#### **Present:**

Mr Michael Auton,

Cllr Cherry Beath (Chair, Bath & N E Somerset Council),

Mr Adrian Brimson (MSN & Radstock Dial-a-Ride);

Mr Calvin Bird,

Mr John Bull (Somer Valley Walking Festival),

Mrs Hazel Champion (Beacon Tots),

Mr Aubrey Chegwyn,

Mrs Kate Chegwyn,

Cllr Tom Clifford (Peasedown St John Parish Council),

Mr Ken Coles (Braysdown Allotments Committee),

Cllr Jo Davis (Peasedown St John Parish Council),

Mr Francis Day,

Mrs Linda Day,

Mrs Diana Duckling,

Mr Andrew Fraser,

Cllr Audrey Gillard-Sprake (Peasedown St John Parish Council),

Cllr Stephen Goodwin (Peasedown St John Parish Council),

Mr Michael Gregory (Peasedown St John Cricket Club)

Ms Caroline Haworth (Bath Area Play Project),

Mr Mike Illott,

Mrs Viv Illott,

Mr Dave Jones (Braysdown Allotments Committee),

Cllr Edward Jones (Peasedown St John Parish Council),

PCSO Louise Jones (Avon & Somerset Police),

Cllr Simon Kidd (Peasedown St John Parish Council),

Mr Patrick Knight (Camerton & Peasedown Croquet Club),

Cllr Ray Love (Peasedown St John Parish Council),

Cllr Andy Larcombe (Peasedown St John Parish Council),

PCSO Tony McIntosh (Avon & Somerset Police),

Cllr Claire Parfitt (Peasedown St John Parish Council),

Mr Sam Plummer (Youth Connect Team Leader - Somervalley),

Mr Peter Provest,

Cllr Jonathan Rich (Peasedown St John Parish Council),

Mr Stuart Rouse (Wansdyke Play Association),

Mr Matthew Seviour (Peasedown Albion FC & Sevy's Sports Bar),

Cllr Kathy Thomas (Chair, Peasedown St John Parish Council),

Mrs Pamela Turner (Golden Years Holiday at Home),

Mrs Alison Wells (B&NES Council Community Engagement Officer)

Parish Council Staff: Chris Champion, Tracey Edge, James Murtagh, Deborah Parish, Luke Tatar, Tanya West.

A total of 60 people attended the meeting.

#### 1) Welcome

The Chair of the Parish Council welcomed those present, including Cllr Cherry Beath (Chair of B&NES Council), Ms Alison Wells (B&NES Council Community Engagement Officer), members of the Parish Council, other invited guests and speakers, and the village residents present at the meeting.

#### 2) Apologies for absence had been received from:

Mrs Barbara Bailey, Mr John Bailey, PC Matthew Bendall (Avon & Somerset Police), Cllr Sarah Bevan (B&NES Ward Councillor), Bath Audi (Manager), Mr Rob Bubyer (St John's Church), Karl Kilburn (Scouts), Adrian Phillips (Peasedown Park Rangers FC), Anita Phillips (Peasedown Guides), Jacob Rees-Mogg MP, Lisa Smith (Peasedown Albion FC), Mrs Gabrielle Stanley (Zumba, Beacon Hall), Cllr Karen Walker (Peasedown St John Parish Council/B&NES Ward Councillor), Cllr David Walker (Peasedown St John Parish Council).

#### 3) Parish Councillors

The Chair introduced the Parish Councillors present at the meeting – Cllrs Tom Clifford, Jo Davis, Audrey Gillard-Sprake, Stephen Goodwin, Edward Jones, Simon Kidd, Andrew Larcombe, Ray Love, Claire Parfitt and Jonathan Rich. She went on to thank all Councillors for the many hours of work undertaken in the past year.

There are currently 16 Parish Councillors. Following the resignation of Rod Bridges' in early April, it will not be known whether a by-election will be needed until 24<sup>th</sup> April. Anyone interested in filling this vacancy should contact the Clerk.

#### 4) Volunteers

The Chair thanked the following who have helped with planting, tidying and running the allotments, snow clearance, and locking the cemetery when staff are on annual leave:

Sheena Archer, Gabrielle Bailey, John Bailey, Peter Bailey, Calvin Bird, Dianne Bird, Ken Coles, Ian Donaldson, Les Gillard-Sprake, Mike Illott, Bill Jones, Dave Jones, Gil Jones, Jill Souter and Jane Whatley.

#### 5) **B&NES Ward Councillors**

Thanks were offered to Cllrs Sarah Bevan Karen Walker for their work for the village.

#### 6) Police

Thanks were offered to Police Community Support Officers Louise Jones and Tony McIntosh and Police Constable Matthew Bendall.

- 7) Thanks were offered to other organisations of benefit to the village, including:
  - Local Businesses
  - School Governors
  - Organisations that provide for education, recreation and religious activities
  - Uniformed organisations
  - Many more individuals and groups many of whom work on a charitable basis.

#### 8) Minutes of the Annual Village Meeting held on Tuesday 4th April 2017

Minutes of the previous Annual Village Meeting held on Tuesday  $4^{th}$  April 2017 had been circulated in advance. They had previously been agreed as a true and correct record of the meeting at the Full Council meeting of  $16^{th}$  May 2017 (minute C004 – 16/05/2017, refers); this decision was ratified at the Annual Village Meeting accordingly.

#### 9) Annual Peppercorn Ceremony for the rent of the Beacon Hall and Field

Cllr Cherry Beath, Chair of B&NES Council, received the "peppercorn rent" for the Beacon Hall and Field for the coming year from Cllr Kathy Thomas, Chair of the Parish Council.

### 10) Report from Peasedown St. John Parish Council Chairs of Council and Standing Committees including a statement on the un-audited Parish Council accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

a) Report from Full Council: The Chair summarised some of the work carried out by the Parish Council in the preceding year. The slides from this presentation are attached as an appendix to these minutes.

b) Report from the Finance & Amenities Committee: Given by Cllr Andrew Larcombe, Chair of the Finance & Amenities Committee.

Since the Annual Full Council meeting in May 2017, the F&A Committee has met 5 times (with a further meeting scheduled for early in May). Also, the Burial Sub-Committee, affiliated to this Committee, has met once.

Attendance at Committee and Advisory Panel meetings equates to over 100 councillor hours spent at these meetings - this does not include any additional hours spent by councillors on the F&A Committee undertaking bank reconciliations etc. as part of the scrutiny checks required under our Financial Regulations.

#### Project and maintenance work on:

#### **Ashgrove Cemetery:**

- ➤ The memorial garden at the Garden of Remembrance is pretty much complete with the installation of a gazebo and pergola along the main path. The total cost of this project was approximately £20k (staff labour costs not included) which is significantly cheaper than original estimates which were in the region of £200k.
- In the past year, we have received 9 interments and considered applications for 9 new and amended memorials.
- We have encountered some issues with the pathways; but the Caretakers are working to repair these.
- The moss on the tarmac pathways continues to be a problem; we are looking at improvements to these pathways as a future project.

#### **Braysdown Allotments:**

- Repairs to car park pot holes.
- Issues with break-ins.
- ➤ Second Annual Allotment Barbecue The grants reports will cover this later.
- ➤ The Advisory Panel has met four times during the past year to inspect the site and consider requests.

#### **Beacon Hall:**

- Increased bookings.
- New audio system.
- Defibrillator.
- New cooker.
- > By continuing to improve the services and facilities at the hall we have increased our regular hirers and encouraged repeat bookings so now have limited times available when the hall can be used outside of weekends.
- Over the next year we hope to focus on improvements to the internal and external lighting, CCTV and storage.

#### **Recreation Ground:**

- Continued maintenance of the football facilities and updating the play equipment.
- We are currently working on replacing some of the play equipment on the Recreation Ground.
- A lot of time and money has been spent on maintaining the football facilities. The Parish Council has been working closely with Peasedown Miners' FC regarding the potential installation of a new club house on the Recreation Ground including a car park and storage garage for the Scouts.
- > There are currently 3 adult teams and 1 youth team that have their home at the Recreation Ground.

#### **Ecewiche Green:**

➤ Continuation of the winter maintenance programme by way of brush clearance and hedgerow maintenance. This helps to encourage stronger hedgerows whilst opening up the area for residents and encouraging wildlife.

#### Planting on roundabouts and verges:

- All the roundabouts and many of the larger verges are maintained by the Parish Council. They played a part in the 'In-Bloom' competition this year, for which the village won Silver in the Pennant category. The Parish Council is very grateful to the volunteers who contribute towards the floral displays by helping with planting-out.
- Unfortunately this year we have been subject to several bouts of vandalism on the Dunkerton roundabout with several of the flower beds being destroyed by vehicles intentionally being driven over; this is something the Caretakers have to rectify which costs additional time.

#### **Community Grants:**

As in previous years the council awarded grants to organisations of benefit to the residents of Peasedown St John and grant application forms for 2018/19 were available to take away at the meeting.

- •2017/18 £5,443 awarded to a number of local organisations.
- •2018/19 a minimum of £4,000 allocated for village events and grants

The closing date for applications is 12 noon on Friday 20th April 2018.

#### Un-audited Accounts for the Year Ending 31st March 2018:

Cllr Andrew Larcombe gave a brief statement on the un-audited accounts for the year ending 31st March 2018.

The finalised accounts will be available to view in the Parish Office after the Full Council meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018, in accordance with the notice of appointment of date for the exercise of electors' rights.

c) Report from the Planning & Environment Committee: Given by Cllr Tom Clifford, Chair of the Planning & Environment Committee.

Since the Annual Full Council meeting in May 2017, the P&E Committee has met once. This year the setup has been slightly different, with the majority of the planning applications being considered by the Planning & Environment Advisory Panel who have provided their recommendations to Full Council.

The Planning & Environment Committee was delegated the following projects/responsibilities from Full Council:

- ➤ **Grit bins/Winter Support:** The Parish Council's grit bins have been put to good use this winter. They have now been labelled with more robust aluminium composite signage. Although slightly more expensive, these signs should last much longer before requiring replacement.
- Notice Boards: After several attempts, the notice board at the Tump in Carlingcott has been installed this year, so the new notice boards project is now complete.
- ➤ **Signage:** The signage to the entrances to Parish Council areas of open space has now been installed. The village entrance sign from Wellow approach has also recently been installed, however, the contractors who undertook this work have not completed it to standard, and this is currently being investigated and rectified. The information boards element of the signage project continues to be worked on this year. Preparation is underway for the wording and images for the large information boards with several small signs identifying points of interest, complete with QR codes to provide further information, all linked to mapped walking routes around the village. If you are interested in helping us gather information for this project then please let us know.
- ➤ Waste Bins: In the main this project was completed last year, however, we are still continuing to receive requests for litter bins within the village. So if you have any suggestions for locations for additional waste bins then please let us know.
  - We do however have issues with residents filling bins with their domestic waste, which generates additional cost by way of labour, bin bags and disposal charges and is illegal. All waste the Parish Council has to send to landfill attracts a tax of almost £89 per tonne.

Cllr Tom Clifford gave a personal statement tendering his resignation from the Planning & Environment Committee, which followed the approval of the Reserved Matters application for the housing development off Greenlands Road. The strength of his personal objection to the proposed development meant that he felt unable to serve as the Committee's Chair or, indeed, serve on the Committee. He took the opportunity to thank his fellow Councillors on the Committee for their help and support as well as the staff for ensuring that the Parish Council's views were always conveyed to B&NES Council.

d) Report from the Personnel Committee: Given by Cllr Tom Clifford, Chair of the Personnel Committee.

Since the Annual Full Council meeting in May 2017, the Personnel Committee has met 4 times (which equates to approximately 50 councillor hours spent at these meetings).

The Committee had considered various matters, including:

- Staff and Councillor training
- ICT improvements upgrade of Parish Office equipment and computers, including transferring of files to the Cloud
- Printing of papers for Parish Council meetings and looking at more cost effective ways of producing these
- o Appointment of an Assistant Caretaker

The Committee is also responsible for staff and councillor training. Various training has been undertaken during the year; some in-house and some off-site. Examples of the training undertaken in the past year have been:

- All councillors and staff becoming more familiar with SharePoint and software
- o All councillors Information Governance Training
- o Office staff Parish Online mapping seminar and training on risk relating to insurance cover

The Personnel Committee has delegated responsibility for the Parish Council staff who are: Tanya West, Debbie Parish, Tracy Edge, Jim Murtagh, Chris Champion and Luke Tatar.

All staff contracts have been reviewed this year, to try to better align them with the National Association of Local Councils' model.

Luke has been appointed in the new role of Assistant Caretaker. His responsibilities will be cleaning, litter-picking, assisting with larger jobs (such as hedge cutting) and project work (such as the Garden of Remembrance).

e) Report from the Policy & Governance Advisory Panel: Given by Cllr Simon Kidd, Chair of the Policy & Governance Advisory Panel.

Cllr Kidd summarised the role of this Advisory Panel, which is:

- To define and implement policy;
- To assure compliance by committees;
- To review Standing Orders;
- > To develop systems for improving workflow and governance.

The Advisory Panel will potentially be replaced by an Executive Committee in the coming year, with further delegation of all compliance and projects to standing committees.

#### Their aim is to:

- > Allow collaboration between councillors and staff
- Full legal compliance and monitoring
- Working towards General Data Protection Regulation compliance

The process of continuous improvement has continued in the past year, with:

- An online action register
- > An online asset register
- Reduction in paper at meetings
- Improved business continuity

#### 11) Report from Avon & Somerset Constabulary - PCSO Tony McIntosh

Crime Statistics for the past 12 months were as follows:

Violence Against the Person 134
Theft and Handling Stolen Goods 41
Criminal Damage 28
Burglary 11
Drug Offences 4
Other 12

#### **Total recorded crime 210**

Compared with the previous year, this appears to be a significant increase:

Total 2016-2017 127 Total 2017-2018 210

However, the way in which crimes are recorded has changed, and Police are now recording incidents that might not have always been recorded in the past. This is likely to explain, at least in part, the increase.

It was noted that levels of anti-social behaviour are low:

38 Recorded Incidents in the last 12 Months

14 Recorded incidents in the last 6 Months

#### 12) Questions for the Chair

#### Question 1

Relates to the junction leaving Peasedown St John joining the by-pass at the Radstock end of the village. We don't know how many accidents there have been in the 20+ years since the by-pass was opened, but to our knowledge there have already been at least two accidents this year when the junction had to be closed. How many more does there have to be before something is done to make it safer either by a roundabout or traffic lights?

#### Response:

Kelvin Packer, Group Manager for B&NES Highways & Traffic Environmental Services, attended a Parish Council meeting a couple of years ago to discuss road safety in the wider area.

He has subsequently advised the following:

As previously indicated to the Parish, the location has been subject to ongoing monitoring and is included in the route review programme.

The feasibility report is being updated by council officers in view of the most recent series of incidents. Although both roundabouts and signal controlled junctions have potential road safety issues associated with them I am now updating the recommendation to indicate that a roundabout is the most desirable junction at this location.

This is a potentially costly scheme and cannot be delivered in 2018/19 as the Members have already agreed the current year's programme. Whilst recognising that there is considerable demand for traffic schemes I will be liaising with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport on the potential for this to be included in a future capital programme. Ultimately, whether the scheme goes ahead will be decided by the Members when they set the Council's budget.

In the meantime, I have asked my team whether it would be possible to lower the speed limit as an interim measure.

If the Parish would find it useful I would be willing to attend a future Parish Council meeting to provide further updates and the process to take this forward, but suggest this would be of most value when the updated feasibility report is available.

#### **Question 2**

Can we please do something to improve directions to Circle Hospital when people are arriving by bus? Several people have been found wandering along Wellow Lane, not knowing the best and safest route to get to the hospital after being dropped off by the bus. At weekends the bus service does not run directly to the hospital.

#### Response:

We have contacted Circle Hospital and pointed out that the directions on their website stating: "There are regular buses to Peasedown St John that stop outside Circle hospital" is rather misleading, because the majority of buses stop in the centre of the village and don't go directly to Circle hospital. We have offered to provide them with a map giving a suggested walking route from the centre of the village and, subject to approval by their marketing team, this will be up-loaded to their website.

The Parish Council are in the process of putting maps around locations in the village, including Beacon Hall, that identify the footpaths around the village.

The Ward Councillors have also had a finger post installed at the bottom of Braysdown Lane directing to the Circle Hospital.

[The meeting was paused for a 15-minute refreshment break.]

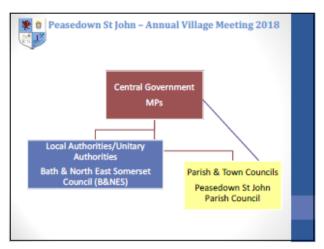
- 13) Presentations were received from the following organisations providing feedback on how their 2017 Community Grant awards were spent [the slides from which are attached as an appendix to these minutes]:
  - a) Party in the Park Michael Auton.
  - b) Peasedown Cricket Club Fireworks Display Mike Gregory
  - c) Wansdyke Play Association Stuart Rouse
  - d) Peasedown Methodist Church 'Holiday at Home' Pam Turner
  - e) Beacon Tots Toddler Group Hazel Champion
  - f) Bath Area Play Project Caroline Haworth
  - g) Peasedown Social & Wellbeing Group Diana Duckling
  - h) Braysdown Allotments Committee Claire Parfitt
  - i) MSN & Radstock Dial-a-Ride Adrian Brimson
  - j) Somer Valley Walking Festival John Bull

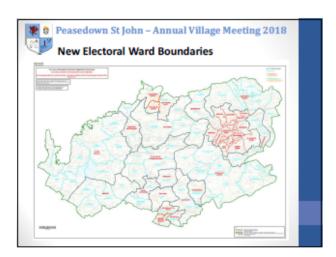
The meeting concluded at 9.02pm.

Signed	Date

### Appendix – Slides from presentation report from Peasedown St. John Parish Council Chairs of Council and Standing Committees









Peasedown St John - Annual Village Meeting 2018

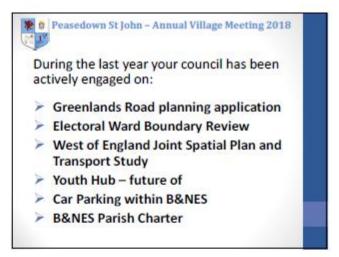
 Advantages of Being Parished

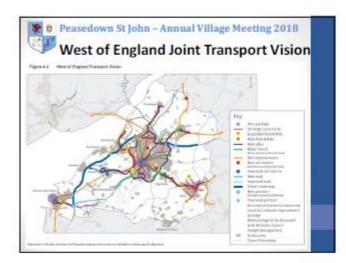
 Provide services via a parish precept that unitary authority may not be prepared to provide

Advantages of Being Parished

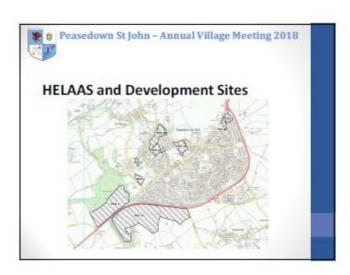
• Role as a Statutory consultee

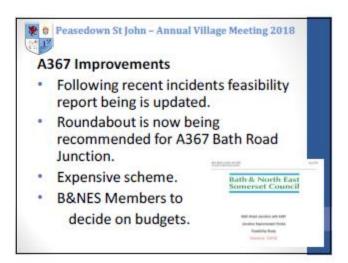


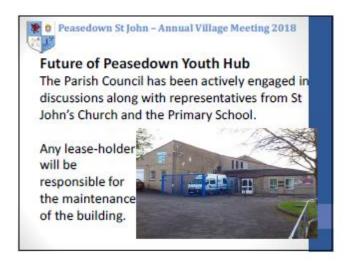


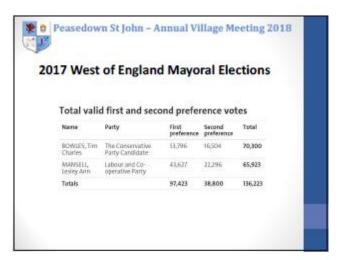


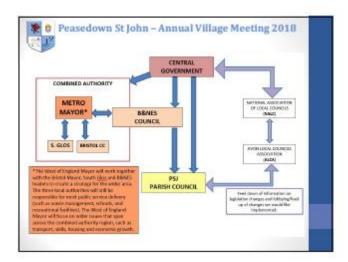




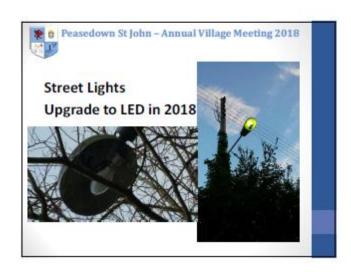


















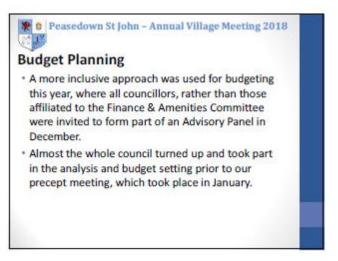




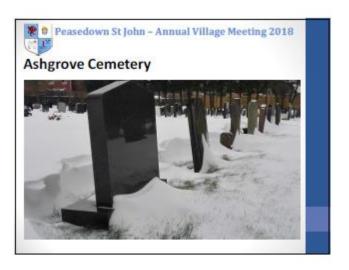








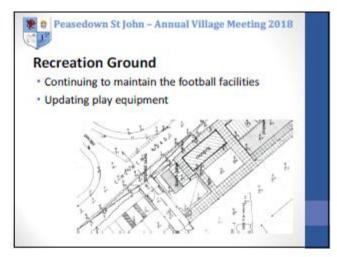
































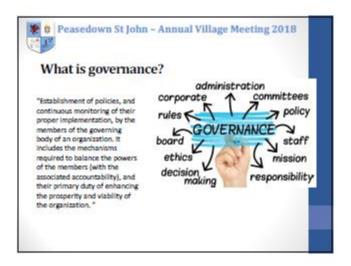


















#### **Appendix – Slides from the Community Grant Presentations**



























































