

Minutes of the **TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE Council Chamber, Council Offices, North Street, Ilminster** on Tuesday 15 December 2015 at 19:30hrs

**Present:**

**Mayor:** Cllr R Neave

**Councillors:** Cllr F Albin, Cllr P Burton, Cllr R Drayton, Cllr J Fagan, Cllr J Fowler, Cllr C Goodall, Cllr V Keitch, Cllr A Shearman, Cllr S Shepherd, Cllr J Sothern, Cllr S Storey, Cllr R Swann, Cllr T Walker *Cllr Kinder*

**In attendance:**

County Cllr L Vijeh

PC A Stuart

Mrs T Loveless (Admin Officer (Information) ), Miss J Norris (Town Clerk)

2 members of the public attended the meeting, one of whom wished to speak

**Speaker 1**

Angela Crouch of the Winterhay Action Group said they are glad the date has been set for the public inquiry and asked that the Council nominate Cllr Roger Swann to represent the Town Council and speak at the Inquiry as he has previously represented the Council at Somerset County Council meetings.

**157. Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence as everyone was present.

**158. Declarations of Interest**

The following declarations of interests were made in respect of matters considered at this meeting.

Name	Agenda Item(s)	Minute No	Interest	Nature of Interest	Action
Cllr J Fowler	Agenda No 9, Reports From Representatives on Outside Bodies	165	Personal & Pecuniary	Knows the Chair of the organising committee of the Ilminster Literary festival and is a Festival Friend	Made report on Festival as Council's representative
	Agenda No 11 Letter from the Planning Inspectorate, Notice of Local Enquiry to Determine the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Section 53, Somerset County Council, (No 1) Modification Order, 2014	166	Personal, Prejudicial & Pecuniary	Lives in Winterhay Lane and is a member of the Winterhay Lane North Action Group	Left the room

	Parish Of Ilminster  Agenda No 12 Winterhay Lane Play Area - Award Offer From South Somerset District Council	168	Personal	Lives in Winterhay Lane	Spoke & Voted
Cllr S Storey	Agenda No 11 Letter from the Planning Inspectorate, Notice of Local Enquiry to Determine the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Section 53, Somerset County Council, (No 1) Modification Order, 2014 Parish Of Ilminster	166	Personal	Lives in Winterhay Lane	Spoke & Voted
	Agenda No 12 Winterhay Lane Play Area - Award Offer From South Somerset District Council	168	Personal	Lives in Winterhay Lane	Spoke & Voted
	Agenda No 13 Update from the Football And Community Facility Project Governance Group	169	Personal	Husband employment	Spoke & Voted

Chairs Initials

**159. Minutes**

**RESOLVED**

- (i) to confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2015 as a correct record.
- (ii) To note the office action list relating to Town Council meetings.

Issues discussed during consideration of the action list included:

- Arrangements for the feedback evening to be held on 2 February 2016
- No date has yet been scheduled booked for the accommodation working group to meet
- Concern was expressed that if the scaffolding is not down around the Co-op there will be a lot of scaffolding concentrated in one area when the Market House work is done.

**160. Mayor's Announcements/Engagements**

- A)** There were no announcements relevant to Town Council and Mayoral activities and engagements:
- B)** The Mayor's engagements between 17<sup>th</sup> November and 15 December 2015 had been published on the agenda for the meeting

**161. Police Report**

This agenda item provided an opportunity for the Police to report on any matters relevant to policing in Ilminster

The police gave an oral report of which the key points included the following:

- 2 Bilking (filling up with fuel and driving away without paying) in the previous 30 days
- Criminal damage at Donyatt Halt
- 6 Assaults including 2 on Police
- Domestic Incidents, including 3 counts of harassment
- 1 Speeding offence in Donyatt
- Anti social behaviour

Issues discussed during consideration of this oral report included:

- More people are reporting domestic abuse
- Chard is the closest police station open to the public
- The Ilminster Police Officers are provisionally scheduled to move from the existing Police Station to offices in the Medical Centre at the beginning of February 2016.

**162. Report from the County Councillor for the Ilminster Division**

A report from the County Councillor was circulated with the Agenda.

The County Councillor highlighted:

- Speed Indicator Device Results

Issues discussed during consideration of this report included:

- Drain and gully cleaning in Ilminster will be on the Town Council's Planning Highways and Transport Committee agenda

**163. Reports from District Councillors**

District Councillor Keitch reported on the following matters:

- The South Somerset newsletter is now available

Chair's Initial's

- Christmas opening hours: the district council offices will close on 24 December and remain closed until 4 January 2016 the usual emergency number will be available
- The changes to waste collections over the Christmas holidays have been advertised in various ways
- Cllr Keitch had attended the Joint Waste Board Scrutiny meeting at Somerset County Council and found it very interesting, particularly the trials about collecting different types of plastics
- Cllr Keitch is a member of the District Council Democracy & Schools Working Party considering how to get young people more involved
- There is a Scrutiny Group for the Journey of Exploration which is considering whether SSDC can jointly work with another Somerset District Council
- Careline have funding from Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service for smoke detectors – more information is given in the SSDC newsletter

**164. Open Spaces Committee**

The Chair of the Open Spaces Committee presented the recommendations made by the Committee meeting held on 24 November 2015.

**Metal Detecting Policy (Minute OS 51)**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Council's policy is not to allow metal detecting on Town Council owned and managed land except when clearing the ground surface after events and no digging is required.

**165. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies were received.

**Ilminster Literary Festival – Cllr J Fowler**

The representative highlighted:

- The schedule is currently work in progress and it is hoped that the complete programme will be available in February; sponsorship is being sought for various events

**Dementia Alliance – Cllr J Sothern**

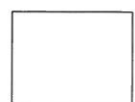
The representative highlighted:

- Unfortunately a copy and paste error had omitted thanks to Cllr Fowler for hosting a training event
- Ilminster is one of the top 10 areas for being pro-active
- Work with Tesco is on going regarding opening / designating a "slow lane" where additional time and help can be given to shoppers when paying and packing.

**166. Letter from the Planning Inspectorate, Notice of Local Enquiry to Determine the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Section 53, Somerset County Council, (No 1) Modification Order, 2014 Parish Of Ilminster**

A letter had been received from the Planning Inspectorate giving details of how to submit information to the local inquiry regarding the Order to modify the definitive map by the addition of a footpath that starts at the northern end of the adopted section of Winterhay Lane and runs in a generally North North Easterly direction for approximately 480 metres.

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Discussions on this agenda item included:

- That the Town Council had resolved to support designation of the footpath
- that Councillors attend the Inquiry as observers as there could be many learning points

**RESOLVED** that Cllr Swann be the Town Council's representative at the Public Inquiry

Note: Cllr Fowler left the room during consideration of the item as she had declared a prejudicial and pecuniary interest

**167. Former Horlicks Site, Station Road, Ilminster**

The Town Council discussed what is happening in relation to the marketing and the potential development of this site which is designated as employment land.

Issues discussed during consideration of this agenda item included

Cllr Goodall had asked the Senior Planning Officer for any further information that was available as a result of the site meeting reported to the Town Council on 17 November 2015

Cllr Goodall then read out information provided by the Senior Planning officer which in summary said:

- that the site is not appropriate for housing and is not identified for such use in the Local Plan ,
- the site is not coming forward for employment purposes due to viability issues –
- the current owners, Dairy Crest, have said will bring forward plans for employment use if the relevant Councils and the community are willing to also accept up to 100 dwellings.

Issues discussed during consideration of this agenda item included:

- When first planning application was considered there was a housing element included
- The possibility of a compensatory reduction in the number of houses built on other sites
- The importance of the land as employment land
- The need and cost of the flood defences that will be required

**RESOLVED** that if a further site meeting is held and the Town Council is invited to send a representative(s) the latter should be from the following: the Mayor, the Chair of Planning, Cllr Shepherd and Cllr Fagan

**168. Winterhay Lane Play Area - Award Offer From South Somerset District Council**

The award offer from South Somerset District Council towards the refurbishment of the Winterhay Lane Recreation Ground play area was considered.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the Award Offer from South Somerset District Council dated 13 November 2015 and associated conditions regarding the refurbishment of the Winterhay Play Area are accepted
- (ii) That the Chair & Vice-Chair of the Open Spaces Committee are authorised to sign the acceptance of the award and conditions form.

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**169. Update from the Football And Community Facility Project Governance Group**  
Summaries of the Governance Group meetings held on 5 November 2015 and 2 December 2015 were received for information.

**170. Cemetery Lodge**

The Surveyor's Report regarding the Cemetery Lodge and what action to take was considered.

Issues discussed during consideration of this agenda item included

- Types of heating that may be suitable
- secondary glazing can be effective
- report does say there were some things that couldn't be checked
- the previous expenditure
- need to get prices from people who specialise in this type of old building
- a lot of the recommendations refer to regular maintenance items
- devices that can improve air circulation

**RESOLVED** that estimates be sought for the work identified in the Surveyor's report.

**171. Community Right To Bid – Land Adjacent To Herne Hill**

The Town Clerk provided an oral report on progress to obtain information relevant to submitting a Community Right To Bid application to South Somerset District Council, in particular:

- Arrangements have been made for a meeting with Donyatt Parish Council in early January 2016
- Initial discussion with South Somerset District Council regarding nomination criteria has resulted in advice that for consideration to be given to including land on the Community Right To Bid Asset Register the application must clearly demonstrate the existing community use and explain the proposed community use
- It would be possible for joint Community Right To Bid applications to be submitted
- No further information has been received about the Somerset County Council procedure for land disposal.

**172. Emergency Expenditure**

To Council was asked to authorise the emergency expenditure incurred by the Town Clerk, following consultation with the Chair of the Open Spaces Committee, to provide a path between the lower part of the incline and Britten's Field.

Issues discussed during consideration of this agenda item included:

- Good that Town Council was seen to act quickly

**RESOLVED** to authorise the expenditure incurred to provide a path between the lower part of the incline and Britten's Field.

**173. Donation towards 2015 Ilminster Carnival Open Top Bus**

A request was considered from the Ilminster Carnival Committee for a donation of £50.00 towards the open top bus used at the Ilminster Carnival.

**RESOLVED** to give £50.00 to the Ilminster Carnival Committee towards the open top bus used at the 2015 Ilminster Carnival.

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**174. Authorisation of Payments and Notification of Virements**

The Schedule of Payments for authorisation was presented for the Town Council's approval.

**RESOLVED** that the accounts listed in the schedule presented to the Town Council totalling £90952.97gross, be approved.

**175. Project Plan**

Progress on the project plan was considered.

Issues raised during consideration of the item included:

- Update gully cleaning section

**176. Clerk's Updates**

The following Clerk's Updates had been sent by email since the November Council agenda was published.

<b>Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
12/15	01.12.15	1. Open Spaces committee 8 December 2015 2. Badgers On Britten's Field 3.All Human Circus 2016 Visit Dates 4. Letter From the Community Council for Somerset Regarding Community Infrastructure Levy 5. Letter to Mayor Of Paris

The meeting closed at 21:00hrs

Chair's Signature & Date