Item No	Item	Action By
1.0	**Attendance -** In attendance: Cllr P Townsend (Chairman) Cllr S Hancock Cllr A Simpson Cllr D Stripp Cllr D Taylor Cllr A Wilcox Mrs K Gibbins (Parish Clerk) Cllr D Darch (SWT) Cllr R Williams (SCC) Apologies: Cllr T Bedford, Cllr S Harris 1 member of the public attended the meeting	
2.0	**Councillors' Declarations of Interest –** None	
3.0	**Approval of Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 8th March 2022 -** **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting were approved and will be signed as a true record of the meeting.	
4.0	**Planning –** **a) Applications:** **Case Ref: 20/22/0002** - Formation of 1 No. wildlife pond for Great Crested Newts with formation of earth bunds on land at Mowbarton House, Pickney Lane, Kingston St Mary (retention of works already undertaken) Application Type: Retention of Building/Works etc. The Council considered the above referenced planning application and resolved to fully support the application. **Case Ref: 34/22/0011** - Application for Approval of Reserved Matters for the appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following outline approval 34/16/0007 for the northern ecological buffer, public open space, drainage and landscaping for Staplegrove West Phase 1, north of Staplegrove Road, Taunton Application Type: Reserved Matters. The Council considered the above referenced planning application and would like to make the following comments: Although fully supporting planning application 34/22/0011, the Parish Council requests that the proposed planting should contain more native species and be more substantial, thereby providing an effective ecological screen, in keeping with the size of the proposed Staplegrove West Development. The Parish Council also considers that the funding arrangements for maintaining the proposed ecological buffer should be agreed prior to this Planning Application being approved. It is considered inappropriate for Kingston St Mary residents to be responsible for any future ongoing costs arising from the proposed Staplegrove West Development. **Case Ref: 20/22/0010** - Erection of 1 No. detached dwelling and garage to the side of Greenacres, Nailsbourne Road, Nailsbourne Application Type: Full Planning Permission The Council considered the above referenced planning application and noted Kingston St Mary's recent 'Housing Survey', which highlighted a need for smaller properties	

	and fully supports this planning application for the building of a detached chalet bungalow at Greenacres, Nailsbourne Road, Nailsbourne. It is also felt that this small residential development on an infill site is in character with other Nailsbourne properties.	
5.0	**Matters Outstanding from Previous Minutes –** **i. Happy to Chat Benches** – Cllr Taylor said the bench opposite The Swan was now complete and had been well received. The second bench was positioned at the end of Leaches Field and would be secured n place by Saturday. It was suggested and agreed the third bench be positioned under the overhanging roof in front of the pavilion to allow shelter for people in bad weather. The Council thanked Cllr Taylor for his efforts. SW&T Cllr Darch said she will ask the local gardening group, Planting for Wildlife, if they are willing to maintain the area around the benches. Cllr Taylor went on to say a plaque had been taken off the old bench at the end of Leaches Field which said, 'To Commemorate the Golden Jubilee of HM QE II 2002'. The Council agreed to remount this plaque on the new bench and mount a second plaque saying, 'This Bench was Renewed to Commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of HM QE II 2022'. **ii. Active Travel/Speed Limit Restrictions –** SCC Cllr R Williams confirmed the work starts on 19th April and is due to last 6 days. When discussing agenda item 6.0, Cllr Taylor advised the Council that all the new posts had been erected on the village green and the project was now completed. He said he still has 2 spare posts and reflectors should any get damaged. The Council thanked Cllr Taylor for improving safety around the village green. **iii. Path from Lodes Lane to the Church –** Cllr Stripp said he has no update. **iv. Church Lane Flood Prevention –** Cllr Taylor advised the Council that Church Lane is no longer flooding as a contractor has cleared the gully opposite the Village Hall which has resolved the problem. This appears to be an annual contract but unfortunately there is a large 'silt trap' by the Church yard which isn't included on the schedule. SCC Cllr Williams agreed to ask Highways what is happening with the 'silt trap'. **v. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee** – Cllr Stripp advised the Council that the weekend celebrations were making good progress and he talked the Council through the preparations in more detail. He said the working party was currently waiting for confirmation of the road closure to allow for the street party on Sunday to take place outside of the village hall.	Cllr Taylor/ SW&T Cllr Darch Cllr Stripp SCC Cllr Williams Cllr Stripp
6.0	**Church Lane Road Safety and Pedestrian Safety Mirror** – The Chair asked the member of the public present at the meeting to talk to the Council about this matter. The member of the public explained she and her family have been residents in the village for many years. She went on to say she has been asked over the years by different neighbours for permission to erect a mirror on her wall. She was clear she has no problem with having a mirror on her wall but after looking into it she believes planning permission is required to do this. She also believes if formal planning permission is applied for it will not be granted as Highways do not approve of mirrors on the highways. Her understanding is if a mirror is erected on private property planning is not required. She went on to say her concerns with the mirror which has been erected at the bottom of Church Lane are that no planning permission has been requested or granted. She is also concerned about who will be responsible for the care and maintenance of the mirror and take liability for it. Cllr Taylor made a few comments regarding the positioning of this mirror and other mirrors in the village and suggested they were all erected to ensure the safety of both pedestrians and motorists. He went on to say the mirror on Church Lane has been erected on the street furniture and that there could potentially be an issue of liability and the Council needs to ask its insurers about this.	Chairman/ Cllr Taylor/Clerk

	The Council discussed the mirror and agreed the safety of both pedestrians, cyclists and motorists in the village was paramount. The Council resolved to talk to Highways about the mirrors in the village, contact the Council insurers and request guidance and advice on any potential liability regarding the mirror at the bottom of Church Lane and write to the member of the public.	
7.0	**Oak Tree Maintenance** – Playing Field, Village Green and Tarr Lane The Clerk advised the Council that Arboricare had performed emergency tree works on the trees on the playing field which had recently been damaged by Storm Eunice. She said she also asked Arboricare to inspect and quote for any remedial work which may be required on the Oak tree at Tarr Lane and the Oak tree on the Village Green. Arboricare has come back with a quote of £780.00 and £325.00, respectively. The Council agreed that it was necessary to get two more competitive quotes for this work before taking a decision on it. The Chair suggested that the other contractors also quote for work which may be required on the ash trees in the playing field as many of them have been affected by ash dieback. The Clerk agreed to obtain 2 additional quotes from local contractors.	Clerk
8.0	**Highway Matters** – Car parking on Kingston Road and Bay Hill and surface water on Kingston Road by The Old Bakery Cllr Taylor talked to the Council about cars parking on Bay Hill which is becoming more and more of an issue and is potentially dangerous. Cllr Taylor suggested the Council monitor how things develop over the next few months particularly with the 20 mph speed limits soon to be introduced to decide whether further action is required. The Council discussed this matter and agreed the Primary School car park might provide a good solution to the parking issues in the village. Cllr Taylor suggested that an informal meeting with Highways to discuss parking, mirrors, water on the carriageway and the primary school car park might be sensible. The Council agreed to discuss this matter in more detail at a future meeting.	
9.0	**July Parish Council Meeting** – proposed alternate date The Clerk proposed that the date of the July meeting be changed. The Chair seconded the proposal. The Council voted and agreed to change the date of the July meeting to Tuesday, 19th July.	Clerk
10.0	**Western Power Distribution** – Community Matters Fund Cllr Taylor talked to the Council about a proposal to build a community orchard in the triangular piece of ground behind the pavilion. The idea would be to grub out the hedge, take out the trees of little value to get light into the area and then plant the appropriate number of fruit trees to create a community orchard which will become part of the recreation ground and could include some seating. In addition, a storage facility could be built on the back of the pavilion to store items for the pavilion as well as equipment for the playing field and orchard. The Council discussed the idea in more detail. The Chair advised the closing date for submissions to the fund was 24th April. Cllr Taylor agreed to draft up a proposal to include a rough estimate of costs and pass it on to Cllr Stripp for submission to Western Power Distribution.	Cllr Taylor/Cllr Stripp
11.0	**Annual Parish Meeting** – update The Annual Parish Meeting will now take place on 19th May in the Village Hall followed by the Neighbourhood Plan Open Meeting. The Clerk agreed to send invites out to all those who were invited to the original meeting. Cllr Stripp agreed to put something in Link Up about the meeting.	Clerk/Cllr Stripp
12.0	**Review of Accounts** – Year end	Clerk

	It was agreed to carry the review of the year end accounts forward to a future meeting.	
13.0	**Local Community Network** – Exmoor Pilot update The Chair told the Council he thought this was an interesting pilot which revolved around highways. The idea was to come up with a highway steward, essentially an individual with a van who carries out general maintenance work. The pilot is also considering devolving a small element of the highways budget to the parishes to allow them to prioritise their own maintenance work which will, of course, mean more work for the parishes. SCC Cllr Williams said he thinks the future Somerset Council will want to hear from local people what they see as the priorities. The Chair told the Council he feels it is important for them to choose who they link up with in terms of the LCNs. The Council discussed this and agreed. However, it is still unclear where the boundaries will be but hopefully the thinking is the boundaries should conform with local identities. It is also unclear how much input individual parishes will have in the formation of the LCNs.	
14.0	**Neighbourhood Plan** – update Cllr Stripp updated the Council on the progress which has been made to date. The expenditure to 31 March was approximately £9370.00 and we will be giving back the balance of £630.00+/-. We know that Groundworks have been given another tranche of money for 2022/23 so we may be able to recover the underspend of £630.00. Cllr Stripp will update the presentation for the new meeting and put a report in Link Up. It was agreed that leaflets should be printed to distribute to residents with information about the new meeting and information about the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.	Cllr Stripp
15.0	**Climate Action Planning** – update SW&T Cllr Darch said there was no update. She hopes after the Neighbourhood Plan meeting more people will get involved in the climate action planning group. SW&T Cllr Darch agreed to speak to Cllr Bedford to find out if he is available to attend the May meeting.	SW&T Cllr Darch
16.0	**Kingston Community Partnership** – update Cllr Stripp advised the main activity now was through Good Neighbours and was welcoming the Ukrainians. A group has been formed to look at what is needed to support the Ukrainian families who have moved into the village. An article will go into Link Up to try and get volunteers to come forward and get involved in supporting the families.	
17.0	**Financial Matters –** The Council approved the following payments: • £40.00 – Information Commissioner's Office, Data protection fee renewal • £187.20 – Somerset West & Taunton, Emptying of dog waste bins from 01/01/2022 – 31/01/2022 (£156.00 + £31.20 VAT) • £20.00 – SALC, Preparing for Elections Event Remote Training - 16/03/2022 • £245.00 – Jack Councill, Village green maintenance for the 2022 season • £55.87 – Paul Townsend, Ukrainian flags purchased for the vigil and other community fundraising events. • £170.35 – HMRC, Clerk's PAYE for JAN/FEB/MAR 2022 • £186.25 – Steen R&W, Technical maintenance of KSM PC webpages for Oct 2021 -Mar 2022 • £374.40 – Payroll Specialists Ltd, Payroll services for 2022/23 (£312.00 + £62.40 VAT) • £4178.09 - Stuart Todd Associates Ltd, Consultancy support for the Neighbourhood Plan (£3481.74 + £696.35 VAT) • £50.00 - KSM Village Hall – Hire of hall for NP Open Meeting • £51.00 – Steen R&W, Data analysis work for NP • £5918.40 – Sustrans, Feasibility study for active travel route (£4932.00 + £986.40 VAT) • £621.30 – Groundworks, Budgeted amount not spent on NP and to be retuned • £856.43 – David Stripp, Various NP expenses	Clerk

	• £510.00 – Arboricare, Emergency tree works carried out to trees on playing field • £264.62 - Taunton Timber Ltd, Timber for village green safety improvements • £701.79 – David Taylor, Materials for Happy to Chat benches and village green safety improvements	
18.0	**Items for Next Agenda –** Please pass any agenda items to the Clerk.	
19.0	**Items for Link Up and KSM Website –** The Chair will do a write up for Link Up.	
20.0	**Actions from March 2020 Meeting – Not discussed but to be carried forward to a future meeting.** a) **Natural environment** – The Clerk advised that a meeting had been scheduled for 23 March with SWT. b) **Council Reserves** - i. Clearing of roadside verge on Kingston Road by the Grange and the Spinney **ii.** Furniture for the Playing Field Pavilion	
21.0	**Date of Next Meeting – 10th May 2022** The meeting closed at 21.42	
Signed:	**Dated:**	