

SYMONDSBURY PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Symondsburry Parish Council held on
Tuesday 3rd May 2022 at 7.00pm at Eype Church

These minutes will be ratified at the 2023 Annual Parish Council Meeting

PRESENT: Cllrs S Ralph, A Streatfeild, J Roddy, S Ainley, P Hartmann and P Colfox. Marilyn Stone – Clerk. 11 members of the Public also attended and names have been recorded in the Attendance Book. **Apologies** were received from Cllr P Allen.

1. **Welcome:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting of Symondsburry Parish Council. The Annual Report together with a copy of the Symene Voice has been circulated to most homes in the Parish and with some deliveries still to carry out.
2. **Presentation – Dorset Climate Action Network:** We invited Dorset Climate Action Network to talk to our Annual Parish Meeting about climate change and how it is relevant to smaller parishes. Belinda Bawden (Dorset Councillor and member of Lyme Regis Town Council) and Andrew Carey (member of Char Valley Parish Council) both attended. Belinda talked us through some of the many initiatives that could be useful to us, starting by showing us Symondsburry's estimated carbon footprint according to the Impact Community Carbon Calculator. She also talked about resources available for developing a local climate emergency action plan and sources of guidance on energy efficiency, tree planting, funding and farming. (She has sent a copy of her presentation and links to all these resources for anyone interested.). Andrew talked about ways to get involved with the local community in relation to the climate and ecological emergency and stressed the need to find what people are already interested in and working on locally. He mentioned the project to clean up the River Char, the Lifelines project to record land where no chemical pesticides are used and a campaign to get people to empty their septic tanks regularly. Following on from their suggestion: if any of you are involved in any kind of effort to reduce pollution, save energy, clean the beach, look after our rivers, protect wildlife, etc. – please get in touch and tell us about it. The Parish Council can probably publicise it and may be able to support it in some way. They were given a vote of thanks by the Councillors, and the discussion continued after the main business of the meeting, over refreshments.
3. **To confirm the minutes of last Annual Parish Meeting held on 7th May 2019:** Cllr Streatfeild proposed that they were a true record, seconded by Cllr Roddy.
4. **To receive the Annual Report:** Cllr Ralph offered the Annual Report as read and advised that it had been distributed to virtually all dwellings in the parish.
5. **To receive the Annual Financial Report:** The Clerk highlighted some key points within the Annual Report which had previously been circulated. Symondsburry Parish Council approved a precept of £14,910 and have done our utmost to maintain the precept at this level for the last couple of years in view of the financial pressures during the Pandemic. The clerk reported that Symondsburry Parish Council have invested in a brand new website complete with new address which has been advertised and on the front page of the latest edition of the Symene Voice. A FaceBook page has also been set up. An amount just short of £2,500 has been granted to various organisations including Citizens Advice Bridport and District, Symondsburry PCC, Eype Schoolroom and Community Trust and the Bridport Neighbourhood Plan. The Clerk also announced that we are pleased that we have been able to donate a Platinum Jubilee Mug in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee to each Child at Symondsburry Primary School

and this will be presented as part of the forthcoming celebrations. The clerk added that a tree has also been donated to mark the occasion.

- 6. To consider other questions and issues of interest:** A question was raised asking whether we could promote Climate change through our Symene Voice to obtain more interest from our readers.
- 7. Review of bodies to which SPC donate grants:** During the last year we received requests from and agreed modest grants to: Citizens Advice Bridport and District, Symondsbury PCC, Eype School Room and Community Trust and Bridport Neighbourhood Plan. All had demonstrated they had provided service to a considerable number of parishioners.

The Meeting Closed at 8.12pm