

Minutes of a meeting of the **Town Council Meeting** held in the Council Chamber, North Street, Ilminster on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 19:30hrs

**Present:**

Chairman: Cllr A Lawson

Councillors: Cllr P Burton, Cllr C Goodall, Cllr V Higgins, Cllr V Keitch, Cllr D Miller, Cllr J Pallister, Cllr A Shearman, Cllr S Shepherd and Cllr R Swann

**In Attendance**

Officers: Miss N McIntosh (Administrative Assistant), Miss J Norris (Town Clerk)

County Councillor: Linda Vjeh

3 members of the public attended the meeting of which 2 wished to speak under the public participation.

**Speaker 1**

- At the request of a member of the public, who was attending the meeting, the Mayor read out a letter which the member of the public had sent to the Town Council; it contained the following text: 'Ilminster's initial approach to S.C.C Highways on 20 November via Mrs L Vjeh has been met with the comment "not enforceable." 'Accordingly to the Somerset County Gazette on 6 November 2014 Wellington's request for 20 mph zones in Wellington will be considered by S.C.C. How will the Council deal with this'?

The Chair informed the speaker that the Town Council would respond formally to his letter.

**Speaker 2**

- Speaker 2 a Cricket Club representative wished to thank the Council for considering the Cricket Club's request. He informed the Council, following Planning Permission being granted for improvements to the pavilion, the Cricket Club is now seeking help to fund the project, and wished to ask the Council for its support by making a recommendation to South Somerset District Council for the allocation S106 monies.

**300. Suspension of Standing Orders**

**RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Order 1m which relates to photographing, recording, broadcasting or transmitting the meeting.

**301. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Neave, Sothern, Storey and Taylor.

**302. Declarations of Interest**

The declarations of interest outlined in the table below were made:

Name	Agenda Item	Minute No	Interest	Nature of Interest	Action
Cllr J Pallister	11 Allocation of S106 Monies	310	Personal	Voluntary Groundsman for Cricket Club	Spoke and voted on the item
Cllr S Shepherd	1111 Allocation of S106 Monies	310	Personal	President of Cricket Club	Spoke on the item

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### 303. Minutes

#### RESOLVED

- (i) that the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.
- (ii) to note the office action list relating to Town Council meetings.

Points raised during consideration of the office action list included:

- Winterhay Lane – The Town Council to contact Somerset County Council for an update on the status

### 304. Mayor's Announcements/Engagements

a) The Deputy Mayor made the following announcement relevant to Town Council and Mayoral activities and engagements.

It had been a quiet month with few engagements to attend, however the Mayor enjoyed this year's Remembrance Day Service at the Minster Church on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

b) The Mayor and Deputy Mayor's engagements between 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014 and 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014 were circulated with the agenda.

### 305. Police Report

The Iminster Beat Report for November 2014 was circulated prior to the meeting.

### 306. Reports from District Councillors

Councillor Goodall circulated a written report prior to the meeting and the following points were highlighted:

- Victorian Evening and the arrangements for litter collection
- Victorian Evening and the availability of public toilets
- Somerset Waste Partnership and the collection of additional materials which now include plastic trays, tubs, electrical equipment and batteries

### 307. Report from County Councillor for Iminster

County Councillor Vijeh submitted a written report for October 2014 which was circulated with the agenda.

Issues discussed included:

- Winterhay Lane - status of the footpath order
- Interim Director appointed for Children's Services, Somerset County Council now advertising for a permanent member of staff
- Concern about the shortfall of social workers in Somerset
- Street Lighting not working in Iminster including The Beacon, Eames Orchard, Black down View
- The work to drainage system recently carried out seems to have helped, although Ditton Street recently flooded, Councillor Shearman noted that there has been no movement regarding Somerset County Council Highways drainage maintenance in Iminster, as published in Chard & Iminster News on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

### 308. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

The Council received a report from the following Representative on an outside body:

**Youth Club** - Councillor Burton informed the Council that the Youth Club had been experiencing staffing issues but is glad to report that it is now addressed and changes have been made to the organisation structure; this will enable volunteers to have the opportunity at working towards an NVQ qualification through Somerset County Council sponsorship.

Councillor Burton reported that he had recently visited a youth club in Somerton which he found very useful, allowing him to look at how other youth clubs run. Councillor Burton further reported that the Youth Club are actively seeking funding for projects so will probably submit a grant application to Council. As always, Councillor Burton

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encouraged Councillors to attend the Youth Club. Councillor Burton notified the Council of the following dates:

Next scheduled meeting is to be held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

Youth Club have arranged a Santa's Grotto to be held on Victorian Evening Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2014.

### 309. Open Spaces Recommendation

The Council considered the recommendation from the Open spaces committee meeting held on 28th October 2014. A report was circulated to council regarding Trimax Grass Cutting equipment for Council's consideration.

Issues discussed included:

- Suitability for use at the Cemetery and other Open Spaces

#### **RESOLVED** that

- i. That the Trimax 'Snake' mower is purchased at a cost of £14,600 subject to supplier providing satisfactory references.
- ii. That the best possible price is obtained for the disposal of the current gang mowers (whether by part exchange or private sale).
- iii. That the purchase of the Trimax mower is funded as follows:
  - £12175 from Earmarked Reserves for Gang Mower replacement.
  - £1200 from the current budget for servicing the gang mowers this winter
  - £1500 estimated part exchange

### 310. Allocation of S106 monies

The Town Clerk reported the request received from the Cricket Club for the allocation of S106 monies for sport and pitches and circulated the criteria agreed by the Town Council at a previous meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2014 for Councillors to cross reference.

**NB: Council went out of Session at 20:20hrs to ask the Cricket Club representatives for more information and resumed at 20:30 hrs.**

Issues discussed included:

- Feasibility of the project without grant funding
- Possible funding sources for the project
- Suggestions of appropriate consultation methods, including putting a notice on the Town Council Notice Board
- The number of people that will benefit from the project

#### **RESOLVED** that

- (i) the Cricket Club should submit a grant application to Town Council
- (ii) that additional information is required to meet the Town Council's criteria for submitting a request for s106 money e.g. public consultation

### 311. Project Plan

The Council considered the progress on the project plan and the following changes were identified as necessary.

Issues discussed included:

- Re-word item 6 – Canal Way
- Re-word item 8 – To include drain Infrastructure (Shudrick Stream) possibility of obtaining S106 monies

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### 312. Authorisation of Payments and Notification of Virements

The Schedule of Payments for authorisation was circulated with the agenda for Council's approval.

Issues discussed included:

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**RESOLVED** that the accounts listed in the schedule presented to the Council totalling £11,209.80 be approved.

### 313. Clerk's Updates

The Updates sent by email since the last Council agenda was published were listed on the agenda.

### 314. Exclusion of the Press and Public

**RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public whilst agenda items 16 and 17 was discussed due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

### 315. Hammerhead Land

The Town Clerk updated the Council on the progress regarding the Hammerhead Land.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That local lad searches should be undertaken
- (ii) That any 2 councillors who are cheque signatories are authorised to sign the legal documents for the acquisition of the land known as The Hammerhead.

### 316. The Cemetery – Legal Action

The Town Clerk reported that the case had been heard that morning in the County Court at Yeovil. The case against the Town Council was dismissed. An application was made for the Town Council's legal costs to be met by the complainant but that was not agreed.

The meeting closed at 21:10 hrs.

Chair's signature & date