

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Ilminster Town Council held on
Tuesday 30th November 2021 at 19:30 hrs, in the Council Chamber, Council Offices,
North Street, Ilminster, TA19 0DG

Chair: Cllr P Burton

Councillors: Cllr B Hamilton, Cllr M James, Cllr I MacKillop, Cllr A Shearman, Cllr S Shepherd, Cllr R Swann, Cllr N Tinson, Cllr L Wilcock, Cllr F White, Cllr L Taylor, Cllr V Keitch, Cllr H Lancaster

Officers: M Tredwin (Town clerk), J Earp (Deputy Town Clerk and RFO), V Freeman (Administration Officer)

In attendance: Cllr L Vijeh and 3 members of the public.

1073 Public Forum

The meeting chair advised that members of the public who wished to speak would be invited to do so before the agenda item was discussed.

1074 Apologies for Absence

Cllr M Gunn – Business reasons

Cllr B Jenner – Hurford – Personal reasons

1075 District and County Councillors Report

Members noted Cllr Vijeh's report.

Cllr Vijeh thanked the Mayor and members for the card thanking her for her years of service.

Cllr Hamilton and Cllr Keitch gave a verbal District Councillors report and apologised there was no written report. It has been quiet over the last month on the district front, the main event has been the opening of new Leisure Centre in Chard. Cllr Keitch encouraged members to visit the new Leisure Centre as it is a wonderful facility for all the community.

There is no further information on the date for the elections.

The joint committee meet regularly, the next meeting is on the 17th December, the meetings are public and can be attended in person and they are also streamed.

The final version of the Structural Change Order should have been available from midnight on 30th November 2021.

A scrutiny committee is in the process of being set up.



A lot of staff had been seconded into helping with the work in relation to the new Unitary authority as there is a massive amount of work to do in a short space of time.

110 Councillors have been agreed, Ilminster will have 2 County Councillors.

There will be no full boundary review prior to 2023.

The phosphate is still an issue. Everyone is waiting for the Government to advise on the rules. Smaller developers are running out of work whilst everyone is waiting for clarification.

The Octagon Project is ongoing and there is going to be a meeting with the Arts Council shortly to discuss progress.

1076 Declarations of interest

Cllr Shepherd declared an interest in agenda items 21 Ilminster Education Foundation Lease and 22 Cricket Club lease due to a conflict of interest being involved with both organisations.

Cllr Swann declared an interest in agenda items 21 Ilminster Education Foundation Lease and 22 Cricket Club lease due to a conflict of interest.

Cllr Lancaster declared an interest in agenda items 14 Grant application a) due to her involvement in the Scouts and b) due to being employed by the applicant.

Cllr James declared a personal interest in agenda item 22 Cricket Club lease as he is a member of the club.

1077 Dispensations

There were no dispensations requested or granted.

1078 Minutes – Town Council

Members **RESOLVED** by 11 votes for and 2 abstentions that the minutes of the meeting held on the 16th November 2021 as a correct record.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Tinson

1079 Minutes – ICT Working Group

Members **NOTED** the minutes of the ICT Working Group which was held on 12th October 2021.

Members were advised that a fake Facebook account had been set up in the Town Councils name, it has been reported to Facebook, and a post put up on the Town Council official Facebook page and website to advise the public.



1080 Acceptable Use policy

Members discussed the Councillor Acceptable Usage policy.

Members **RESOLVED** by 12 votes for to 1 against to adopt the Councillor Acceptable Use Policy as agreed by the ICT Working Group.

Proposer Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Shearman

1081 Meeting Calendar

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to agree in principle the Calendar of meetings for 2022-2023.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

1082 Financial Monitoring

Members **NOTED** the financial report provided by the RFO and thanked the RFO for her well presented report.

The RFO advised members that we have 2 new market traders and there will be a Vegan Market in the market parking area and in the Magistrates Court car park on 11th December.

1083 Schedule of Charges

This agenda item has been taken forward to a future meeting.

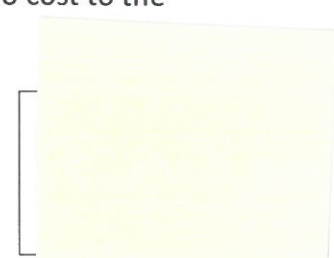
1084 Youth Project update

Andera White from Young Somerset gave a presentation to members to update them on what has been happening and what is planned going forward. Updates included they work with children who are at risk of being excluded from school and child protection cases. Their work load has doubled in size during covid. They have been working with the Police and the NHS during covid. There has been an online survey asking young people what facilities they would like.

This item was moved forward on the agenda

1085 Fairtrade

Roger Gurner from Fairtrade Ilminster gave a presentation to members on Fairtrade Ilminster. Roger updated members on what is Fairtrade, that it is not just bananas, chocolate and coffee, there are over 4500 Fairtrade products. The local schools are also involved with promoting Fairtrade and one local school produces a Fairtrade yearbook. Fairtrade Ilminster has produced a leaflet highlighting local businesses that support Fairtrade. Over 12500 leaflets have been distributed over the last 7 years at no cost to the businesses.



Members **RESOLVED** unanimously that this council supports the principle of Fairtrade. That the Council will actively encourage the use and sale of Fairtrade products throughout the town, and their use within council offices and at events involving the council. That a councillor, or councillors, will be nominated for co-option to the Steering Group to encourage and assist their campaign and to act as liaison between the group and the council.

Proposer Cllr Keitch **Seconded** Cllr Swann

1086

Ilminster Sports Club Ltd

Members discussed the request from Ilminster Sports Club to build a Play Park on the land leased from the Town Council. Discussions included that the children's safety is paramount, is there any supporting evidence over the ongoing running costs, who is liable for the playground inspections and if any person was to be injured, who would be checking and maintaining the equipment.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to defer the application until such time as detailed information on equipment, location, maintenance schedules and any other relevant information is provided.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr MacKillop

1087

Grant applications

1st Ilminster Scout group

Members **RESOLVED** by 12 votes for and 1 abstention to **APPROVE** the grant request of £250

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Shepherd

Yeovil Shop Mobility

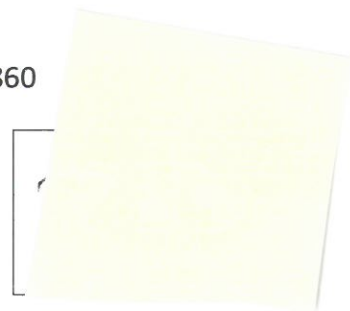
Members discussed the grant application, discussions included there is still no direct bus route from Ilminster to Yeovil and what would the benefit to the people of Ilminster.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to **REJECT** the grant request of £250

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Keitch

Greenfylde School – Life education

Members discussed the grant application and the amount of £860



Members **RESOLVED** by 8 votes for, 3 against and 2 abstentions to **SUSPEND** the maximum grant limit of £500 for this application only.

Proposer Cllr Shepherd Seconded Cllr Swann

Members **RESOLVED** by 9 votes for, 2 against and 2 abstentions to **APPROVE** the grant request of £860.

Proposer Cllr Shepherd Seconded Cllr MacKillop

Iminster Sports Club Ltd

This application was **DEFERRED** pending further information as requested in minute item 1086

Iminster Entertainments Society Ltd (Warehouse Theatre – Old Bakery Project)

Members discussed the application and how the theatre does a lot for the town and it is hoped that disabled access will be improved.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to **APPROVE** the grant request of £500.

Proposed Cllr Shearman Seconded Cllr Swann

1088

Party in the Park 2022

Cllr Shearman declared a personal interest as he helps to marshal the event and he knows some of the organisers.

Members discussed the request to hold Party on the Park 2022, the location, that the event is very popular, the money raised to help local good causes.

Members **RESOLVED** by 12 votes for and 1 abstention to agree the request for Party on the Park 2022 to take place and to delegate officers authority to manage any requests relating to this event.

Proposer Cllr Swann Seconded Cllr White

1089

Somerset Bus Partnership

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to nominate Cllr MacKillop to act as representative to the Bus Advisory Group.

Proposer Cllr Shepherd Seconded Cllr Taylor



1090 Future if Local Government in Somerset

This item was discussed as part of minute item 1075.

There have been early discussions about how the local community network can share resources going forward but it is far too early for anything to be decided.

The Town Clerk updated members on meeting that he has attended. It is helpful when the break out groups are held the following day so people can attend more than one breakout group. The Town Clerks of Chard/Crewkerne and Ilminster are meeting on 14th December to discuss how they can all work together, the Mayors will meet early in the new year.

Cllr Shepherd requested to the meeting Chair and his fellow Councillors that though he had declared an interest in Agenda items 21 and 22 he would like to remain in the chamber to listen to the debate and give members accurate updates if required but would not vote.

The meeting Chair and members discussed Cllr Shepherds request. Standing Orders were consulted on how to deal with the request and because the relevant Standing Order relating to a declaration of interest was in bold it could not be suspended and his request was rejected.

21.18 Cllr Shepherd, Cllr Swann and Cllr Vijeh left the meeting.

1091 Exempt business

It is proposed that in view of the confidential nature of the following items that the meeting is moved into exempt business and the press and public be excluded.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Hamilton

1092 New contract for office telephone/internet connection

Members discussed the current telephone/internet contract and reviewed the quotes supplied, members also discussed having a rolling monthly contract with the current provider until the move to the Old Magistrates Court is completed and a new contract can be put in place.



Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the extension of a monthly rolling contract with CCUK Ltd in order to allow a new contract to be put on place for the new Council Offices.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Wilcock

Cllr Keitch left the Chamber at 21.23

Cllr Keitch returned to the Chamber at 21.28

1093 Ilminster Education Foundation Lease

Members were updated and discussed the lease. Discussions included if there could potentially be break clauses in the lease, the length of the lease and the cost.

Members **RESOLVED** by 10 votes for and 1 abstention (Cllr Keitch abstained as she wasn't present in the Chamber for all the updates/discussions) to accept the proposed lease terms with the Ilminster Education Foundation subject to a final Lease being submitted for their consideration once any proposed amendments have been made.

Proposed Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr James

1094 Cricket Club Lease

Members **NOTED** the update on progress of the draft lease with Ilminster Cricket Club

Meeting ended at 21.45

