

BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Tel: 01806 728030 Email: clerk@broomfieldparish.com
<https://broomfieldparish.com>

Public Session

A member of the public questioned the builders board at Stream Farm – it was pointed out this was for internal works and no planning permission required. Stream Farm will coppice some trees and erect fences (part of Countryside Stewardship) due to start in October 2023. The fences are to create a wildlife buffer. All applicable licences have been sought.

A member of the public thanked Councillor Jess Osman for her organisation of the Race Night – it was a huge success.

A member of the public reported that Peter Purdy's property had flooded again. It was confirmed that the flooding was caused by internal drainage issues and that drainage work on the highway had been resolved but the road to Rooks Castle is bad and the field runoff down Church Lane has caused thick mud.

A member of the public commented that the memorial for the Canadian Airmen was a very special event. It was confirmed that the Parish Council had written to RNAS Yeovilton and others to thank them.

Reports from Somerset Councillors

Somerset Councillor Alan Bradford addressed the meeting.

The Minutes

Present: Councillors Steve Hughes, Doug Wilson, Jess Osman and Lucinda Garland

In Attendance: Donna Durham (Assistant Clerk), Somerset Councillor Alan Bradford and 5 members of the public

1. **Apologies for absence**

Councillor Ali Aras

2. **Declaration of interest**

Somerset Councillor Alan Bradford – Planning Committee

3. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council held on Tuesday, 20th June 2023 were circulated with the agenda of this meeting and unanimously approved.

4. **Planning**

4.1 **For Parish Council Comment**

Planning application: 10/23/00007/LE

Proposal: Conversion of agricultural barns to form a holiday let

Location: Oggshole Farm, Broomfield TA5 2EJ

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It was unanimously agreed to support this application however the Parish Council strongly support this being for residential use rather than it being converted for holiday accommodation. It is believed the latter would increase the number of traffic movements on a narrow country lane. There is a need for a small amount of new smaller houses in the parish and this would realise one in an area where there are existing properties.

4.2 For Parish Council Comment

Planning application: 10/23/00008/LE

Proposal: Variations of condition 7 of planning permission 10/07/00012 (Erection of two storey extension to North elevation, conversion of part of loft to living accommodation including alterations to roof and alterations to dwelling (Rose Hill); conversion of The Coach House garages, stores and annexe to form annexe accommodation and extension to East elevation to form garages, store and stables on site of dwelling (Holmes) (to be demolished), demolition of Rose Hill Cottage, erection of dwelling on site of old piggery (to be demolished), associated landscape and drainage works) to amend approved dwelling design.

Location: Rose Hill Cottage, Rose Hill, Broomfield TA5 2EL

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to support the provision of a dwelling as per the application (original permission already granted) but would wish to see far more emphasis on 'green technology' to heat the property. The new dwelling should meet all new standards, and this should be a condition of any change. Since the original application there have been great strides in this area and for the applicant to give such matters "due consideration" is no commitment at all. The property should meet existing 2023 standards including using ASHP or GSHP rather than fossil fuels.

The reference to this development being close to two towns is misleading, the nearest town is 5 miles away. Likewise, the reference to pedestrian access is also misleading, there are no 'safe' pedestrian routes (except the adjacent bridleway) as described.

The Parish Council remains supportive of the scheme but would like to see more commitment to the eco credentials of the building (materials, insulation, heating sources) which in the application appear to be treated somewhat as a side issue.

5. 5.1 Chair's Report

There was a successful memorial service held on 19th September 2023. Representatives of the Canadian families attended in memory of the airmen who died. A memorial bench was dedicated and wreaths laid.

A gate has been created in a fence to unblock a footpath.

A huge barn has been erected at the top of Volis Hill and Cruel Hill. Planning were challenged regarding this and it was confirmed that a planning application wasn't required.

It needs to be noted that hedges need to be cut if blocking footpaths.

Thanks to Edwin White for clearing a tree.

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A suspect has now been charged with the murder of Bez Purdy.

A walker who was attacking by Rottweilers at Rook's Castle and was hospitalised is pressing charges.

5.2 Clerk's Report

I have contacted Fyne Court regarding the issue raised with coach parties travelling to and from their site and are yet to receive a response. I will chase them again this week.

I have also contacted Planning regarding concerns raised regarding hedging and the location of the garage at Pynes – I have received a response to say they are looking into both matters – again, I will chase this week.

Could Councillors please give some thought to the budget before our next meeting in December, when this will need to be formally agreed. My recommendation would be that we mirror the budget set for this financial year and keep the precept the same.

6. Village Hall Update

Much of the initial works on the village hall have been completed and we now await installation of the new windows and making good.

Quotes for new fencing have now come in and we hope to get a grant towards this. Other works including a new heating system are continuing to be explored. Money permitting. Bookings have continued to be steady.

A Village Hall Open Day on 9th December is planned to discuss with parishioners what they would like from their village hall going forward. All welcome!

7. LCN

Councillor Wilson attended the first meeting where various appointments were made. There was a summary of what everyone thought the LCN could achieve. Issues regarding lack of schools and GPs were discussed.

It was highlighted that as an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, there was no objection to individual houses being built. There was however, little opportunity for younger people to move into Broomfield, as mainly large houses and it was hoped that the Local Plan would allow for some smaller, well built, houses to be made available.

8. Community Events/Fundraising

8.1 Race Night

Race Night was a great success with £1,184 raised.

Money raised from a proposed Quiz Night will also be added to this fund and a donation from the Parish Council will be proposed at the December meeting.

The Parish Council thanked Councillor Jess Osman for organising the Race Night.

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9. Finance

9.1 Receipts and Payments

The Council unanimously approved the Receipts and Payments.

The meeting closed at 20:24.

Signed _____ (Chairman) 19th December 2023