:

WALC	£282.62	1129
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(iv) Council **RESOLVED** to take option 2 to renew the parish council insurance for a 3-year fixed price of £584.86.

Proposed Cllr Spencer, Seconded Cllr Thomas
Resolved 5 – 0 – 0

(v) Council **RESOLVED** the payments above

Proposed Cllr Gibbons, Seconded Cllr Gray
Resolved 5 – 0 – 0

(vi) Council **RESOLVED** to pay Water2Business by direct debit in the future. Currently the bill arrives twice yearly but the clerk usually has both bill and a final demand arrive between meeting dates. The direct debit will be ‘on demand’ and will be taken in March and September.

Proposed Cllr Gray, Seconded Cllr Corbin
Resolved 5 – 0 – 0

(vii) Council **APPROVED** and **SIGNED** the Accounts to 31 March 2024. Council is asked to note the Parish Council accounts show an income of £10,249,011, expenditure of £10,641,304 with a bank balance of £14,028. (already circulated).

Proposed Cllr Thomas, Seconded Cllr Gray
Resolved 5 – 0 – 0

(viii) Council **RESOLVED** to certify Zeals Parish Council “exempt” from external audit (2023-24).

Proposed Cllr Gray, Seconded Cllr Gibbons
Resolved 5 – 0 – 0

(ix) Annual Internal Auditors Report 2023-24

Council **RESOLVED** to appoint AOS Accounts as Internal Auditor and to consider the effectiveness of the internal audit.

Proposed Cllr Gray, Seconded Cllr Thomas
Resolved 5 – 0 – 0

(x) Council **APPROVED** and **SIGNED** the Annual Governance Statement 2023-24 (Section 1)

Proposed Cllr Gray, Seconded Cllr Thomas
Resolved 5 – 0 – 0

(xi) Council **APPROVED** and **SIGNED** the Accounting Statement for 2023-24 (Section 2)

Proposed Cllr Gray, Seconded Cllr Thomas
Resolved 5 – 0 – 0

(xii) Council **NOTED** the Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Annual Governance & Accountability Return (exempt Authority).

ZPC 24/6 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- (i) Applications to consider at the meeting: or any urgent applications that come in after the agenda goes out

PI/2024/04070 Fountain Cottage Zeals Removal of condition 6 on PL/2022/04563 to allow independent occupation of the dwelling known as Fountain Cottage	Discussion took place discussing this application. Zeals Parish Council RESOLVED to object to the removal of condition 6 as the original planning condition was placed on it due to the additional accommodation being sited where the Local Planning Authority having regard for the reasonable standards of residential amenities, access and local planning policies would not permit a wholly separate dwelling and therefore this should not be removed. The removal would significantly affect the neighbouring properties, and increase vehicles using a small access to the main road. Proposed Cllr Gray, Seconded Cllr Spencer Resolved 5 – 0 - 0	
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- (ii) Applications considered/determined since last meeting: For Information

Application	Zeals PC Comment	Wiltshire Council Decision

ZPC 24/7 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW –

- (i) Wiltshire Council have approved this week the changes to the boundary creating a triangle of land with the Hillbrush Business Park being transferred to Mere Town Council from April 2025.
Cllr Gray thanked everyone for their efforts and noted we gave it our best efforts with 115 initial responses and a further 24 in additional support. It is very disappointing.

Cllr Spencer thanked Cllr Gray for all her work and effort trying to keep the strip within the Zeals footprint.

ZPC 24/8 WESTFIELD PLAYGROUND

- (i) Council received an update since the April report which had reported nothing amiss. The weeds are starting to need clearing. Cllr Corbin will ask Seeds4Success if they are able to help.

ZPC 24/9 SID

- (i) Currently Stourton with Gasper are not using the SID every third month. This is a temporary measure while an issue with the speed of traffic is considered at LHFIF level. Cllr Gibbons is therefore rotating it around the village for 2 months at a time before passing on to Kilminster. Kilminster PC are happy with this arrangement.
(ii) It was noted that we require a new battery for the unit. Cllr Gibbons will send details to Cllr Jeans who will get a replacement.

ZPC 24/10 DEFIBRILLATOR

- (i) Council was asked to consider the letter received from Paul Cosh regarding the defibrillator and to RESOLVE to accept the gifted Defib and whether to move it as

suggested at the previous meeting. A quote has been received to install electricity to the hall with an internal transformer; £410.plus VAT. It was agreed that we should move it but suggested the Clerk look into the possibility of getting a grant to replace it as both Kilmington and Mere have recently acquired them. It was agreed that the decision would be deferred until we know if we can get a grant.

ZPC 24/11 CENTRAL RESERVATION

- (i) This matter was deferred to the next meeting with the resident present.

ZPC 24/12 BOYES TRANSPORT

- (i) Council discussed the fact that they had not complied with planning consents. The clerk will contact the enforcement department to see if this could be raised.

ZPC 24/13 CLERKS REPORT

- (i) White House –the Clerk will write to the householder and confirm they can maintain the border.
(ii) Flooding at the stables. –The clerk will write to the Stable owners and ask them to try and deal with the issue.
(iii) Bells Lane. Wiltshire Council Enforcement department are not pursuing this currently but if the situation changes they will re-institute. If the owner decides to sell the house, he will have to sort the encroachment out before selling it.

ZPC 24/14 CORRESPONDENCE Council NOTED the items below

- (i) Email 13/5/24 from Paul Cosh of SWAST regarding update on defibrillator (Previously Circulated)
(ii) Email from resident 21/04/24 re removing the central bit in the road for allotment holders to park.

ZPC 24/15 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- (i) CIL
(ii) Central Reservation
(iii) Speed between 4.30pm and 6pm
(iv) Potholes on Chapple Lane
(v) Defibrillator

ZPC 24/16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING –Thursday 25 July 2024 at the Village Hall

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the matters above in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status or disability), Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.

The meeting finished at 8.30.