

Hutton Parish Council

Incorporating Elborough Village, Woodside and Foxglove Meadows

Annual Parish Meeting

Bruce Poole BA (Hons) FSLCC MMC

Parish Clerk

Parish Office Hutton Village Hall 60 Church Lane Hutton Somerset BS24 9SN

Tel: 01934 813871 – Tuesdays 10.00 am – 3.30 pm.

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MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in Hutton Village Hall Hutton on **Wednesday 15th May 2024** commencing at 7.00 pm when the following business was transacted. At the conclusion of the meeting Tea and Biscuits were provided.

Some 21 residents were in attendance including the Council Chairman Peter Dutton and the District Councillor Mike Solomon.

1. Welcome by the Chair – Councillor Peter Dutton

Peter Dutton Chairman formally welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that in fact it was not a Parish Council per se but a meeting of the electors of the civil Parish of Hutton.

Apologies were received from the Parish Clerk – Mr Bruce Poole, District Cllr and Parish Terry Porter, Parish Cllr Ben Groom and PCSO Steve Hemmett.

2. Minutes of the 2023 Annual Parish Meeting

The Minutes of the 2023 Annual Parish Meeting have been on display on the Parish Council web site and as there have been no requests for amendment, they are accepted as a true record of the meeting.

3. Annual Reports

3.1 Hutton Parish Council Chairman's Report – Councillor Peter Dutton

Introduction

Good evening. This is not a Parish Council Meeting, but it is organised by the Parish Council to enable the parishioners and electors of the Parish of Hutton to get together to receive reports from various Parish organisations and stakeholders and as an open forum for questions, comments, news and views. If we cannot answer your question tonight, we will endeavour to try to get an answer to you as soon as we can.

John Cole – Ex-Parish Councillor and Ex-Chairman of the Parish Council

At the start of the March Parish Council Meeting, tribute was paid to John Cole, the ex-Parish Councillor and ex-Chairman of the Parish Council, who has very sadly passed away. John provided decades of voluntary service to the Parish of Hutton, which included, helping to bring the **Taste of Somerset events, the Des Phippen Park and Springwood Adventure Play Area to the Parish of Hutton.**

Confirmation of Appointment of Parish Clerk

At the Parish Council Meeting in April, the Parish Council confirmed the permanent appointment of **Mr Bruce Poole as the Parish Clerk.**

Parish Council Changes

Since the 2023 Annual Parish Meeting, the following Parish Councillors have stood down:

- **Marion Cuthbert**
- **Sue Felts**
- **Barrie Swan**

I would like to express my thanks to those former Parish Cllrs for their service and contribution to the community and Parish of Hutton.

Since the 2023 Annual Parish Meeting the following Parish Councillors have been co-opted onto the Council:

- **Cllr Georgina Barry**
- **Cllr Kenneth McCulloch**

At the Annual Parish Council Meeting last week – **Cllr Peter Dutton was voted in as the Chair of the Council and Cllr Ben Groom was voted in as the Vice Chair of the Council.**

I would also like to express my thanks to all Cllrs for volunteering their services and time to the community and Parish of Hutton. The Parish Council is now taking steps to fill the **two remaining Councillor vacancies by Co-option.** If any persons are interested, further information can be obtained from the Clerk to the Council - Mr Bruce Poole.

Parish Council Employee Changes

Since the 2023 Annual Parish Meeting the following employee has stood down:

- **Mr David Hart**

David was one of two tradesmen involved in the manufacture and installation of the New St Mary's Church entrance gates to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 2022.

I would like to express my thanks to all the Parish Council employees for their hard and exemplary work and utmost dedication in helping to keep the Parish amenities clean, tidy, functioning, safe and attractive.

Hutton Parish News

At the Parish Council Meeting in January, it was agreed that the **Hutton Parish News will now be produced and distributed four times a year in February, May, July and November.** **Ella Baxter** is our volunteer Hutton Parish News Editor.

At the Annual Parish Meeting last year, it was suggested that the distribution of the Hutton Parish News reverts to the pre-covid method of dedicated volunteers for individual areas of the Parish. This was accepted by the Parish Council and is now working well. **Lyn Dutton** is our volunteer distribution coordinator of the Hutton Parish News.

Most Parish areas are now covered by volunteer distributors; however, additional volunteer distributors are still required for the following areas:

- Hamwood Close (43 houses)
- Banwell Road (12 houses)
- Willow Drive (32 houses)

If any persons are interested in taking on any of these areas, further information can be obtained from Lyn Dutton.

I would also like to express my thanks to all the volunteers involved in the Hutton Parish News for their valuable voluntary communication roles in the community.

Events Supported by the Parish Council

Since the last Annual Parish Meeting, the Parish Council supported events have included:

Hutton Parish Festival Week 2023, including:

- Taste of Somerset Market
- Classic Car Show
- Charity Quiz Night
- Hutton Horticultural Society Annual Show
- Hutton-Dabaso Twinning Association – “Hutton Big Bash”
- United Benefice Songs of Praise
- Hutton Proms Concert

With funds raised during the week for your local charities and organisations, which included:

- Hutton Village Hall
- St Mary’s Church
- Hutton-Dabaso Twinning Association

I would like to express my thanks to all the **event organisers and volunteers, without which, the above events could not have taken place and to those** who attended the events for supporting **your Parish and your local charities and organisations.**

Planning is now also underway for **Hutton Parish Festival Week 2024**. Volunteers are always sought to help organise and support both events. If you would like to help, please contact myself.

Elmhurst Play Area Refurbishment

The Elmhurst Play Area refurbishment has continued since the last Annual Parish Meeting, led by Cllr Ben Groom. It is hoped that the third and final phase of the refurbishment will take place in June of this year. I would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to Ben, who has conducted a huge amount of work on the project for over three and a half years and continues to do so. Further detailed information on the Elmhurst Play Area refurbishment project will be shared later in this meeting.

Scout Hut Development

Work has gone on to maintain and repair the Scout Hut roof by the Parish Council, led by Cllr Ben Groom, who once again deserves our thanks. Further detailed information on the Scout Hut will be shared later in this meeting.

North Somerset Council – Hutton Speed Reduction Plan – 20 MPH Scheme – Update

Earlier this year, the Parish Council reluctantly accepted the planned scheme (minus the extensions requested by the Parish Council for two areas that we consider are dangerous – near Grange Farm and towards Banwell the junction of Canada Coombe). The Parish Council have not given up on future extensions to the scheme but want to now see the current planned scheme introduced.

The Parish Council were assured by North Somerset Council that the 20 MPH scheme would be delivered in May, **disappointingly to date, this has not yet taken place.**

Supported by our District Cllrs - Terry Porter and Mike Solomon, North Somerset Council have been pressed for an update.

As of today, the latest information that the Parish Council has received:

From North Somerset Council - there have been delays due to the end of one Contract and the start of a another and work has had to be reprofiled due to the loss of key members of staff.

However, the project is still a high priority to be delivered and progress has been made. North Somerset Council are now preparing the Traffic Regulation Order to be advertised. The necessary resource is in place and North Somerset Council are on track to complete the construction of the 20 MPH scheme by **21st September 2024.**

Hutton Hill Closure - Update

The Parish Council is extremely aware of the problems and issues that have been caused by the long running **Hutton Hill Road closure** and by the diversion via **Moor Lane, Holm Road and Vereland Road**. The Parish Council, working with and supported by our two District Councillors Terry Porter and Mike Solomon has been pushing North Somerset Council for improvement to the diversion, signage and updates and a solution to the Hutton Hill closure. **Improved diversion signage** has now appeared.

As of today, the latest information that the Parish Council has received:

North Somerset Council Update - NSC have visited the site and will as soon as possible consider their options are under the Highways Act.

From both property owners involved in the closure on Hutton Hill:

I have spoken to both property owners concerned and I would like to express my thanks for their latest update. Both property owners send their apologies to the community for any disruption caused by the wall collapse and subsequent road closure. Both property owners have given me their permission to update the meeting as follows:

1 Barrow Road update – it is in the hands of the solicitors, due to the legal implications. This cannot be rushed, due to the major structural implications to the property at 1 Barrow Road.

5 Hutton Hill update - work was originally booked to start on their section of the wall on the 21st May, however due to circumstances beyond their control, this is not now possible. According to a structural engineer they have engaged; in order to make the wall sufficiently safe to reopen the road, it will be necessary to make a full repair as anything temporary would take the same amount of time. They are now waiting for plans from the structural engineer that will need to be approved by NSC before the work can be booked.

Conclusion

Parishioners and electors are reminded that the Parish Council is a non-political organisation and ALL Parish Councillors are volunteers who freely give their time, commitment and service in support of the Parish.

Finally, I would like to give my thanks to all the Parish organisations, clubs, committees, societies, groups and volunteers, which inspire and support all generations and to all the parishioners of Hutton, **thank you, for what you do to support the Parish.**

This concludes my report, which I would like to submit to the Annual Parish Meeting.

3.2 Report by North Somerset District Councillors – Councillor Mike Solomon – Apologies Councillor Terry Porter.

Work ongoing by NSC to repair the potholes. Hutton 20MPH Scheme is as the Chair - Cllr Peter Dutton stated.

Tropicana closing in September for redevelopment work. Marine Lake and Grove Park is having £2.5M spent on it for improvement.

WSM Airshow had a subsidy of £85K spent on it last year. This year will cost £165K, so it will not be happening.

The positive for planning is that new houses are needed, it helps allocation and people need houses, but the correct infrastructure and services need to be in place.

A question was asked by a parishioner as to when a Cycle Path would be in operation from the bottom of Moor Lane across the new development on the Airfield. **Agreed that Cllr Soloman would take the matter away and look into it.**

3.3 Planning application (24/P/0142/OUT) for the erection of 48 dwellings, public open space, engineering works, associated infrastructure and ancillary works on the Land to East of Lynx Crescent Hutton Weston-super-Mare – Councillor Peter Dutton (on behalf of Councillor Terry Porter – Apologies) and Councillor Mike Solomon

On the waited balance, we consider there are more reasons for refusal than approval.

In Favour

The 48 houses are within the 75 possible dwellings adjacent to the Weston settlement boundary.

North Somerset Council cannot show a five-year supply of housing.

Against

The building of houses within **the Green Belt and on the Flood Plain is against North Somerset policy.** This policy has been accepted by government.

These houses are situated in **flood zone 3a.**

At the planning appeal for the 130 properties as Fox Glove Meadows, the Inspector commented that he would grant the 130 properties, **but no more to be built especially in the food plain.** With the 130 houses, thousands of tons of hardcore were required to raise ground level. Not environmentally a good practise. The same would be required for this proposed development. The attenuation pond looks inadequate and not sure how the flood compensation area contributes. If this is to be considered a flood sequential test would be required. I am sure there are more suitable sites for development, not in the flood plain, in

the area. I do not think the test provided meets the requirements to approve this application. Both the North Somerset IDB and the Environment Agency make very strong objections to this development on the grounds of development in the flood plain.

In an earlier application this site was allocated for sports pitches. This was later withdrawn and the 106 money for off-site provision was paid.

The access to these new properties would be from Woodside Avenue. This single entrance road already supports approx. 400 houses. An additional 48 is unacceptable. This road besides being a service road has to provide parking for many of the houses on either side. At the time these houses were built, there was not the provision of two parking spaces per property. This makes access on this road very congested.

The use of this access for construction, some 5 years of the previous development has been an unacceptable intrusion on the properties along Woodside Avenue. This would start again if this development was approved.

Those purchasing properties in Ten Acres Close were told that there would be no development in front of their properties.

Currently there were 36 public comments on the North Somerset Council Planning Application web site. 35 objecting to the application and 1 supporting the application.

Hutton Parish Council had provisionally objected to the application on access grounds, years of previous construction, loss of green space and building on a Flood Plain.

Discussion during the meeting, strong objection by the attendees centred on **building on a Flood Plain, drainage, concern over flooding of gardens/properties, lack of green space, congested access, overdevelopment, concerns over pressure on the hospital and GP service, broken promises not to build any more development, effect on wildlife, increase in insurance premiums and not getting any flood insurance cover.**

People on Woodside have been impacted for years.

A vote was taken during the meeting and the planning application was unanimously objected. **NONE of the meeting attendees were in favour of the development. All the meeting attendees OPPOSED the development.**

Any planning objections to North Somerset Council need to be for the correct reasons.

Hutton Parish Council where to submit a further OBJECTION to the development planning application.

Both Cllr Porter and Cllr Solomon intend to fight the development and “bring it to Committee” if required.

Post Meeting - Chairman’s Note – Following the Annual Parish Meeting on Friday 17th May 2024 – Hutton Parish Council submitted the following OBJECTION to North Somerset Council:

Hutton Parish Council OBJECTS to Planning Application 24/P/0142/OUT on the following grounds:

- At the 8th April 2024 Hutton Parish Council Meeting, the proposed development was unanimously opposed by Councillors.
- At the 15th May 2024 Hutton Annual Parish Meeting the proposed development was unanimously opposed, by parishioners. Extreme concern was raised by parishioners over plans to build on the flood plain.
- Hutton Parish Council supports ALL the objections on the North Somerset Council website and objections raised by parishioners at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- Access via Woodside Avenue in the Parish of Hutton means that the single entrance road which already supports approximately 400 properties, would need to support an additional 48, which is deemed unacceptable.
- Parking on Woodside Avenue would make this already congested access road, even more congested, which is deemed unacceptable.
- Further intrusive construction work, following years of previous intrusive construction work for the 130 (planning application - 21/P/0965/OUT) and 16 (planning application - 21/P/0965/OUT) additional Woodside properties. The new development would cause a further unacceptable intrusion on the properties alongside Woodside Avenue, which would start all over again.
- Loss of Green Space
- Building on the Green Belt is against North Somerset Council policy - this policy has been accepted by government inspectors at appeals.
- Building on the Flood Plain is against North Somerset Council policy- this policy has been accepted by government inspectors at appeals.
- The proposed new properties are situated in a flood zone. At the Planning Appeal for the 130 properties (planning application - 21/P/0965/OUT) the inspector commented that he would grant the 130 properties, but no more were to be built, especially in the flood plain.
- Properties in 10 Acres Close were told that there would be no more development in the area of the proposed new properties.

3.4 Hutton Village Hall Committee Report – Marion Cuthbert, Secretary

Report on behalf of Paul Robbins Chairman of Hutton Village Hall

The hall has come through a challenging year with the death of Trevor Savage (previous Chair), financial and premises problems.

We have repaired the Main Hall floor, the roof, and had various electrical works completed, most notably the heating system.

The hall now has a key safe to allow hirers access to the hall and giving greater security to the premises

We have paid all our bills and are solvent.

We have our own website which has opened up more enquiries for bookings. It enables on-line booking and the production of invoices. The website was built by local resident Dan Stringer who did not charge us. It gives us greater visibility and saves a huge amount of Admin time.

Our Facebook page is now more regularly updated with local events.

We hold a 'Music Night' monthly with our 'house' band and this provides another welcome income stream.

A chain and post were installed in October 2023 to enable hall patrons sufficient parking. This has been largely successful except when the padlock isn't on parents wanting to park have removed the post. There is occasionally a problem when there are events at school in the afternoon. This is being monitored.

The hall is cleaner and in better condition with small repairs being regularly undertaken.

A Volunteers Day was held was advertised in The Hutton Parish News, on Facebook and with posters around the area. On 23 March 34 people turned up to help. An enormous amount was achieved.

WDS in Winterstoke Road donated a huge volume of paint and materials enabling much redecoration at the hall that would not otherwise have taken place.

The Main Hall was painted and we even managed to start on the Small Hall redecoration. The tables, chairs, crockery and cutlery were all counted. Gardening and outside tidying, repairs all around the premises were made and leaks in loos repaired. Many loads of rubbish were taken to the tip.

Lunch was provided for everyone.

There will be another Volunteering Day to complete more decorating and perhaps (weather permitting) some work outside. This will take place on Saturday 24 August 2024. All welcome for tea/coffee, biscuits and lunch.

Our challenge now is to have people become involved in some way to help us deliver what our community needs whether that be by attending and supporting events at the hall or giving an hour or two of your time.

3.5 Hutton Primary School – Luci Amos, Executive Headteacher

It is with very mixed feelings that I am here today, as this will be my last report to the parish council as I am retiring at the end of this academic year.

I have mixed feelings because I have thoroughly enjoyed the last 20 years as Head of this lovely school, but I feel that now is the right time to hand the baton to someone new to take the school forward- enabling me to go travelling – in term time!

I started at Hutton as Head teacher, in January 2004. One of the first events I attended was the Hutton/Dabaso Wassail- I was informed that it was tradition for the head to attend such events- so two weeks into my post I dutifully went along to my first wassail event. It wasn't until some considerable time later I discovered it was actually the first Wassail event Hutton had held! But I have been to 17 of the past wassails!

During the first few months the school hall was under construction – I arrived just as the builders were dismantling a wall that had been erected because it wasn't straight! Fortunately, after that incident the building progressed quite smoothly. Since then, I have overseen a new entrance and front office, a kitchen for pupils to use for cooking, planting out the school field to provide shade in the summer, the installation of a greenhouse for our gardeners, the new build of 5 classrooms instead of our 40 year old 'temporary' huts, 2 sensory rooms created for our high needs pupils, and most recently a new, all weather stage. The pupils at Hutton Primary are extremely fortunate to have such fantastic grounds and resources.

Some other memorable events over the years include:

- My visit to Dabaso, Kenya. (5th twinning Anniversary)2004
- Our whole school Evacuation to Minehead. 2005
- Productions of Oliver and Joseph where we uncovered so much talent. 2006/7
- Choir Tours at Christmas where we raised money for charity, entertained at the residential care homes, and acquired a reputation as a fantastic choir!
- Watching proudly at the playhouse dance events where our pupils outperformed most others- and everyone commended us on getting so many boys dancing- as many were after school dance clubs only attended by girls.
- The comprehensive Pupil voice- where children in KS2 take responsibility for developing an aspect of our school – including Playground buddies, peer mediators, librarians, office monitors, recyclers and serving on various councils.
- 2017 Helping to form and join Kaleidoscope Multi academy trust- which is a most supportive MAT with close ties and regular meetings between the schools. Kaleidoscope ensures pupils are put at the forefront of all we do together – ensuring that we still hold spelling bees, maths challenges, sporting and music events, and that staff have plenty of opportunities to work together rather than being a ‘top down imposed’ model.
- 2020 Becoming Executive Head and thus enabling Hutton to initially support Becket, and now work in partnership with them for the benefit of both schools.
- 2023 Victorian School Day celebrating 150 years of school being in this building.

Hutton school is classed as a ‘Good school’ by both Ofsted and the church SIAMS inspection processes. But I think it is a Great school!

We have a fantastic staff team in school – who always go above and beyond for the pupils. Last week we held our own ‘Eurovision Song contest’ – with each class finding out about and learning songs and dances from different European countries. The children spoke clearly, sang and danced well and we had everything from Frere Jacques sung in French from our 4-year-olds, the UK national anthem learnt by our 5-year-olds, a plaintiff traditional Norwegian song, some traditional Irish dancing, some old Eurovision entries and of course an Abba medley!

The school calendar is packed with events which supplement our curriculum. These include: YR go to Court Farm, Y1 explore Hutton, Y2 and Y3 Dance at the Playhouse as part of Dance your socks off, Y3 lead our Harvest celebrations, visit the museum and go tobogganing. Y4 learn to swim and climb and go on their first residential camp. Y5 undertake the Archbishop of York Challenge as part of a community/charity project, perform the Easter story and go climbing and abseiling, Y6 visit the life-skills centre in Bristol which includes learning how to phone the emergency services and stay safe on railways, they also do cycle safety, and swimming self-rescue. They go caving, stay away for a week residential camp and of course put together a fantastic end of year show. And of course that is all on top of becoming articulate, literate, numerate, compassionate, citizens of the future.

There are many organisations in the village I want to thank; the parish council for always being supportive of the school, the church for the close links we have developed over the past 20 years, the village hall committee and drama club who enable us to perform our end of year production over here, the horticultural society for enabling us to exhibit our art work at the show, the twinning committee for all the wassails. I am sure that there are

many other organisations and individuals I should thank too – but there are a few people I must mention by name who have been so supportive over the years -

Jane Barry for her very supportive stint as Chair and vice chair of Governors.

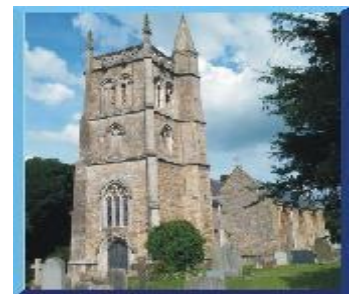
Mary Potter, who served as Governor for 16 of my 20 years here, who is always so enthusiastic about the school.

John Chatburn who has always been involved with school – both when he was governor and still as sports day race starter and big birthday celebrant today!

And finally, someone who breathes life, fun and enjoyment into everything that happens through the introduction of music- Eric Holdaway plays for our worships, teaches the children to sing- which they do with such gusto, and supports us with all our events and productions.

I have had a fabulous 20 years here – and so it is tinged with sadness that I retire. But I am very confident that Hutton CE Primary will continue to flourish as I hand the baton on to Ms Charlotte Barwell, a head teacher and previous executive head, from Oxfordshire who has considerable experience.

3.6 Hutton St Mary's Church – PCC – Councillor Peter Dutton, on behalf of Dave Bradley, Churchwarden



Firstly, may we apologise for no one from St. Mary's being here in person but most of the Church officers are on short breaks this week, following a very hectic few months for the Church.

As you will be aware, Anne and Chris Wilkins moved from the Benefice at the beginning of September 2023 to take up new posts in Sawley, Nottinghamshire. This meant that the Benefice lost not only Anne it's Vicar, but also Chris the Benefice administrator, Lay Reader and member of Hutton Parochial Church Council. However, they have settled well into their new posts and are enjoying life in the midlands.

The Parishes of Hutton and Locking then entered a period of 'vacancy', pending the arrival of a new Incumbent. The first job was to find a new administrator and following advertisements for the post, Mrs Corriene Wilson took on the role in October 2023 and has settled well into the post despite a fairly steep learning curve. She can be found in the Benefice office at Locking on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 0830 to 1230.

Much hard work followed by a dedicated team from both Churches to compile a Parish profile, which outlined all aspects of life in Hutton and Locking parishes and from which a

job description and advert were produced. As with most aspects of the Church of England, nothing moves very quickly and a lengthy process of advertising for a new incumbent was underway. Meantime the Pastoral leaders and Churchwardens continued to provide 'service as normal' with the assistance of many visiting Clergy and service leaders.

The pattern of Church services has continued as has the day-to-day life of the Church and its interaction with Hutton School. All aspects of pastoral care have continued and so far, three funerals and a wedding have been undertaken, with two more weddings coming up in June.

Following the closing date for applications for the post of Incumbent at the beginning of April, two candidates were invited for interview on the 25th of April and by a unanimous decision from the interviewing panel, one was offered the post.

Mrs. Larissa Trust will be the new Vicar of the Benefice of Hutton and Locking and she will be taking up post around the beginning of October this year. Larissa comes to us from Christchurch with Emmanuel in Weston-super-Mare where she has up to now held the post of Curate.

We are sure that you will all make her very welcome when she arrives in this Benefice.

Thank you and God bless.

3.7 Hutton /Dabaso Twinning Committee – Councillor Andrew Sills, on behalf of Charlotte House, Hon Secretary



The Twinning Committee has had a very successful year.

Fundraising: We have held a variety of fundraising events including the Hutton Garden Party last July, The Big Bash in Sept, Wassailing in Jan and a Quiz in March.

Future events:

- Garden Party Sat 6th July, in Chris Clarke's garden, between 11am and 1pm. All welcome, free entry, the usual things to enjoy including a raffle, coffee and cake, book stall, plants stall and the ever popular brac a brac!
- The Big Bash August 31st St Mary's field, Hutton, this time catering for up to 700 people with 3 x bands, bars and food stalls.

Support in Dabaso: We continue to fund the clinic in Dabaso, paying the salaries of 2 x nurses and buying most of the medication. We continue to support 8 x bursaries for students to go through 4 x years of secondary education. This will be reduced to three years due to changes in secondary structure, so we may be able to fund more students in future as this new system evolves.

25th Anniversary of the Hutton Dabaso Twinning Committee

2024 sees the 25th Anniversary of the twinning and a visit is planned for October.

Alongside celebrating the amazing achievements of the last 25 years, we have a focus

project for the visit. Due to changes in the Kenyan education system, children will remain at Dabaso School for two more years, designated as Junior Secondary. We aim to assist the school in extending its teaching capacity, specifically a science and technology-based classroom equipped appropriately for the curriculum. To this end we are planning to fill and ship out a container or crates in July/August and hope for suitable offers from Hutton community when we are filling the container. More of this as details emerge...

If anyone might be interested in coming to Kenya or has an offer of suitable donations of equipment, please email Margaret Sills for further details hutton.dabaso@btinternet.com

Do please extend the invitation to all stakeholders, whether or not they are Hutton residents. Anyone is welcome to get involved with the twinning by reading our regular newsletter items and participating in our fundraising events.

Partnership with Hutton Parish Council:

We are very much looking forward to our second Big Bash (should that be a Bigger Bash?!) during the Hutton Horticultural Festival in August. We are grateful to the Parish Council for sharing their marquee space on Sat 31st August and for their trust in us to cater for a larger number of attendees. Here's to another successful venture.



3.8 Hutton in Bloom – Louise Beamish, Co-ordinator

The last year was a challenging year for Hutton in Bloom.

In June one of our team had an accident with the truck, which had a temporary impact on the watering rota. Thank you to Peter Dutton and Ben Groom for their help with the insurance claim.

We held a coffee morning last year which was a great success and raised over £300. Summer 2023 planting was very colourful, and the displays all looked great.

The Sponsor's Tea was held in August, it gives us a chance to meet up with our sponsors who continue to support us, and some have done for many years. All areas were planted for Winter 2023 and the team put up the Christmas Tree donated by Hutton Garden Centre, and it looked fabulous upon completion.

The team enjoyed a couple of social events in 2023 and look forward to more this year.

A massive thank you to all of those who support us, our Sponsor's, the Parish Council and Terry Porter.

I am the co-ordinator but a special thanks should go to all my team who work so hard, without their continued commitment and hard work, there would be NO Hutton in Bloom.

3.9 – Hutton Horticultural Society – No Report - Councillor Terry Porter apologies

3.10 – Hutton Drama Club – Carole Springthorpe, Chairperson

As one of the HVH main groups hiring the hall over the year we try to support them as much as possible. We put on Summer performances as well as the January Panto which

are thoroughly enjoyed by local residents as well as the surrounding areas. Last summer we helped out at the big bash acting as car park attendants also on the bar. Again, helping in the bar this year. In December we had a stall at the Scouts Christmas fare promoting our group. We also joined the working party with re painting the hall.

3.11 Hutton Football Club – Tim Abram, Chairman

Some of the things we have been doing this year:

- Our season, it has to be said, has been a bit stop-start this season due to the weather. We have not seen a winter like it, with games cancelled almost every week between October and March, and we even had a game postponed in May! We have been trying to put our resources into hiring all-weather pitches, but there are limited venues in the area, and obviously, they are expensive. We have put measures in place for next season to hire a 3G each weekend on both a Saturday and a Sunday.
- We are still one of the biggest football clubs in the Southwest, with well over 300 children (290 registered to play, and at our Under 6 Development Centre), 132 registered senior players and 49 registered ladies players. We are up at around 80 volunteers across all our age groups who help manage, coach and referee and then hundreds more that help out with all sorts of things.
- Our ladies team has been excellent all year, and have been really involved in club activities, hosting a quiz night at the village hall last month that was a raging success and raised a lot of money for a young person's cancer charity.
- We now have:
 - o Two Adult (Mens) Teams
 - o A ladies team o An Under 18's Team
 - o A Vets (Over 35) Team
 - o 21 Youth teams (including two all-girl teams) and
 - o An Under 6 Development Centre, for 4,5 & 6 year olds. Which is hosted down at the Weston college health and active living centre. We are now advertising for reception and year one children to start in this for next season.
- The teams are doing very well across the board. Our Under 18's won their league to get back-to-back champions trophies, and Under 13 Girls not only won their league but also got to the Somerset Cup final (which is kind of like the champions league of local football, with teams from all over the West country). We had several promotions and
- The conditions of the Springwood pitch have focussed our minds and we will be using a large chunk of the money we discussed last year - a Section 106 contribution from the housebuilders Lovells of just over £82K to improve the playing surface at Springwood, fixing the dip in the land at the corner near the compound which gets flooded regularly.
- I am pleased to say that our events this year have continued to be successful. o In the summer we were delighted to help out at the Hutton Big Bash, even if I did nearly blow myself and one our coaches with a faulty camping stove, supplied by Simon Winston Roberts of St Mary's drive in case any of you get invited to one of his BBQ's.

o Our junior tournament was held over two days in June, with over 500 games played, and we are so pleased to say with very little issues with parking! We are a little worried about this season's tournament on 1st and 2nd June due to the road closures but have put plans in place to create a one-way system and police it with as many volunteers as we can muster!

o A senior tournament was held the following week that managed to raise a lot of money for Sepsis UK and this year we have decided that we are tired of getting the run around from the youngsters and have made it a Vets tournament!

o Our presentation is in June, which sees every age group descend on the Royal Hotel to receive their trophies for the season. Overall, we spent just over £3K on trophies again! o We hosted another amazingly successful Fireworks display in November – Our biggest and best yet! We will continue to do this until the Parish Council want us to stop, as it isn't a fundraiser for us, but done purely to give something back to the wider community. We are committed to do it as long as you want us to continue.and

Finally I would also like to let you know that next season will be my tenth and final year as chairman, so this will be my penultimate report to the Parish Council. We will be electing a new Vice Chair at our AGM in July, with a view to them stepping into my shoes at the end of the 2024-25 season. I will still be involved in the club, but for fear of my own sanity and potential divorce, I have always said that ten years is enough for any person to chair a club like ours, to avoid stagnation and encourage innovation.

I would personally like to thank the Parish Council for their support of the club in my time stewarding it, and I won't dwell on it too much as I'll do a proper speech next year, we do appreciate how you have supported us in our endeavours over the years. I'll do a proper speech at next years!

Thanks for your time.

3.12 Hutton Community Speed Watch – No Report

3.13 Neighbourhood Policing Team – Avon and Somerset Police – Councillor Peter Dutton, on behalf of PCSO Steve Hemmett – Apologies

No great crimes issues with the Parish. Be aware of travellers, they are in Weston-super-Mare. Concerns about Hutton Hill Closure, but the police are very limited in the action that they can take.

3.14 Hutton Scout Hut and Parks and Open Spaces - Councillor Peter Dutton, on behalf of Councillor Ben Groom – Apologies

Elmhurst Park - Over the past 12 months a number of activities have been taking place across the Parish. Phase two of Elmhurst Play Park was completed in January 2023 and work began on funding the third and final phase of the park's transformation.

The Parish Council were successful in obtaining funding a further £10,000 in National Lottery funding but due to a number of reasons outside of the Parish Council's control, the remaining budget was not agreed until early 2024.

Work is expected to commence in later June and be completed within a few weeks. This will see the last two items of play equipment (slide and seesaw) replaced with modern, accessible play equipment, including better access for wheelchair users.

Des Phippen and Springwood open spaces have continued to be maintained, with further pond clearing and tree pruning scheduled to take place shortly.

Village Green - A new seating bench has kindly donated and sponsored by a local family from the Parish and is due to be installed at the Village Green on Windmill Hill within the next few weeks. Work has now also now been completed to reinstate the gates to the main access.

Scout Hut - The Scouting Groups have continued to grow, with the addition of the Beavers now taking up residency in Hutton.

Private bookings have been steady but there are still opportunities to grow and expand the Scout Hut's utilisation during the daytime and at weekends.

Following the dreadful weather throughout the winter months, the building's flat roof incurred some minor water ingress. Thankfully a short-term solution was found and alongside the current user groups, a medium to long-term solution is being developed.

The Parish Council has also agreed a budget to progress the work carried out with the local building consultants Dowlas Group on a longer-term strategy for the Scout Hut building.

4. Open Forum

No questions where asked.

5. Date of Next Annual Parish Meeting

To be decided, but it will be between 1st March and 1st June 2025 – most likely to be in April 2025.

Tea, Coffee and biscuits were then served.

