



## West Monkton Parish Council

### Planning Committee 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021 7.00pm

Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs Besley, Cavill, Ellis, Elliston (from 8.30pm), Gage, Hall, Haskins, Hope and Tully.

In attendance: Mrs A Shepherd, Clerk, Mrs T Cavill, Assistant Clerk and Lynda Sudlow, Airband (for item 1).

#### 1. Introduction to Airband

Lynda Sudlow from Airband joined the meeting and provided an introduction to Airband. Airband are in contract with Connecting Devon and Somerset to provide fibre broadband to premises that don't currently have it.

Surveying of the underground ducts and telegraph poles in West Monkton is due to commence imminently and through quarter 2 of 2021/22. Build and completion is scheduled to take place in quarter 3. It is therefore hoped that connection will be available to those who wish to have it by September / October. Lynda confirmed that copper broadband will be phased out in the next 5 years and as such fibre cable is being installed.

Two packages will be available - Fibre Unlimited providing speeds of 40mbps and Fibre Unlimited Plus providing speeds of 100mbps.

Those who are interested can register their interest at [www.airband.co.uk](http://www.airband.co.uk). The installation cost will be £99.00 (subject to a survey) and the contracts are normally 18 months in length.

A discussion followed and questions asked.

Lynda to provide answers to questions about the capacity of the West Monkton Telephone Exchange and the availability of Airband for properties that currently have a link directly to the exchange. Lynda to also provide the scope of post codes included.

#### 2. Urgent Consultations

Responses to the following consultation were discussed, considered an agreed:

T2SF - A358 Taunton to Southfields Dualling Scheme - EIA Scoping Notification and Consultation

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-west/a358-taunton-to-southfields/>

Deadline 30th April 2021.

The Parish Council has the following comments in respect of the above consultation:

The Parish Council has concerns about the following environmental impacts of the proposal:

- Loss of trees
- Light pollution
- Impact on Bat lines
- Proximity to ancient woodland including Huish Woods and Stoke Hill
- Impact on biodiversity / wildlife
- The volume of land take included in the proposal and the particularly large junction proposed at Thornfalcon
- Noise pollution, detracting from the environment in the nearby woodland used as a scout and guide camp.

The Parish Council requests that the following mitigation measures are considered and included in the proposal:

- Planting of species to absorb particulates. The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) states that: 'the bushy, hairy-leafed Cotoneaster franchetii is the latest 'super plant' to help boost the environment and improve human health because of its special ability to fight pollution by trapping harmful airborne particles'. A new RHS science paper that looks at the effectiveness of hedges as air pollution barriers reveals that in traffic hotspots, the Cotoneaster franchetii (Franchet's cotoneaster) is at least 20% more effective at soaking up pollution compared to other shrubs.' The Parish Council suggests planting of this type of shrub along the sides of the proposed new road to protect humans and livestock.
- Landscaping to protect surrounding areas and acoustic fencing.
- Preventative measures to avoid light pollution.

SALC Consultation on allotments

<https://gcstones52.wixsite.com/pugs/public-maps>

Clerk to respond to consultation and plot the location and number of allotments currently available in the Parish.

Quantock Hills AONB short survey on Somerset's Nature Recovery Networks from the perspective of local community groups and organisations

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BvYktXr3okqNov5wNDsMzr95fZvXEcJFscvfYV-y9StUOTVTWEZQTjISMkhLTk9DVUwxQ1ILTjPTi4u>

The short survey was completed and submitted at the meeting.

Proposal for a new mobile mental health and wellbeing service for your community

Clerk to liaise with Cllr Andrew Pritchard to develop a response to the letter.

### **3. Planning applications**

Any applications registered on SWT website up to and including 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021

48/21/0023 Application for Outline Planning Permission with all matters reserved for the erection of 1 No. dwelling on land at Saffin Drive, Monkton Heathfield.

Parish Council comment: West Monkton Parish Council supports the grant of this application and welcomes the substantial bollards proposed for highway safety, which will protect pedestrians and cyclists from vehicles using the footpath.

48/21/0024/T Notification to fell one Cherry tree within West Monkton Conservation Area at Limewood, Blundells Lane, West Monkton

Parish Council comment: West Monkton Parish Council does not support the grant of this application, the Parish Council does not support the felling of any mature trees in the Parish unless the tree is diseased or unsafe.

48/21/0025/T Notification to carry out management works to one Cypress tree and two Birch trees within West Monkton Conservation Area at Marlows Cottage, Blundells Lane, West Monkton

Parish Council comment: West Monkton Parish Council supports the grant of this application.

48/21/0026 Erection of a single storey extension to the detached garage with replacement of flat roof with hipped roof at West Lodge, Church Hill, West Monkton

Parish Council comment: West Monkton Parish Council supports the grant of this application, with the proviso that the development as described remains subservient to the main house. In accordance with NP policies, external lighting should be downlighters and LED, and arrangements should be made for rainwater capture (by water butts or other means).

48/21/0028/A Display of 1 No. internally illuminated fascia sign at B & M, Deane Park Retail Park, Hankridge Way, Taunton.

Parish Council comment: West Monkton Parish Council supports the grant of this application.

48/21/0029 Replacement of windows at Church of Nazarene, 103 Bridgwater Road, Bathpool, Taunton  
Cllr Tully declared an interest.

Parish Council comment: West Monkton Parish Council supports the grant of this application.

48/20/0032

Notification received today that the application for four premises at former White Cottage has been withdrawn below Throup's shed – Canal view

#### **Planning enforcement:**

E/73/48/20 - The Croft, Yallands Hill, Monkton Heathfield - update

Clerk confirmed that the enforcement action in relation to the fence at this property has now been closed.

#### **4. Sports Pitches Update**

Cllr Hall provided an update. Cllr Gage has received a survey in respect of the water supply which is available at Hyde Lane. A small connection will be required onto the site. Cllr Gage has also received a survey in respect of the electric supply. The survey which was free of charge provides an initial idea of how a connection could be made. A supply is available but if a larger supply is needed, for example for an air source heat pump, then the supply will be need back to the pole to provide a 11kV supply.

Cllr Hall confirmed that a meeting is scheduled to take place with SWT and the FA on 4<sup>th</sup> May at 11am and that the invitation has been extended to include Persimmon. Andrew Penna from Persimmon will be attending the meeting. Clerk to confirm with SWT and send meeting information to Cllr Haskins.

Cllr Hall reported that Persimmon have allocated £1m of funding for grants to organisations in the locations of their developments. Cllr Hall suggested that the PC could apply for some funding for elements of the proposal.

#### **5. Neighbourhood Plan Progress Update**

Assistant Clerk confirmed that the Regulation 14 consultation closes on 30<sup>th</sup> April. A meeting is scheduled to take place with Kelvin Tutill and Sammie Millard-Jones, Clerk at CFPC on 4<sup>th</sup> May to review the comments received.

Assistant Clerk confirmed that a response had been received from Network Rail and that the response included a reference to a possible future need for a footbridge across the railway to replace the footpath if use increased. The question was raised about re-purposing the footbridge scheduled to be removed from Creech Castle.

Assistant Clerk confirmed that the major developers had not yet submitted any comments.

#### **6. Country Park**

This agenda item will be held in camera, members of the public and Councillors with conflicting interests participating in the virtual meeting are kindly requested to leave the meeting at this point.

Cllr Hall provided an update.

#### **7. Other Consultations**

- Ruishton Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Consultation: <https://ruishton.org.uk/parish-council/neighbourhood-plans/> Deadline 7th June 2021  
It was agreed to include the consultation on the June Planning Committee agenda to agree a response.
- Local Authority Remote Meetings: The Government is running a Call for Evidence on the use / provision of remote meetings. NALC and SALC is encouraging all Somerset Councils to participate in this survey. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-authority-remote-meetings-call-for-evidence> This closes at 11:45pm on 17 June 2021.  
It was agreed to include the consultation on the June Planning Committee agenda to develop a response.
- Improving broadband for Very Hard to Reach premises. The Government are consulting on Improving broadband for Very Hard to Reach premises. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/improving-broadband-for-very-hard-to-reach-premises> This closes on 11th June 2021.  
It was agreed to include the consultation on the June Planning Committee agenda to develop a response.

#### **8. Other matters discussed**

Cllr Elliston highlighted the Community Renewal Fund and suggested that the PC consider making an application for funding in relation to the Community work that it is / will be carrying out. The closing date for applications is 10<sup>th</sup> May.

It was agreed that the Clerk would gather further information and add an item to the Parish Council meeting agenda to discuss further.

There being no other business to discuss the meeting finished at 9.02pm.