

## **NOTES FROM THE FEBRUARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Streamside path: the Clerk and Councillor Jim Bletcher recently met with the contractor and residents to finalise details about renewing the footpath along the stream between Spinneyfield and Little Meadow. Plans were agreed and work should begin next month. A sign saying “cyclists please dismount” will be put up at each end.

The War Memorial: we have been in touch with the War Memorials Trust [www.warmemorials.org](http://www.warmemorials.org) about cleaning the War Memorial by the school. The trust has confirmed that we would be eligible for a grant of up to 50% of the cost and it was agreed to apply. There is, of course, no guarantee that the application will be successful.

Quantock View phone box currently houses a seed bank. Following a suggestion that it could also become a “history box”, it was agreed to buy a noticeboard where Alan Ball’s big collection of old photographs of Bishops Lydeard can be displayed. Many thanks to Alan.

Easter Club: we were very pleased to support a proposal from Councillor Charity Hunt for a sports and activity club for children and young people during the Easter holidays. You can find full details of the proposal on the Parish Council website:

<https://bishopslydeardparishcouncil.gov.uk/minutes/parish-council-meeting/bishops-lydeard-easter-club>

Local Plan: Councillor Mike Rigby updated the council on the new Local Plan currently being developed by Somerset Council. The Government recently almost doubled the number of homes for which Somerset is required to find sites. It now looks likely to be something around 4,000 per year for the next 15 years. That is effectively another town the size of Taunton over the period. No sites have yet been identified. Meanwhile, we are asked locally to identify areas where we would like to see improvement and the following were suggested at the meeting:

- More starter homes
- New homes must be energy efficient, using solar panels, grey water recycling etc.
- Cycleway from Bishops Lydeard to Taunton
- Railway service from Bishops Lydeard to Taunton
- A Post Office
- More open space and allotments

I am sure residents will have views on this so do please feel free to contact the clerk or me if you have anything to add.



Chair, Bishops Lydeard and Cothelstone Parish Council

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