

Minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on
15th March 2022 at 19:30 hrs, in the **Council Chamber, Council Offices,**
North Street Ilminster, TA19 0DG

Chair: Cllr P Burton

Committee: Cllr M Gunn, Cllr B Jenner-Hufford, Cllr H Lancaster, Cllr I MacKillop, Cllr A Shearman, Cllr S Shepherd, Cllr R Swann, Cllr L Taylor, Cllr N Tinson, Cllr L Wilcock

Officers: M Tredwin (Town Clerk), A Brown (Administration Officer), V Freeman (Administration Officer)

In attendance:N/A

1167 Public Forum

There were no members of the public present.

1168 Apologies for absence

Cllr Keitch – Personal Reasons

Cllr B Hamilton – Personal Reasons

Cllr F White – Personal reasons

Cllr M James – Business commitments

1169 District and County Councillor Reports

No District or County Councillor reports presented.

1170 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Shepherd declared an interest in agenda item 21, Ilminster Education Foundation Lease.

Cllr Swann declared an interest in agenda item 21, Ilminster Education Foundation Lease.

1171 Dispensations

There were no dispensations requested or granted.

19.34 Cllr Wilcock arrived

1172 Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** by 9 votes for and 2 abstentions that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2022 as a correct record.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Swann

1173 Minutes – Planning, Highways and Transport

Members **NOTED** the Minutes from the meeting held on 1st March 2022

Cllr MacKillop declared an interest in the item below and abstained during the vote.

Members **RESOLVED** by 10 votes for and 1 abstention that officers be delegated authority to write to Somerset County Council to remove the West Street Traffic Regulation Order from Silver Street to Brewery Lane,

taking into account any safety recommendations put forward by Somerset Highways.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously that officers be delegated authority to contact Tesco Ilminster Store to establish what help can be given to light Swann Precinct.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

1174 Minutes – Resources Committee

Members **NOTED** the minutes from the Meeting held on 1st March 2022

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to set the football pitch fees as proposed in the report.

Proposer Cllr Taylor **Seconded** Cllr Wilcock

Cllr Shepherd and Cllr Swann declared an interest in the item below and abstained during the vote.

Members **RESOLVED** by 9 votes for and 2 abstentions to set the cricket pitch fees as proposed in the report.

Proposer Cllr Jenner-Hurford **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

1175 Councillor Representatives of external organisations

Cllr James attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting and has updated officers on the items discussed.

Cllr Burton attended Ilminster Fairtrade Fortnight.

Cllr Swann and Cllr Shepherd attended the Ilminster Education Foundation (IEF) meeting where grants had been approved.

Cllr Swann reminded members about the work of the IEF, grants are available to Ilminster school pupils on educational trips and Ilminster based University and College pupils.

1176 Clerk's update report

Members **NOTED** the Town Clerks report.

The Town Clerk updated members on matters including, Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, the asset register will be reviewed in the next 12 months alongside the new internal auditor, the insurance policies will be reviewed as we are coming to the end of a 3 year contract. Members were updated on the progress of the move to the Old Magistrates Court and the difficulties in obtaining trades people. The items purchased via the Welcome Back Funding.

The Community Resilience Group meeting was held on 28th February 2022. We are looking for volunteers to act as flood wardens.

1177 Financial Monitoring

Members **NOTED** the finance report.

1178 Risk Register

Members discussed the risk register and they need to work with the new internal auditor to review them again in September 2022

Members **NOTED** the Risk Management requirements as laid out in sections 17.1 and 17.2 of the Financial Regulations (Approved May 2021 Minute 944)

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the Financial Risk register as presented subject to it being reviewed in September 2022.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Taylor.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the Office Risk Register as presented subject to it being reviewed in September 2022.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the Statement of Internal Control Policy as presented.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Jenner-Hurford

1179 Young Somerset update report

Members **NOTED** the report.

Members discussed the changes to the Young Somerset SLA. Discussions included that Young Somerset are looking at the bigger picture and moving in a different direction, young people need to be supported with their mental health, for any venture to be a success they need to engage with the young people in Ilminster, we need to find the right provider with the right approach, if there is any provision/funding from County/District.

Young Somerset have agreed to help us find a new provider and forward on the data they have collected via surveys.

1180 Wallgate Contract

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to move this agenda item to exempt business, Minute item number 1186

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Burton

1181 Maintenance to West Crescent Play Park

Members discussed the West Crescent Play Park

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to delegate officers authority to source grants and to replace/repair equipment at the West Crescent Play Park in consultation with the Chair of Open Spaces.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Shepherd

1182 Ukrainian Conflict

Members discussed the ongoing conflict within the Ukraine.

The Town Clerk advised members that they were unable to use Council funds as a direct donation.

Members discussed the Town Council should point people in the direction of the official organisations if they wish to help/donate.

The link to the details of how to offer a home to a refugee has been added to the website.

1183 Grant Application

Members discussed a grant application from Ilminster Sports Club Ltd.

Members **RESOLVED** by 10 votes for and 1 abstention to approve a grant of £500 from the 2021-22 grant allocation fund, payment to be held under a reserve budget heading and payment to be made on receipt of

confirmation that the other grants Ilminster Sports Club Ltd have applied for are approved and the project is fully funded.

Proposer Cllr Wilcock **Seconded** Cllr Swann

1184 Future of Local Government in Somerset

Members were updated regarding the future of Local Government. The number of LCN's has not been decided yet. Members need to think about which assets and services they would like to consider taking on. Whether we offer to support local parishes and villages by offering services to them. There is no decision regarding planning committees, but no one should be worse off than we are under the current planning committees.

1185 Exempt Business

That in the view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advised 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 Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

1186 Wallgate Contract

Members discussed renewing the Wallgate Ltd contract.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to agree to a new three-year agreement with Wallgate Ltd.

Proposer Cllr Wilcock **Seconded** Cllr Gunn

1187 National Pay awards for council employees 2021/2022

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to formally agree the negotiated pay awards notified by the National Joint Council for local government services on 28th February 2022 for the financial year 2021-2022.

Proposer Cllr Gunn **Seconded** Cllr Shepherd

20.36 Cllr Shepherd and Cllr Swann left the chamber due to a declaration of interest in the next agenda item.

1188 Ilminster Education Foundation Lease

Members discussed a request from Ilminster Education Foundation.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to delegate authority to officers to write to the IEF stating support for Ilminster Cricket Club's desire to peruse a separate lease for the area of land which the Cricket Club wishes to enter into.

Proposer Cllr Wilcock **Seconded** Cllr Shearman

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to seek to enter into a lease for the balance of any land that falls outside of that required by the Cricket Club and enter into a new lease for the remaining land on terms negotiated between the Council's Solicitor, the IEF and then approved by Full Council in a Full Council meeting.

Proposer Cllr Wilcock **Seconded** Cllr Shearman

Meeting ended 20.48