

# *Huish Episcopi Parish Council*

**Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Huish Episcopi Parish Council held in the Huish Sixth Auditorium, Huish Episcopi Academy, on Monday 22 October 2018 at 7 pm.**

In attendance:

Cllr S Nicholas            Chairman  
Cllr J Wood  
Cllr B Horsgood  
Cllr R Stranger  
Cllr R Crumb  
Cllr K Peto

Lisa Newby Parish Clerk  
8 members of the public

Apologies:

Cllr G Lock  
Cllr F Pope  
Cllr C Palmer

Clare Aparicio-Paul District/County Councillor  
Press

**Public Session of the meeting opened at 7pm. Notes of the topics discussed in appendix 1 at the end of the minutes.**

The Public Session of the meeting opened with Councillor Nicholas thanking the Council for nominating her for a Chairman's award.

The Public Session ended at 7:05pm.

**Meeting opened at 7:06 pm**

**11/2018. To receive apologies for absence, and to note and approve reasons given.** It was resolved to accept the apologies and reasons given from the three Councillors as listed above.

**12/2018. Declarations of interest.** None declared.

**13/2018. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM.** The following proposal will be considered:

That, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sect. 1(2), the Public and Press should be excluded from the meeting to discuss agenda item 14/2018 because of the confidential nature of this matter.

It was resolved to exclude the press and public from the update of actions taken pertaining to a specific Huish Episcopi Allotment Tenant and to discuss a complaint from a Huish Episcopi Allotment Tenant.

The members of the public left the meeting at 7:08 pm.

The Tenant remained to speak with the Council.

The Tenant discussed that it was felt a Tenancy Agreement rather than just the Allotment rules would be more appropriate. Permission for the placement of the shed structure was sought after construction had commenced but the Tenant was under the impression that permission was a foregone conclusion and hadn't envisaged an issue.

The toilet structure was a different matter entirely. The Tenant stated that no permission was required as it is a facilities suite. After it was placed on the plot the Tenant had offered it for all Allotment Tenants to use. The Clerk responded that the toilet structure required permission from Huish Episcopi Parish Council in a similar way to the placement of a shed. As kind as the gesture to allow Allotment Tenants to use the facility, the toilet structure needed to be removed immediately. Despite repeated requests, the toilet structure remained.

There was an issue with wood, to which Councillor Nicholas suggested that permission should have been sought for the shed structure before even placing the wood on the plot to commence construction.

The Tenant apologised, citing miscommunication.

The Tenant left the meeting at 7:26pm, after the Clerk confirmed that the outcome of the subsequent discussion by the Council would be notified to him in writing within the timescale of the complaint's procedure, seven working days.

The Council discussed the series of events which culminated in the Tenancy Termination being issued. Given the breaches of the Huish Episcopi Allotment Rules, it was decided that regardless of the fact that the Plot has been now cleared of the toilet and shed structures by the Tenant, the Termination of Tenancy should stand as written, and that it should take effect from 31 October 2018 as notified.

The suggestion was made to revise the process for giving permission for shed/greenhouse/poly tunnel for new tenants, and that the Clerk should meet any prospective Allotment Tenant with a Council Allotment representative, to give a clear message of the responsibilities of both the Council and the Tenant.

Meeting closed at 7:50pm

## **Appendix 1 Notes from the Public Session of the meeting 7pm until 7:07 pm**

An Allotment Tenant wanted to discuss the pump used on the Huish Episcopi Allotments. There was concern that appeared to be no regular schedule for the availability of the water pump at the allotment. It was appreciated that only a Councillor was able to operate the pump but it would be helpful for a more detailed schedule to be publicised.