

Croscombe Parish Council

Clerk's Report to 04 Sep 24

Following the co-option of John Owen as a councillor at the meeting on 30th July, the following actions were carried out.

- Declaration of Acceptance of Office form signed and filed.
- Councillor email address set up and successful login confirmed.
- The website was updated throughout to show the name and contact details of the new councillor.
- A Register of Members' Interests (ROMI) form was issued to councillor Owen, completed and sent on in PDF format to Democratic Services at Somerset Council.

Democratic Services requested that council and councillor information on the appropriate Somerset Council web pages be checked, including links from councillor names to the appropriate Register of Members Interests form. These were checked and general information found to be in order, but the links to the majority of the councillor ROMI forms produced an 'Access Denied' message. The links were repaired and checked for all councillors; they are now working so that when anyone clicks on a councillor name they are taken to the councillor's ROMI form.

There were two requests in the period for memorial headstones/tablets to be installed/update in the cemetery. Both met the appropriate requirements and were approved.

The terms of reference for the Flood Group were updated and posted on the council website, the main change being a move of emphasis to flood mitigation solely rather than including a biodiversity brief. The name of the group was also changed from Flood and Environment Working Group to simply Flood Group. The latest iteration of the Flood Plan was also posted on the website, reflecting the great deal of flood mitigation development work done since the floods earlier this year.

ROSPA Play Safety carried out their annual inspection of the play area. The report will be discussed at the council meeting on 10th September and will be available on the website under Agenda and Minutes a few days prior to that meeting.

Somerset Council requested an audit of litter and dog bins around the village, and for a range of information on location and ownership to be provided. The principal reason for this is that the council is taking the service of emptying these bins in-house from April 2025 and will start to charge for certain bins. An audit was carried out and details of ownership and precise location for a total of 5 dog bins and 6 litter bins provided. It was emphasised that none of the bins is

on land owned by the parish council (one of the criteria for charging). We await details on costs the council will have to cover for emptying certain bins from April 2025, and that will obviously have to be factored into budgeting.

Somerset Council also requested a survey of grit bins to see which needed replenished in preparation for winter. There are 9 bins around the village. Their locations are: 2 at either end of Fayre Way; the garages on Honeymead; the top of Combe Green; the top of Boards Lane; Old Street Lane; Church Street; Pound Fold; Rock Street. A report was sent to the council pointing out that all bins are full or nearly full, presumably reflecting how mild the winters are in these times.