

ILMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **ILMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Ilminster on Tuesday, 20 March, 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

Those Present

Chairman: Cllr C Goodall

Councillors: Cllr Burton, Cllr A Lawson, Cllr S Maylor, Cllr D Miller, Cllr J Pallister, Cllr S Sainsbury, Cllr A Shearman, Cllr S Shepherd, Cllr J Sothern, Cllr R Swann, Cllr EJ Taylor and Cllr L Vjeh

Officers: Mrs J Thorne, Mrs R Hope

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Whaites and County Councillor Turner

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 7 February 2012 be approved and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

None

5. Police Report

Councillors were presented with a written report in which PC Stuart commented that since February there had been six non dwelling burglaries. In addition heating oil had been stolen from one resident and a car had been damaged, though it was not thought to be part of the night time economy. Two residents had been victims of criminal damage.

The prevention of anti social behaviour is a priority for Avon and Somerset, because of this emphasis police calls in the Ilminster area regarding this issue had reduced to three. One male had been given an £80 ticket for disorder a second for supplying alcohol to a minor.

In addition the Community Justice Panel were working with one male following theft. One male had been arrested for driving whilst disqualified. Three males had been found with stolen goods and charged. One male was cautioned following three drive offs from local petrol stations. One male was cautioned for assault. One male was arrested for being on warrant for an offence in Weston Super-mare

Parking on East Street continues to be a problem, with the Police wishing to see a one way system installed.

ILMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

The policing team has been visiting all year 6 students in the local schools delivering a lesson about the age of criminal responsibility and the consequences of young people's actions.

Cllr Vijeh commented that the low level of antisocial behaviour was a credit to the town.

The Clerk was asked to find out what was 'night time economy' and would it be possible for to have a list of the schools the Police had visited, and how secure was the building site for the new Medical Centre, following a report of theft.

6. Report from Somerset County Councillor

The Town Clerk reported that she had received an email from County Councillor Turner regarding the consultation process for the Youth and Community Service. Following the initial consultation a further consultation period had been agreed which was due to close on 11 April. The cabinet member for Children and Young people would be making his key decision on 16 April

7. Reports from District Councillor

Cllr Goodall reported on the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) commenting that Cllr Vijeh would give more detail the following week at the Planning Committee meeting so that Councillors could respond to the consultation process.

CIL is not replacing section 106. Section 106 allowed planners to enter legally binding obligations during the course of the planning process, it was used to support provision of services and local infrastructure. Previously section 106 money could be combined, in future only five section 106 agreements could be combined and will be only available on large developments.

CIL will be levied on all new buildings and is intended to provide infrastructure that the local community desires. Government believes this will deliver extra funding for such infrastructure projects.

8. Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee Meeting

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Open Spaces and Herne Hill Committee meeting held on 21 February 2012 be received.

(a) Street Furniture

It was RESOLVED that ten dog bins should be purchased at a total cost of £1250.

(b) Street Furniture

It was RESOLVED that twelve seats should be purchased at a total cost of £3720

(c) Street Furniture

It was RESOLVED that seven litter bins should be purchased at a total cost of £2450

ILMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

(d) Toddler Play Area gate from 18 October 2011

It was RESOLVED that two gates with internal hinges in post at a cost of £738 per gate and delivery to be as cost effective as possible.

9. Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 21 February 2012 be received.

10. Minutes of Finance and Policy Committee Meeting

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee Meeting held on 6 March 2012 be received

11. Jubilee Committee

Cllr Taylor reported that the Jubilee Quiz was now available and could be downloaded from the website. On Sunday 8th April there was to be an Easter Egg hunt on the Recreation Ground between 10.30am and 1pm any help from Councillors would be welcomed. June 3rd was the date for 'The Big Lunch' on the Recreation Ground and all were welcome. Volunteers were asked to help with clearing up on Monday 4th June at 8.00am. Cllr Taylor thank those on the Jubilee Committee for their hard work.

12. Prayer

The Mayor reported that following the challenge to Bideford Council regarding the prayers prior to the meeting, such prayers were now unlawful for Town and Parish Councils and are no longer part of the agenda. However Councillors could agree prayers could be said prior to a Council meeting.

It was RESOLVED that in the absence of an Anglican minister, each denomination should be invited to participate in rotation and that these prayers should be said 15 minutes prior to a Council meeting. Those voting for the resolution:10, against: 2, and one abstention.

13. Subscriptions

The Clerk commented that membership of SALC brought benefits of professional advice and varied training events, whilst SLCC produced a bimonthly magazine also with advice and training events, a website and 24 hour advice hotline.

It was RESOLVED that the following subscriptions should be paid,
Somerset Association of Local Councils - £947.90
Action for Market Towns - £135.00
Community Council - £35.00

14. Mayors Engagements

February 3rd Beauty and the Beast at Chard, 8th Yeovil College performance of 'The Wiz', 18th Mayor of Chard's Charity Dinner and Dance, 25th Air Cadets Annual Dinner. 3rd March Mayor of Ilminster's Charity Dinner and Dance

ILMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

15. Reports from Representative on Outside Bodies

(a) Ilminster Forum

Cllr Lawson reported that they had secured a place at the Lion's Fete. The February market had had three stalls including a sausage seller, it was hoped that Dillington allotments would have a stall in future. The grant for marketing Ilminster had been obtained, work had begun on the Library garden and 16 bags had been added to the litter picking total.

(b) SALC

Cllr Miller presented a written report.

(c) Twinning Association

Cllr Sothern reported that it was the 20th Anniversary of the Twinning Association with a trip organised to visit France in May.

(d) Community and Neighbourhood Planning

Mrs Hope reported that she and Cllr Vijeh had attended a session on Community and Neighbourhood planning that had covered issues of the local planning process and those raised by the Neighbourhood Plan. Copies of planning books from CPRE and the powerpoint from the session were available from the office.

(e) Ile Youth Centre

Following the resignation of Cllr Sainsbury as the Council Representative on the Youth Centre Management Committee it was agreed that Cllr Burton should be the new representative for Ile Youth Centre.

Cllr Burton reported that he had attended a meeting as an observer. Cllr Miller asked if it would be possible to have a briefing of their financial status.

(f) Ilminster Tourism

Cllr Vijeh reported that they were looking at their expenditure and ways of becoming more financially sustainable. They had eleven volunteers and were looking for younger volunteers to join them. They were looking for a laptop and were hoping to create a website. Cllr Vijeh was to assist the volunteers to produce a display for the Annual Town Meeting.

16. Authorisation of Payments

It was RESOLVED that the accounts listed in the schedule, totalling £15,251.15 be approved for payment.

17. Action Plan

The following items were discussed

- (a) Item 2, Cllr Miller asked if a definite date had been agreed for commencement of the work to create an entrance in the lower wall of the Cemetery. The Clerk reported that it was weather dependant.
- (b) Item 6,7 Cllr Miller asked if this action relating to the creation of a MUGA and the total recreation of a Skate Park would be achieved by March. The Clerk replied that a detailed report would be provided at the Open Spaces meeting the following week.

ILMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

- (c) Item 9, In relation to the possible acquisition of land at the Hammerhead, Cllr Shepherd said he felt it would eventually go ahead but he was waiting for a response from the lawyers.
- (d) Item 10, Cllr Goodall informed the Council that Ilminster Forum had agreed to support the printing of a Herne Hill leaflet with a donation of £140 to the Town Council.
- (e) Item 13, Cllr Swann commented that the work on the canal bank was progressing well.
- (f) Item 14, with regard to the Reic Sur Belon roundabout, Cllr Goodall reported that the District officer involved had been ill but on his return she hoped the matter would be moved forward.

18. Town Clerk's Report and Correspondence

The Clerk reported on a Tripartite meeting with Chard and Crewkerne Town Councils. Crewkerne had set up a working party and had put £11,000 into its budget to cover funding youth activities. Funding had been awarded to the youth club organiser until the end of April but this situation was likely to continue. The same youth worker also ran independent sessions in Chard by running his own not for profit company to provide education, support and leisure services for a range of youth work.

The running of public toilets was also discussed and it was thought that there might be an opportunity in the future to share cleaning contractors to make the service more cost effective over the three towns.

Crewkerne currently has planning permission for a temporary car park in the town and was seeking public views on this car park. They had also taken on an apprentice groundsman.

The next Tripartite meeting was to be held in Crewkerne on Thursday April 19th.

19. Personnel

Cllr Shepherd congratulated Cllr Vijeh on her hard work in producing the job descriptions for the office staff. It was noted that the Clerk had responsibility for Health and Safety issues.

The Clerk reported that she was attempting to arrange for a cemetery management course for local parish councils to take place in ilminster. It was agreed that office staff should attend.

A training schedule for all staff was presented to Councillors after some discussion the schedule was agreed.

20. Programme of Meetings

- (a) The proposed meeting for the year 2012-2013 was agreed.
- (b) Next cycle of meetings
 - 27 March – Open Spaces
 - 17 April – Finance and Policy
 - 1 May - Council

ILMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

The meeting closed at 9.14pm

Signed.....

Date.....