

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on
23rd April 2024 at 19.30hrs, at Iminster Arts Centre,
35 East Street, Iminster, TA19 0AN

Chair: Cllr L Taylor

Council: Cllr B Hamilton, Cllr B Jenner-Hurford, Cllr I MacKillop, Cllr J Morris,
Cllr S Osborne, Cllr P Sellers, Cllr S Shepherd, Cllr N Tinson.

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

In attendance: There were no members of the public present.

2024-0001-TC Public Forum

There were no members of public present.

2024-0002-TC Apologies for Absence

Cllr A Shearman

Cllr V Keitch

Cllr M Gunn

Cllr M James

Cllr D Paul

Cllr J Karchud

The Clerk has confirmed that reasons have been provided.

2024-0003-TC Somerset Council Member's Reports

Members **NOTED** the Somerset Councillors report.

Cllr Osborne updated Members that whilst a number of Somerset Council employees had applied for voluntary redundancy it is likely that there will also be compulsory redundancies.

The Boundary Commission Review is scheduled to start in July.

2024-0004-TC Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2024-0005-TC Dispensations

There were none requested or granted.

2024-0006-TC Minutes – Town Council

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Minutes from the meeting held on 19th March 2024 as a correct record.

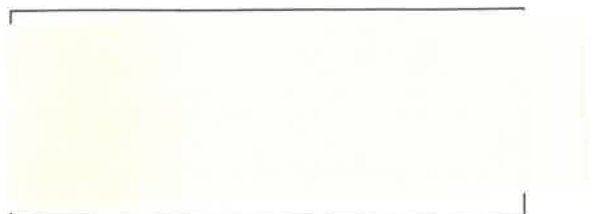
Proposer Cllr Jenner-Hurford **Seconded** Cllr Sellers

2024-0007-TC Minutes – Planning, Highways and Transport

Members **NOTED** the Minutes from the meeting held on 9th April 2024.

2024-0008-TC Minutes – Open Spaces

Members **NOTED** the Minutes from the meeting held on 9th April 2024.



2024-0009-TC Mayor/Deputy Mayor Reports

Members **NOTED** the Deputy Mayors report.

The Mayor updated Members verbally about the events that she has attended since the last meeting. These included an Ilminster Flood Group meeting, the Annual Community Assembly meeting and presenting prizes to the winners of the Easter Egg hunt competition.

2024-0010-TC Police Report

No police report provided.

Members were asked to report any queries directly to officers.

Residents have advised Members that the lack of a Police presence in the town is causing concern.

The Town Clerk has contacted the police to request speeding and traffic data.

It was suggested, after the upcoming election, that the Police and Crime Commissioner should be invited to speak to the Town Council.

The Speed Indicator Device will be put up again shortly.

2024-0011-TC Schedule of Payments

The Town Clerk advised Members that bank reconcilers would be appointed at the May 2024 Town Council meeting.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously by to approve the payments for March 2024 and to approve the completion of the bank reconciliation for March 2024 and note the account balances as of 31 March 2024.

Proposer Cllr Taylor **Seconded** Cllr Hamilton

2024-0012-TC End of Year Income and Expenditure report

Members **NOTED** the report.

The RFO updated Members there was an underspend over the year.

The Precept should arrive in the bank by the end of April.

2024-0013-TC Fixed Asset Register

Officers will look into the ownership of the bus shelters on Listers Hill and will update Members at a future meeting.

a) Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the purchases and disposals of fixed assets as of 31 March 2024.

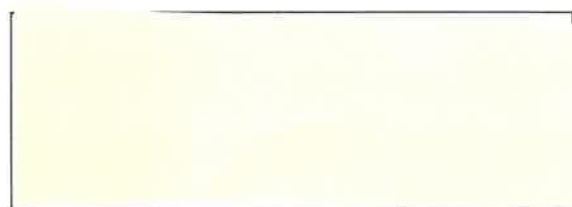
Proposer Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

b) Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the Town Council's Fixed Asset Register for the financial year 2023-2024 and as presented at the meeting.

Proposer Cllr Jenner-Hurford **Seconded** Cllr Hamilton

2024-0014-TC Direct Debit and Regular Payments

In accordance with Standing Orders this Agenda item was postponed until the May 2024 meeting.



2024-0015-TC Leave of Absence

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve a leave of absence for Cllr Keitch for 6 months until the 31 October 2024 when the decision will be reviewed again should it be necessary.

Proposer Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Osborne

2024-0016-TC Committee restructuring

Members were reminded that when making decisions/resolutions they should think about the Climate Emergency that they have previously declared. Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to set up a Working Group to consider the structure of the Town Council. Members to be the Chairs of the Committees once they have been selected following the May Annual Meeting. It will also include the Mayor of the Council.

Proposer Cllr Tinson **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

2024-0017-TC Grant Policy and Procedure

Members discussed the changes to the grant policy and procedure. Discussions included: will Service Level Agreements be treated as separate items, could question 6 on the application form be written differently so it is easier to understand, do we need a weighted decision matrix with a minimum and maximum score, can an organisation apply for grants in consecutive years for different reasons.

As Members requested some alterations to the policy and application form this item was deferred until the May 2024 meeting when the requested amendments will have been made.

2024-0018-TC Grant Application

Cllr Tinson declared an interest as a Trustee of the Arts Centre. Members **RESOLVED** by 8 votes for and 1 abstention (Cllr Tinson) to approve the grant for **£500** for Experience Ilminster Community Interest Company from the 2024-25 Grant budget.

Proposer Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Jenner-Hurford

The grant was approved under the power Local Government Act 1972 S 145

2024-0019-TC Lloyds Bank Closure and Banking Hub

Members **NOTED** the report. Members thanked officers for all their hard work and efforts. Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to delegate to officers to meet with relevant agencies and individuals to endeavour to obtain a Banking Hub in Ilminster.

Proposer Cllr Taylor **Seconded** Cllr Shepherd



2024-0020-TC Planters

Members discussed the planters along Strawberry Bank. Discussions included the aesthetic impact of removing the planters, the amount of water used to water them, could we reduce the number of planters, could we plant different plants in them, and the Health and Safety concerns re watering and installing/removing the planters.

This item was referred back to the Open Spaces committee to discuss and bring back to a future Town Council meeting.

Members **RESOLVED** to agree that officers start to maintain the two areas identified, the triangle at West Street and the corner of the top of North Street.

Proposer Cllr Tinson **Seconded** Cllr Jenner-Hurford

2024-0021-TC Staffing

This item was moved to Exempt Business.

2024-0022-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 Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Shepherd

2024-0023-TC Staffing

a) Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve 1 additional Scale Point for Employee 8 as a result of their successful completion of CiLCA.

Proposer Cllr Taylor **Seconded** Cllr Osborne

b) Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the employment of Nadine Kelly on the reported SCP range.

Proposer Cllr Sellers **Seconded** Cllr Tinson

c) Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to close the Town Council office from midday Tuesday 24 December 2024 until Thursday 2 January 2025.

Proposer Cllr Taylor **Seconded** Cllr Osborne

Meeting ended at 21.21

