

## CLERK'S REPORT – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020

### **Parish Matters and Works – Agenda Item 6**

**Coronavirus Civil Emergency** – Report from councillors on the current situation

**Village Hall – Report on Replacement Water Main** – To formally report on works, expenditure, and funding of this project.

The water main is replaced with the alternative route through the car park, with a new connection. This is to protect the village hall from further damage that may arise if the existing main burst again. The cost of the new main is £6169.80 (£5141.50 plus £1028.30 VAT), and the main needs to be connected to the supply by Wessex Water. Wessex Water have waived their connection charge of £1,740, but there is still the road closure fee which has been paid of £2,808 (£2,340 plus £468 VAT). The village Hall made a grant of £6,481.50 towards the cost. The Parish Council will cover the VAT and a further £1,000 of the cost, a total of £2,496.30. The works are complete except for the connection.

### **Village Playground**

- **Report on progress and discussion of any quotations.** – Repair and Maintenance works continue as necessary. The chair has details of any latest works.
- **Playground Inspections** – B&NES Parks department currently provide our playground inspections. Quarterly inspections in August 2020, November 2020 and February 2021 have been ordered for the current year and the August Inspection has been done and the report received.

B&NES Parks have stated that they will only offer a service for 2021 onwards that consists of weekly inspections (by them) and an annual inspection, as their insurers will not accept weekly inspections carried out by the playground owner as there is no proof that it has been done.

B&NES Parks have been asked for the cost of this service but have not yet furnished it.

Our Insurers position is as follows:-

*With regards playground inspections; the policy sets out clearer requirements in regards to these in that a visual check of all play areas should be carried out by an appointed person (no qualifications are necessary but they should be deemed competent by the Parish Council), and recorded in writing, every four weeks at least. A full safety check must be carried out once a year by an independent specialist like RoSPA or Play Inspection Company. Again, any defects or issues identified at any point should be acted on as soon as possible and checks following a period of bad weather are recommended.*

I have been in contact with RoSPA who provide a service of an Annual Inspection at a cost of £68.50, plus £3.50 for each item over five. For Somerset they do these in June/July. On the first of these they will produce a checklist for the weekly inspections for a cost of £30. They can also provide training for Routine Inspections, the course fee is £275, should we wish to have someone qualified to do the weekly inspection.

The RoSPA regime would meet our insurers requirements.

The Parish Council is asked to consider the above and agree to procure the RoSPA service, including the checklist, for 2021 onwards, and to consider if they wish to procure any training.

**Broadband Improvements for Monkton Combe** – Report on Progress

**Neighbourhood Watch** – Report on Progress

**Phone Box Church Lane / Mill Lane Junction** – The Phone Box has been re-painted and there is an invoice for £300 (£250 plus £50 VAT) to approve for payment.

**Bus Shelter** – There is a quotation for the repair/replacement of the roof at a cost of £4,817.25 to consider. It was also suggested that the shelter might be moved and that 1<sup>st</sup> Bus take responsibility for it.

**Miss Davies Garden** – A Purchase Order for the railings at a cost of £3,120 has been raised to C & R Fencing Ltd. at the end of July. There is a six week lead time on materials so work should be commencing shortly.

**Truespeed Code Access Agreement** – Monkton Combe Parish Council have entered into a Code Agreement with Truespeed to grant them access to the pole in Miss Davis Garden. The Parish Council will receive a payment of £50 in respect of this.

**Reported fly tipping to BANES between lay by on A36** above Dundas Canal Basin and public footpath down to Dundas Canal basin – A significant level of Fly-Tipping at this location has been reported by Catherine Youell and James Raskin. However, B&NES have replied that it is private land and not their responsibility. Since the Fly Tipping is coming from the layby the Parish Council might seek to pressure B&NES, via our Ward Councillors or other routes, to nonetheless clear the materials as it is unsightly and a potential health hazard.

**20-003 - NES Area Parking TRO Annual Review** – Informal Consultation – The clerk has replied informally that, as the location is in or near the Conservation Area, any lines painted on the road should be the narrow double yellow lines as found in other sensitive locations in Bath.

## **CLERK'S REPORT – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

### **Parish Liaison meeting – Agenda Item 9**

A somewhat reduced meeting was held on 16<sup>th</sup> July by ZOOM. There is nothing significant to report.

### **Dates for Future Meetings – Agenda Item 12**

Dates for future meetings for the coming year need to be confirmed with all meetings to be held as normal in the Village Hall at 7:30 p.m.

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021**

**Annual Parish Meeting: Monday April 26<sup>th</sup> 2021**

**Annual Parish Council Meeting: May 24<sup>th</sup> 2021**