

8th February 1941

Parish Council

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at the Parochial Schools, Long Ashton on Saturday afternoon February 8th when Mr H. Jefferies presided over the following members, Messrs Ball, Barnes, Evans, Milner, Mitchell, Morrish, Pearce and Yeo.

Apology for inability to attend received from Mr Childe.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

Arising out of same

Quarry – Rownham Hill

The Clerk reported receipt from Messrs O'Donaghue and Forbes, Solicitors and Conveyancer in connection with Rownham Hill Quarry, Leigh Woods, for the motion of Mr Morrish, seconded by Mr Ball it was agreed that the same should be signed. Clerk read letter of the 9th January 1941 in which the Minister asked for full details of the loan, this being supplied him by letter of the 13th January.

Footpath Tree

Mr Pearce reported visiting spot with Mr Mitchell and there were of opinion the accumulation of water was due to a choked spout, was on land belonging to the Bristol Town Council beyond Wild Country Lane and in Barrow Gurney parish.

Footpath – Research Station

Letter written as directed at last meeting.

War Department – Providence Quarry

Reply sent War Department Bath, 18th December.

Rayen's Cross Road - Accident

Mr Worrall replied by letter of the 19th December that owing to the National Emergency and development in this area not being completed the road in question had not yet been taken over by the County Council but he would take an early opportunity of Examining and having the holes made good.

Air Raid Shelters

Clerk referred to a telephone communication received from Mr Hollis, District Councillor, as to provision of Air Raid Shelters.

Mr Pearce moved that the R. D. C. be asked to provide two public shelters on Westleaze and the other at the corner of Rayen's Cross Road, Birdwell, near the main road, seconded by Mr Ball and carried.

Arising out of this Mr Ball moved that the R. D. C. Be asked to consider the provision of and provide an extension ladder for the use of each fire party in the parish, seconded by Mr Morrish and carried.

Parish Meeting

It was decided to hold Annual Parish Meeting on the 25th March next at 6 o'clock but it was left to the Clerk to make arrangements as to holding same at the Church House.

Trees obstruction – Providence

Mr Morrish offered to inspect trees at Providence stated to be causing an obstruction and telephone particulars to the Clerk.

26th February 1941 Parish Council

A special meeting of the Council was held at the Schools on Wednesday 26th February 1941, Mr H. Jefferies, presiding over the following members, Messrs Ball, Barnes, Evans, Milner, Mitchell, Pearce and Yeo.

Apologies for inability to attend were received by Messrs Childe, Knapman, Morrish.

The Chairman explained the reason why he had called the Council together at such short notice and the Clerk read letter received from the Rev. H. Knapman.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr H. J. Barnes, seconded by Mr. N. Pearce and unanimously carried.

“This Long Ashton Parish Council view with great alarm the prospect of a decoy for German Planes now being laid in Ashton Park. Owing to the proximity of Long Ashton to Bristol about 160 ?, bombs have fallen in the parish, besides number of Time Action bombs and Incendiary bombs doing considerable damage; the Vicarage has been destroyed, the Church House and school badly damaged, while the Church set on fire but fortunately saved and scored of houses damaged.

Shelters were promised months ago but not one has been delivered and the village is without any protection. The population is about 4000; part of the village is less than $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from the decoy and within two miles of the decoy is the Naval Hospital with about 500 beds.

We do strongly feel that we are in sufficient danger already without this added one, and most urgently beg you to reconsider the scheme and move it to a less thickly populated area.

The Clerk was instructed to send same to the M. P. For the division.

Recreation Ground

A cheque for payment for principle of interest on loan was due before the next meeting the Clerk was empowered to obtain signatures of members to same before.

**Parish Meeting
25th March 1941**

The Annual Parish Meeting was held at the Parochial Schools, Long Ashton on Tuesday 25th March 1941 when Mr Jeffries presided over the seven Councillors and 3 electors.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and signed - (12th March 1940).

Merriott's Field

The Rev. H. Knapman drew attention that a crater caused by enemy action in Merriott's Field was being filled in, and moved that the County Council be written asking them, while the work was in progress, to be good enough to take the necessary steps to see the Church path through the field was definable and passable.

Minutes of the 23rd April 1940 read and confirmed.

Long Ashton Parochial Charity

Clerk read statement of accounts for the year 1940, which showed there was a balance in hand of £67. 12. 9.

Lighting and Watching Act

Clerk stated that after meeting liabilities on this fund for 1941-42 amounting to £52.

1. 6. he would have a balance of £41. 6. 5.

Parish Council
25th March 1941

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at the close of the Parish Meeting, Mr H. Jefferies presiding over the following members, Messrs Ball, Childe, Evans, Jeffries, Knapman, Morrish, Pearce and Yeo.

Minutes of the previous meeting of the 8th February were read and signed.

Matters arising therefrom

Quarry – Rownham Hill

Clerk reported Solicitors acting for the Council were experiencing some difficulty in getting Mr Tucker an adjoining owner to remove some trees felled in the Quarry and it was left to Messrs Ball, Childe and Morrish to visit the Quarry and if satisfied as to ownership of the trees to take the necessary steps for disposal of same.

Clerk read letter of 20th March 1941 he had sent to Solicitors as to Tucker's claim of right in the Quarry.

The Minister of Health wrote by letter 10th February approving of the application of the sum of £90 the proceeds of the sale of the land known as Rownham Quarry towards the discharge of the debt of £400 incurred by the Parish Council on the 21st March 1938 in connection with the purchase of land for a recreation ground.

The Public Works Load Board wrote by letter of the 14th February they were prepared to accept the extra payment with the terms of Treasury Minute of the 5th October 1933, and that the sum of £90 be apportioned between principal and premium.

A R Shelters and Ladders

Letter of the 19th February from R. D. Council to the effect they were endeavouring to arrange for the construction of public shelters at the places indicated in this Council's letter was read.

Arising out of this, Rev. H. Knapman stated the County Evacuation Committee were willing for the shelter at the rear of the Schools to be used by the public after School hours.

Trees at Providence - Obstruction

No reply received from Mr Foord. Left to Mr Morrish to interview Mr Foord.

Minutes of the 26th February 1941 read and confirmed

Letter of the 1st March from Mr OrrEwing was read and the Clerk instructed to thank him for the same and the trouble he had taken in the matter and to point out if the radius mentioned therein was half a mile, there were several houses within that radius without shelters.

National Youth Movement

Letter of the 5th March received from the Rev. H. Knapman who explained the aims and objects of the movement, and Mr A. G. Morrish was asked to represent the Council at any future meeting.

A R P - Sand

R. D. Council by letter of the 25th February wrote they did not propose distributing any more sand in the district.

Accounts

Clerk reported as instructed at last meeting obtaining signatures of two members to cheque for

P. W. L. Bd Principal £8. Int £6. 10. 6. = £14. 10. 6.

The following accounts were presented for payment and cheques drawn.

Lighting Fund

North Somerset Electric Supply Co.

Long Ashton 101 Lamps @ 40/9 57. 8. 11.

Leigh Woods 25 Lamps 12. 14. 8.

64. 3. 7.

By credit – blackout 38. 3. 10.

£25. 19. 9.

Ashton Court Estate. Wayleave 2. -

General Fund:

Clerk salary less Superannuation 13/6 10. 11. 6.

Superannuation Fd. Council 13/6

Clerk 13/6 1. 7. -

Equal Annual Charge 6.

Audit Stamp 5.

Postages 1. 15. 11.

G. C. Hancock Posters 11. 6.

Somerset Co. Superannuation Fund 1. 7. -

Allotment Fund

G. C. Hancock Demand Notes 16. -

Ashton Court Estate Rent 39. 2. 9

Wayleaves 7.

Postages 1. 12. 8.

Allotment Committee's Report

This was adopted on the motion of Mr Pearce seconded by Mr Evans.

Report of Allotment Committee

Committee met 14th December 1940 and considered application of Mr E. A. Williams to occupy grass allotment recently vacated by H. H. Barnes, but who asked that rent be reduced to £5 per annum owing to the poor condition of the land.

The Committee after consideration, decided to recommend the Council that the rent of each of the two allotments in Bow Lane be reduced as from 25th March next by £1.

Complaint having been made as to rabbits entering allotments at Birdwell, it was decided to endeavour to obtain 50 yards of wire and 5 posts.

Committee also met on 8th and 26th February 1941.

Precept

It was decided to serve a precept on the Rating Authority for £40 - General Expenses for the first half year.

Next meeting – To hold the annual meeting of the Parish Council April 22nd 1941 at 6.30pm.

Date of next meeting was provisionally fixed for March 11th 1941.

22nd April 1941
Parish Council

The Annual Parish Meeting of the Parish Council was held at the Schools, Long Ashton on Tuesday 22nd April when the following members were present, Messrs Ball, Childe, Evans, Jeffries, Knapman, Milner, Morrish, Pearce and Yeo.

Chairman

Mr Pearce moved Mr Morrish seconded that Mr Jeffries be Chairman for the ensuing year. Carried.

Vice – Chairman

On the proposition of Mr Ball, seconded by Mr Childe, Mr Morrish was unanimously elected Vice-Chairman.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

Arising therefrom

Quarry – Rownham Hill

The Clerk reported having heard from the members appointed at the last meeting to view trees in the quarry, and through the assistance of Mr Milner he had written Messrs Wethers of Pill, giving them instructions to move timber planks and galvanised sheets.

Trees – Obstruction at Providence

Mr Yeo reported interviewing Mr Foord.

Allotment Committee

Mr Pearce moved Mr Milner seconded that Messrs Ball, Barnes, Childe, Mitchell, Morrish and Yeo be appointed Allotment Committee.

Lighting Committee

Messrs Ball, Childe, Milner, Mitchell, Morrish and Yeo were appointed to act as Lighting Committee on the motion of Mr Pearce seconded by the Rev. H. Knapman.

Swann Benefactor

Mr R. Milner was appointed to represent the residents of St Mary's Leigh Woods as one of the Trustees of this fund.

Recreation Ground Committee

On the motion of Mr Ball, seconded by Mr Milner, Messrs Childe, Evans, Jeffries, Knapman, Mitchell, Morrish and Pearce were elected as Recreation Ground Committee.

Charity Trustees

Messrs H. G. Evans and G. Yeo were appointed to represent the Council on the Charity Trustees for a period of 4 years, Mr March being thanked for his services as Trustee for several years.

Parish Meeting Correspondence

Clerk reported writing County Council as to crater in Merriot's Field.

Allotments

Mr Pearce drew attention to the condition of the fence at St Martin's.

Bower Ashton

Clerk reported a bomb had fallen in No.1 allotments occupied by Mr Wootton, doing damage to the adjoining wall, and that he had written Ashton Court Estate concerning same. Mr Ball stated he had inspected the allotment and doubted whether it would be in cultivation the present twelve months.

The Clerk was instructed to write Ashton Court Estate, in the interest of the other tenants, if they would be good enough to put hurdles there to prevent cattle trespassing on the allotments.

Ladders

On the proposition of Mr Childe, it was agreed the Clerk should write R. D. Council and ask for a reply to this Council's letter as to the supply of extension ladders.

Steps. Marriot's Field. Church path.

Clerk to write to County Council pointing out that the steps the Bristol side of the Church path in Merriot's Field were in a bad state of repair, and asking them to be good enough to give them their necessary attention.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for June 24th.

The Bristol Tramways and Carriage Co. Ltd.

Mr Childe suggested this Co. might be asked if they contemplate placing more buses on the road through Long Ashton during the summer months they might favourably consider one to leave the Tramways Centre about 9 or 9.30 in the evening.

Parish Council
24th June 1941

The quarterly meeting of the Parish Council was held at the Schools on Tuesday the 24th June 1941, Mr H. Jefferies presiding over the following members, Messrs Childe, Evans, Knapman, Milner, Morrish, and Yeo.

An apology for inability to attend received from Mr N. Pearce.

Minutes of the previous meeting of the 8th February were read and signed.

Matters arising from same

Quarry – Rownham Hill

Clerk reported receipt of communication from Messrs O'Donaghue and Forbes, Solicitors that they had completed sale and had deposited the sum of £90 purchase money, to the credit of the Council's account at the National Provincial Bank, Ashton Gate, and that he (the Clerk) has sent a cheque for this amount to the Public Works Loan Board, £8. 2. 6. of which the Board has placed to the reduction of the Loan on the Recreation Ground, the balance £2. 17. 6. being premium for so doing. The future half yearly payment in respect of this loan will be £6. 0. 5. (principal) instead of £8.

Allotments Bower Ashton

Mr Worrall having replied that the boundary fence of his allotment damaged by enemy action was the property of the Great Western Railway, the Company was communicated with, who replied by letter of the 16th May they were making enquiries into the matter.

Rural District Council – Ladders

The R. D. Council wrote by letter of the 14th May they did not propose to supply ladders for fire parties generally.

Fire parties would make themselves familiar with the position of ladders in the vicinity and arrange with owners to have them available in case of emergency, any damage being made good by the Council.

Steps – Merriott's Field – Church path

The County Surveyor by letter of the 14th May wrote that the path had never been maintained by the County Council as a public highway and asking on what grounds it was suggested the County Council should now repair the steps.

It was decided the County Council be informed that as the Highway Authority should repair a Church path.

Bristol Tramway and Carriage Co.

The Traffic Manager wrote by letter 12th May they had not received any information from the Regional Transport Commissioner as to additional services operating during the summer and as the tendency for fuel to be further reduced he was afraid it would be impossible to accede to the request.

Draft Balance Sheet

Clerk produced draft balance sheet of the a/c for 1940-1941 and reported balance on the General Fund of £27. 12. 9. Allotments £106. 3. 9. Lighting £93. 7. 11. Recreation Ground £10. 3. 9. total £237. 8. 2., a slight increase on the previous year.

Arrears of Rent and allotments outstanding 31st March were £6. 12. of which £3. 13. 4. have since been received.

Mr Childe moved that the Clerk's salary for one quarter be charged to the Allotment Fund, seconded by Mr Morrish and carried.

Accounts

The following accounts were presented for payment and cheques drawn in settlement.

General Fund:

Withers Toms. Cutting and moving timber 2. - -

Rownham Quarry

O'Donaghue and Forbes - Solicitors Costs 4. 4. 6

Sale of Rownham Hill

Clerk salary less Superannuation 13/6 10. 11. 6.

Somerset Co. Superannuation Fund 1. 7. -

Lighting Fund

North Somerset Electric Supply Co.

Long Ashton 101 Lamps @ 40/9 57. 8. 11.

Leigh Woods 25 Lamps 12. 14. 8.

64. 3. 7.

By credit – blackout 38. 3. 10.

£25. 19. 9.

Ashton Court Estate. Wayleave 2. -

Allotment Fund

J. L. H. Pearce Ltd. – Birdwell A. 1. 17. 5.

Netting & Stds.

Ashton Court Estate - Posts 1. 3. -

Recreation Ground

It was decided on the motion of Mr Evans, seconded by Mr Morrish to allow Mr E. James to have the grass in the Recreation Ground if he would be good enough to cut same.

Housing Accommodation

Mr Morrish drew the Council's attention to the difficulty experienced by persons whose homes have been damaged by enemy action in obtaining other accommodation although same was apparently available.

It was decided to ask the R. D. Council for their assistance in this matter and to state the opinion of the Council accommodation was being withheld.

Evacuees

Mr Knapman informed the Council of a meeting convened for the next day at the Unionist Hall at 11 o'clock dealing with matters concerning the reception of homeless evacuees, Mr Morrish kindly offered to attend.

Coal

The Clerk was instructed to enquire of the fuel overseer as to the controlled price of coal in the parish, it being stated several prices were being charged.

The late Mr Joseph Avery

The Clerk was directed to convey to the members of the family the Council's regret at hearing of the death of the late Mr Joseph Avery who for many years was an Overseer of the parish as well as a regular attendant at meetings of the Council.

Next meeting – It was decided to hold the next meeting September 9th at 7.00pm at the Church House.

Parish Council
9th September 1941

Quarterly meeting of the Parish Council was held at the Church House, Long Ashton, on Tuesday 9th September 1941, Mr H. Jefferies presiding over the following members, Messrs Ball, Childe, Evans, Milner, Morrish, Pearce and Yeo.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

Matters arising out of same

Steps – Merriott’s Field – Church path

Letter of the 10th July received from the County Surveyor and it was decided to reply that in the opinion of this Council, the path through Merriott’s Field, as a Church path as well as the steps were repairable by the County Council as highway authority and that it was in the recollection of one of the members that this path was repaired by one of the employees of the Rural District Council.

Housing Accommodation

Reply of the 2nd July 1941 of the R. D. Council on this matter was duly read.

Coal – Fuel Overseer

Schedule of retail prices revised as from the 14th June 1941 has been received from the Fuel Overseer.

The late Mr Joseph Avery

Mr Ronald Avery replied on behalf of his sisters and himself thanking the Council for their very kind expression of sympathy at the death of his father.

Morrisson Shelters

The R. D. Council by letter of the 22nd August wrote that steel indoor Table Shelters were available for distribution in the parish.

Public Lighting

The North Somerset Electric Supply Co. Ltd wrote by letter of the 15th August that the agreement for public lighting expired 30th September and that they were prepared to continue same on certain terms.

A sub-committee of the Lighting Committee had considered same and had decided to suggest that terms be accepted.

Mr Evans moved, Mr Pearce seconded that the agreement with the N. S. E. S. Co. Ltd. As to public lighting be continued on the terms as mentioned in their letter of the 15th August 1941 which were as follows: -

1. The Company to maintain all public lamps in good order and condition so that public lighting can be restored with the minimum delay on the cessation of hostilities and in consideration therefore this Council shall pay the Company the Annual sum of 6s. Per lamp per annum as from 1st October 1941.
2. The Company to use its best endeavours to replace any lamps destroyed by enemy action or otherwise, and in the event of such lamps not being replaced the said charge of 6s. Will not apply to the particular lamp not replaced.
3. The Company to continue public lighting for a period of 3 months as from its commencement after the cessation of hostilities, subject to the same terms and

conditions as set out in the agreement for public lighting which will expire on the 30th September next and subject of the charges therein mentioned being adjusted on a basis to be mutually agreed to cover the Company's increased costs.

National Savings Groups

Mr Pearce moved that a Public Meeting be called to consider the formation of National Savings Groups in the parish, seconded by Mr Childe and carried.

It was decided, if the building was available to hold same at the Unionist Hall, on Friday the 19th September 1941 @ 6.45pm.

Financial Statement 1940-1941

The Clerk placed these audited accounts before the meeting and stated the auditor had suggested £100 of the balance should be placed on deposit.

Mr Ball proposed that £100 of the balance of the Allotment Fund be invested in the P. O. S. Bank, seconded by Mr Pearce and carried.

Accounts

The following accounts were presented for payment and cheques drawn.

Recreation Ground:

P. W. L. Board Int: owe £87. 2. 6. (54 days)	9. 4.
Six months Prim: £6. 0. 5. Int. £4. 12. -	10.16. 5
	£11. 5. 9.

War Damage Contribution	4.
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Lighting Fund

North Somerset Electric Supply Co.

Long Ashton 101 Lamps @ 40/9	57. 8. 11.
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Leigh Woods 25 Lamps	<u>12. 14. 8.</u>
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	64. 3. 7.
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By credit – blackout	<u>38. 3. 10.</u>
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	£25. 19. 9.
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General Fund:

Clerk salary less Superannuation 13/6	10. 11. 6.
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Somerset Co. Superannuation Fund	1. 7. -
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Expenses	4.
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Allotment Fund

Ashton Court Estate – Rent to Sept. 41	39. 2. 9.
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Precept

It was agreed to serve Precept on the Rating Authority for £40 General Expenses for the half year ending March 1941.

Miscellaneous

The Clerk was directed to write Messers Watts and Dix, as well as occupiers of Mount Pleasant and Elmdale as to shrubs and trees overhanging the footpath.

To Ashton Court Estate as to the weeds over growing the footpath near Rayens Cross Road, and the condition of this road, the portion of which had not yet been taken over by the County Council.

Next meeting – It was decided to hold the next meeting on 13th December at Church House at 3 o'clock.

Parish Council
13th December 1941

The quarterly meeting of the Parish Council was held at the Church House, Long Ashton, on Saturday afternoon the 13th December 1941, Mr H. Jefferies presiding over the following members, Messrs Ball, Childe, Evans, Milner, Mitchell, Pearce and Yeo.

Apologies of inability to attend were received from Messrs Barnes, Knapman and Morrish.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Matters arising out of same

Steps – Merriott’s Field – Church path

Letter from the County Surveyor of the 16th September regretting he could not agree with the opinion of this Council that the path through Merriott's Field is a public highway, repairable by the County Council, was read.

It was decided to write and remind the County Council that since becoming the highway authority they had repaired the bridge carrying the Church path over the brook and the pathway through Merriott’s Field was a continuation of this footpath.

Public Lighting

Clerk reported in writing the North Somerset Electric Supply Co. Ltd. as instructed at the last meeting.

Financial Statement

Deposit a/c P. O. S. Bank Book. SOC No. 1247 was produced by the Clerk showing £100 was deposited on the 12th October 1941 – signatures of members for transmission to the Controller were obtained.

Hedges

It was stated the hedges at the residences of Messrs Dix and Watts, as well as the trees at Elmdale had been cut. It was decided to write Mr Vowles as to shrubs at Mount Pleasant.

Rayens Cross Road

To write Mr Worrall for a reply to the Council’s letter of the 15th September.

Accounts

The following accounts were presented for payment and cheques drawn in payment.

Lighting Fund

North Somerset Electric Supply Co.

Long Ashton 101 Lamps @ 6s per lamp 7. 6. 6.

Leigh Woods 25 Lamps 1. 17. 6.

9. 9. -

Recreation Fund:

Ashton Court Estate T. R. G. 4. 3.

General Fund:

G. C. Hancock Poster 11. 9.

Clerk's Fidelity Bond	9. -
Clerk salary less Superannuation 13/6	10. 11. 6.
Somerset Co. Superannuation Fund	1. 7. -
Annual Charge	3.

Fire Watching

Clerk reported steps he had taken in the matter of a number of Omnibuses parked at night on land by the side of Rayens Cross Road.

Revision of Clerk's Salary

The Clerk retired while this was being considered and his return was informed by the Chairman the Council had decided to increase same to £70 as from 1st January 1942 to which the Clerk thanked the Council for their generous consideration.

National Savings

Mr Pearce informed the Council a number of Savings Groups had been formed in the parish, and were going well, while Mr Milner stated he understood over £4000 had been collected during the month of November.

Lampton's Bridge

Mr Mitchell drew the Council's attention to the condition of this bridge and it was decided to write the G. W. R. Engineer at Bristol on the matter as well as the North Somerset Electric Light Co. Ltd. as it was understood an Electric cable was beneath the surface of the bridge.

Date of next meeting – It was decided to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 24th March @ 6.30, 7 o'clock should extra hour be added to Summer Time. Council meeting to follow.

