

OCTOBER NOTES FROM A PARISH COUNCILLOR

We were very pleased to welcome our new Clerk, David Richards, to the meeting. His contact details are just the same as the previous clerk and can be found at the end of these notes.

As recommended, we are now making an audio recording of Parish Council meetings. The recording will be kept until the minutes of the relevant meeting are agreed and will then be deleted. The recording will be available to members of the public should they wish to listen to them.

We discussed the possibility of asking Somerset Council to introduce residents' parking in Church Street/High Street, as residents are finding it increasingly difficult to park there. There was some concern that this would adversely affect the businesses in the area and that it might just exchange one set of problems for another. It was agreed to keep the situation under review but not to proceed for now.

We also discussed a proposal to ask Somerset Council to paint double red or double yellow lines on the railway bridge on Station Road, where a badly parked car recently caused an accident. This proposal was supported.

As I mentioned last month, the much-delayed LiveWest development in Taunton Road is now nearing completion. As part of the mitigation for the removal of trees on the site, the developers have agreed to plant a tree somewhere else in the Parish in a location to be agreed with the Parish Council. This will be on the agenda for next month's meeting but if anyone has any ideas about where they would like to see a nice specimen tree, do please get in touch. Suggestions would be most welcome.

The Parish Council agreed last year not to use glyphosate weed killer. Jack Council, our lengthsman, has tried out two environmentally friendly weed killers this summer and neither has been effective. We will discuss the whole question of controlling weeds on the pavements and kerbs at the November meeting. There are a number of options e.g. just letting them grow, hand-weeding with possibly some help from the community, strimming, burning the weeds off, various mechanical devices with wire brushes, going back to glyphosate. Please do get in touch with the clerk or me if you have any experience of what works, or indeed any views.

Finally, I am glad to say that scalplings have now been laid on the problem area of Whisky Trail footpath. These have improved the footpath considerably. Time will tell how long the improvement lasts. At some stage we will probably need to top them up.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joanna Lewin-Harris". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered within a light-colored rectangular box.

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