

Appendix 1 (Item 3)

Visit of Police and Crime Commissioner Mr Mark Shelford

After introducing himself and his team (Staff Officer Matthew Shaqer ; PC Ben Whitby ; PCSO's Kayley Anderson & Michael Benfield) the PCC described the physical area of his responsibility and his overall staff resources ie (c 6000 made up of 3000 officers + support)

The PC described his function as the `chair` of broad range of functions, but where he has influence but not power. He cited some initial demands of the role. These included listening `what people are worried about` ; `scrutinising delivery and performance` and `participating in mediation processes`. He described his preferred approach to these issues as `preparing for the worst whilst hoping for the best`.

The PCC talked about his role in determining and scrutinising the annual `Policing Plan`, the costs of which is constrained by budgets, which include the size of local Council precepts (c 40%) hence another local accountability. There is also a requirement that the force also contribute toward national and international concerns.

When asked to identify his personal priorities, the PCC shared his thinking about `drug` related issues. He developed the notion that just `stabilising` addicts in prison was ineffective on so many fronts. He developed a model whereby treatment for addiction is accompanied by education, particularly for the young, and more specific support and enforcement is given. The PCC cited the success of `operation scorpion` across the South West of England, where parallel action across drugs, gang exploitation, and modern slavery were tackled side by side by regional teams. The teams were multi-skilled, multi-agency, with quality information and specific targets.

The PCC second priority is the rising number of reported incidents of domestic abuse. Despite the myths, this number continues to grow (now over 20k pa). One serious shortcoming of the present situation is the `sticking plaster` approach often seen, where context and likely hood of re-offending is ignored. Domestic abuse requires a change of behaviour, and this requires a different approach. Multi skilled teams, with access to better monitoring and recording systems, and re-education, support and individual treatment, could result making real changes of behaviour a real possibility.

Appendix 2

Chairman's Report – 2 February 2023

During the past month I have attended meetings with other Councillors at the Old Banwell Road Car Park and the at the Spinney. An update of the Spinney Meeting will be provided to Council later under a separate agenda item.

The meetings at Old Banwell Road Playing Field Car Park were organised as a consequence of recent bad weather which affected the surface of the Car Park. As you are aware we have submitted a Planning Application to North Somerset Council to upgrade the OBR Carpark which has been approved and we are in the process of inviting tenders to address the drainage issues and to upgrade the area to make it safe and user friendly.

Unfortunately, during late January we have had to remove a bund which will allow water to drain away into the ditch located to the South of the carpark. New stone has also been added to the entrance and other surface areas. The potholes have been repaired. This essential remedial work had to be undertaken to ensure the health and safety of users.

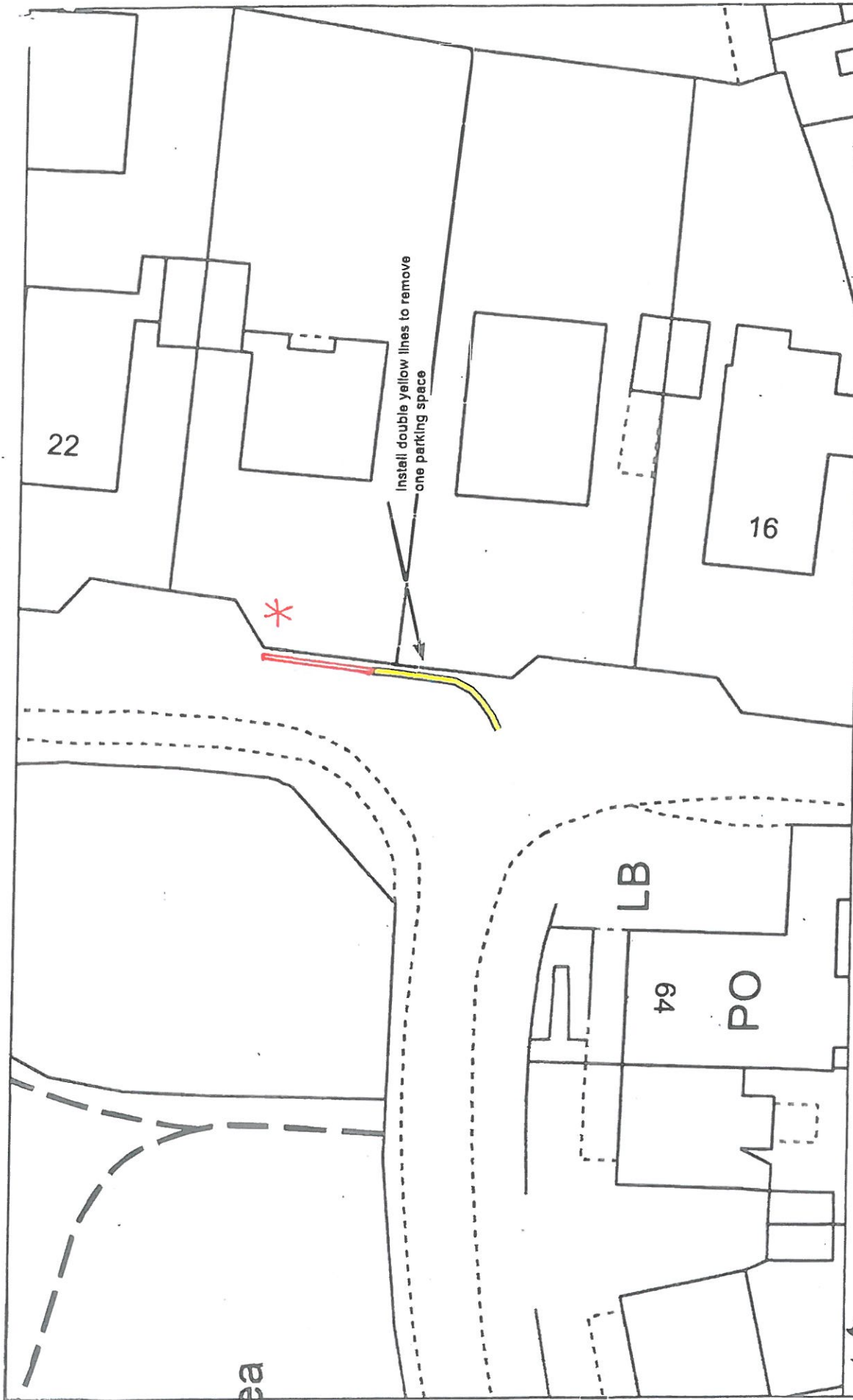
Our 'Parish Warm Room and Pantry' continues to be supported by organisations, Councillors, residents and volunteers who are prepared to give up their time to help those in need. Donations are gratefully received and are being provided to many. We have been working closely with Locking Primary School and have through sponsorship been able to provide clothing, blankets, gloves and food to adults and children in our community. We are working in partnership with our local church and businesses who are willing provide help and assistance in these trying times - a big thankyou to all those involved.

I am also looking forward to the installation of the smart television at the Parish Hall, I am confident that users of the Parish Hall will benefit from this equipment in one way or another.

Paul Jones

Chairman

Locking Parish Council



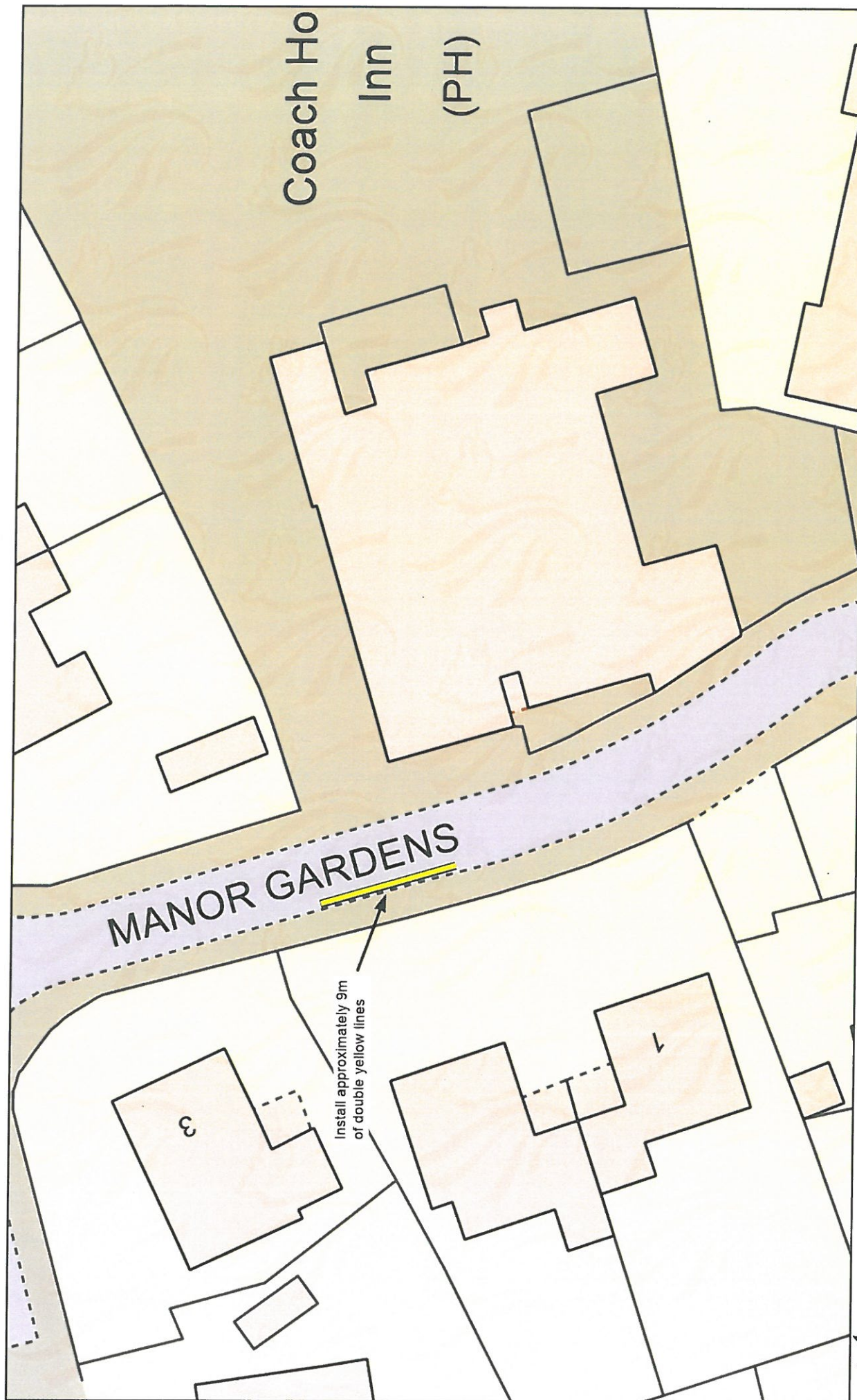
** Parish Council proposal.*

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Date: 12 January 2023



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