

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on
**21st February 2023 at 19.30hrs, in the Council Chamber, Council Offices,
North Street, Ilminster, TA19 0DG**

Chair: Cllr L Taylor

Committee: Cllr P Burton, Cllr B Hamilton, Cllr M James, Cllr B Jenner-Hurford, Cllr I Mackillop, Cllr P Sellers, Cllr A Shearman, Cllr S Shepherd, Cllr N Tinson, Cllr S Osborne, Cllr V Keitch

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

In attendance: 1 member of the public

2022-0209-TC Public Forum

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

2022-0210-TC Apologies for Absence

Cllr Gunn – Personal reasons
Cllr Paul – Personal reasons

2022-0211-TC District and County Councillors Report

Members **NOTED** the District Councillors reports.
Cllr Osborne's County report will be circulated to Members.

2022-0212-TC Declarations of Interest

Cllr Shepherd declared an interest in Agenda Item 17 Schedule of Charges Policy 2023/2024.

2022-0213-TC Dispensations

There were no dispensations requested or granted.

2022-0214-TC Minutes – Town Council

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Minutes from the meeting held on 17th January 2023 as a correct record.
Proposer Cllr Tinson **Seconded** Cllr Sellers

2022-0215-TC Minutes – Planning, Highways and Transport

Members **NOTED** the Minutes from the meeting held on 7th February 2023

2022-0216-TC Minutes – Open Spaces

Members **NOTED** the Minutes from the meeting held on 7th February 2023

22-0072-OS Licences and pitch fees for football and cricket 2023

Members resolved to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council the pitch fees shown in Option 2 to be incorporated in the Schedule of Charges and in the proposed Licence for each of the relevant cricket and football clubs with the intention to introduce a revised format of charges for 2024/25.

- A** Members resolved by 9 votes for, 1 against and 1 abstention (Cllr Shepherd) the pitch fees shown in Option 2 to be incorporated in the Schedule of Charges and in the proposed Licence for each of the relevant cricket and

football clubs with the intention to introduce a revised format of charges for 2024/25.

Proposer Cllr Sellers **Seconded** Cllr Osborne

Members resolved to RECOMMEND to Full Council to accept the licences with any amendments considered necessary for the relevant cricket and football clubs who use the pitches on the recreation ground and Britten's Field.

- B** Members **RESOLVED** by 9 votes for and 1 abstention (Cllr Shepherd) to accept the licences with any amendments considered necessary for the relevant cricket and football clubs who use the pitches on the recreation ground and Britten's Field.
Proposer Cllr Osborne **Seconded** Cllr Hamilton

22-0075-OS Fitness Trail

Members resolved to RECOMMEND to Full Council to approve Route 2 for the location of a fitness trail on the recreation ground.

- C** Members **RESOLVED** by 11 votes for and 1 abstention to approve Route 2 for the location of a fitness trail on the recreation ground.
Proposer Cllr Jenner-Hurford **Seconded** Cllr Tinson

22-0077-OS Cemetery Noticeboard

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously that officers be delegated authority to purchase a new noticeboard using quote E, to display the information such as, purchase prices, rules and regulations and a map of the cemetery.

- D** Members **RESOLVED** unanimously that officers be delegated authority to purchase a new noticeboard using quote E, to display the information such as, purchase prices, rules and regulations and a map of the cemetery.
Proposer Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Osborne

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously that officers be delegated authority to choose a suitable location for the new noticeboard and erect accordingly.

- E** Members **RESOLVED** unanimously that officers be delegated authority to choose a suitable location for the new noticeboard and erect accordingly.
Proposer Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Osborne

2022-0217-TC Mayor/Deputy Mayor Reports

Members **NOTED** the Mayor and Deputy Mayor reports.

2022-0218-TC Police Report

Sgt Flint sent his apologies that he was unable to attend the meeting.

2022-0219-TC Councillor Representatives of external organisations

Members **NOTED** the reports from Cllr Taylor and Cllr MacKillop.

Cllr Hamilton has introduced himself to the Head of Herne View School as their Councillor Representative.

Cllr Shepherd updated Members that the Ilminster Education Foundation is in the process of changing it's Constitution and he will update Members on the changes.

Cllr MacKillop updated Members on his recent Somerset Bus Partnership meeting. Updates included Somerset has the second lowest rate of bus users in Somerset and the £2 bus fare cap has been extended to 30th June 2023. Cllr Keitch updated Members that Somerset County Council have put more funds into bus services. The 54 route has been reinstated. Yeovil College have provided a bus from Ilminster to Yeovil to enable students to attend college. It was noted that it was difficult to catch a bus from a train station as the bus timetables do not correlate with the train times. Members noted that there is still no direct bus service between Ilminster and Yeovil.

2022-0220-TC Income and Expenditure report
Members **NOTED** the income and expenditure report as of 31st January 2023

2022-0221-TC Schedule of Payments
Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to agree the payments for January 2023
Proposer Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Tinson

2022-0222-TC Vaughan Lee Garage
Cllr Keitch declared an interest in this Agenda Item.
Members discussed the use of the garage and agreed that it was no longer fit for purpose.
Members **RESOLVED** by 11 votes for and 1 abstention (Cllr Keitch) to give one months' notice to Vaughan Lee House to vacate the garage.
Proposer Cllr Jenner-Hurford **Seconded** Cllr Tinson

2022-0223-TC Investment Policy and Plans
Members **NOTED** the report.
Members discussed the report.
The Town Clerk advised Members that officers would be looking at potential options to bring to the March meeting.
Members requested that officers look for companies who have ethical standards where any funds are to be potentially invested.

2022-0224-TC Clerk's Update
Members **NOTED** the Clerk's update report.
The Probation Service have offered the services via the Community Payback scheme at no cost to the Council.
The Town Clerk has arranged a meeting with a representative from SSDC to discuss options for the future of the North Street office.

2022-0225-TC Schedule of Charges Policy 2023/2024
a) Members **RESOLVED** by 11 votes for to approve the Schedule of Charges agreed by the Open Spaces committee on the 7 February 2023
Proposer Cllr Tinson **Seconded** Cllr Osborne

b) Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the re-introduction of Kipper Week and to delegate to officers its management as part of the Market management.
Proposer Cllr Osborne **Seconded** Cllr Shepherd

2022-0226-TC Coronation Saturday 6th May 2023

Members **NOTED** the report.

Cllr Shepherd recognised that the council does not have the resources to organise town wide coronation event but expressed his disappointment at the lack of commitment from a number of his fellow Members of the council to assist with Coronation events.

2022-0227-TC Calendar of Events for Year 2023/24

Members were updated that the Christmas Lights Festival may revert to it's previous name of Victorian Evening.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the events listed in the report to Full Council and appended to the Minutes of this meeting.

Proposer Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Keitch

2022-0228-TC Correspondence from The Gooch Charitable Trust

Members **NOTED** the report.

2022-0229-TC Somerset Skills and Learning Centre

Members were advised that the use for a community asset and disposal policy is currently being agreed by Somerset Council.

Members **RESOLVED** by 10 votes for and 2 abstentions (Cllr Keitch and Cllr Osborne) to delegate to officers to ensure that the Somerset Skills and Learning Centre on Ditton Street is reinstated to the SSDC (SC) asset register.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Sellers

2022-0230-TC Future of Local Government in Somerset

Members **NOTED** the report.

Members were updated that seed funding should be in place by July for 2 LCN managers and LCN officers. The County will be split in half.

The Town Clerk updated Members that he was in discussions with other local Clerks regarding investing in a Highways Steward.

Cllr Keitch updated Members that originally LCNs were going to be Committees of Council but that has been reviewed and they will now be Boards.

2022-0231-TC Co-option Policy

Members were advised that the co-option policy was drawn up using the NALC model. The current vacancy would look to be filled by co-option at the April 2023 meeting.

Members **RESOLVED** by 11 votes for to adopt the Co-option policy presented to the Full Council meeting

Proposer Cllr Sellers **Seconded** Cllr Tinson

2022-0232-TC Tractor and snake replacement

Members **RESOLVED** by 10 votes for and 2 against to approve the purchase of the Ferris 3300 for £17,200 and for the tractor and Snake Trimax valued at £10,000 to be used in part exchange.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Tinson

2022-0233-TC Renewal of Council Insurance 2023/24

This agenda item was moved to exempt business.

2022-0234-TC Exempt Business

That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded while members consider this item in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

Proposer Cllr Keitch **Seconded** Cllr Osborne

2022-0235-TC Renewal of Council Insurance 2023/24

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the quote from company A for insurance of the council's assets for 3 year(s) starting from 1st April 2023.

Proposer Cllr Burton **Seconded** Cllr Keitch

Meeting ended at 20.53

