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Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council which took place on Monday 19 February 2018 at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

<u>PRESENT</u> Cllrs Bishop, Brunt, England, Joy, Lillywhite, Rowswell, Wakely, Messrs A Dance (District & County Councillor), C Raikes (District Councillor) and 37 parishioners.

APOLOGIES Cllrs Cripps, Finlay.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

During January, Neighbourhood Watch just dealt with one apparently abandoned vehicle, which was reported to the Police.

MINUTES The Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

<u>Cowleaze Meadow</u> An email was received from a parishioner, expressing disappointment that the Parish Council had rejected a request for play equipment at Cowleaze and asking the Councillors to reconsider but the Parish Council had always intended Cowleaze to be a more natural environment for small children to run around in.

DC REPORT

The Council Tax is now being set and the proposed increase for a Band D property is £5 per annum.

CC REPORT

There is concern about the future of libraries in Somerset and a survey is taking place on www.somerset.gov.uk/librariesconsultation

PLANNING

Permission was granted for the erection of side extension and porch to Brimley, Brimgrove Lane.

ACCOUNTS

Cheques were drawn for:

South Som District Council – Parish Ranger	£905.76
Information Commissioner – Data Protection Renewal	35.00

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DEFIBRILLATORS

The Parish Councillors were pleased to hear that the defibrillators had arrived and are soon to be installed and a training session will be arranged. A District Council grant of £600 had been confirmed, for which the District Councillors were thanked, and together with the very generous donation from Branstons and the amazing fund raising carried out by Angie Joy, the Parish Council now has sufficient funds to maintain the defibrillators for the next 8 years.

PARISH PLAN

It was confirmed that the Recreation Committee now has quotes for the proposed parking area.

HIGHWAYS

The potholes in Littlefields Lane had been repaired but the Highway Authority will be reminded about the ones opposite the Shop.

VILLAGE SHOP

The Chairman welcomed the members of the public and thanked them for attending the meeting to discuss this important issue. Following the recent closure of the Village Stores and Post Office, the Councillors were delighted to hear that a new Grocery Store, Tea Shop and hopefully a Post Office will be opening in the Old Butcher's Shop on 31 March by Tom Dawson and Angie Joy, supplying a similar range of goods to the previous grocery store plus a meat ordering service. This news was very well received by all present and Adam Dance thanked Tom and Angie for allowing this very important service to continue in the village.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 pm.