

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on
17th October 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 B Jenner-Hurford, Cllr J Karchud, Cllr I MacKillop, Cllr S Osborne, Cllr P Sellers, Cllr A Shearman, Cllr S Shepherd, Cllr N Tinson

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

In attendance: 1 member of public

The Mayor read out a message from Julie Fowler thanking Members for nominating her for the Somerset Council Chair's Award for service to the community. Mrs Fowler felt honoured and proud to receive the award.

2023-0117-TC Public Forum

A representative from Ilminster Ukulele Club addressed Members regarding their grant application.

The representative advised Members that they are a group of mixed ages that enjoy playing together.

2023-0118-TC Apologies for Absence

Cllr M Gunn

Cllr D Paul

Cllr M James

Cllr V Keitch

The Clerk has confirmed that reasons have been provided.

2023-0119-TC Somerset Council Member's Reports

Members **NOTED** the Somerset Council Member's report.

A Member has requested that black and not yellow print is used on reports.

2023-0120-TC Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hamilton declared an interest in Agenda item 14 Grant Application from Horton Cross Nursing Home and the Grant Application from Ilminster Ukulele Club due to knowing some members of the Ukulele Club.

Cllr Jenner-Hurford declared an interest in Agenda item 20 North Street.

2023-0121-TC Dispensations

There were none requested or granted.

2023-0122-TC Minutes – Town Council

Members **RESOLVED** by 9 votes for that the Minutes from the meeting held on 19th September 2023 as a correct record.

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

2023-0123-TC Minutes – Planning, Highways and Transport

Members **NOTED** the Minutes from the meeting held on 3rd October 2023

2023-0124-TC Minutes – Open Spaces

Members **NOTED** the Minutes from the meeting held on 3rd October 2023

23-0051-OS Hammerhead land management

- A** Members resolved unanimously to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that £4,000 be transferred from General Reserves to cover the cost of the installation of knee-high fencing and that officers be delegated authority to complete the project.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously that £4,000 be transferred from General Reserves to cover the cost of the installation of knee-high fencing and that officers be delegated authority to complete the project.

Proposer Cllr Jenner-Hurford **Seconded** Cllr Osborne

B 23-0049-OS Canal Management Plan

Members resolved unanimously to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council to accept the Canal Management Plan and to agree to the purchase of approximately 25 metres of pre-planted coir rolls in netting to start stabilising the canal bank.

Members **RESOLVED** to accept the Canal Management Plan and to agree to the purchase of approximately 25 metres of pre-planted coir rolls in netting to start stabilising the canal bank.

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

2023-0125-TC Mayor/Deputy Mayor Reports

Members **NOTED** the Mayors reports.

2023-0126-TC Police Report

There was no police report provided.

Members were asked to report any queries directly to officers.

2023-0127-TC Mid-Year Income and Expenditure report.

The Town Clerk was asked for an update on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan. The working group are continuing to work on the plan and the technical changes are expected to be made in November, the plan can then be moved forward. The Clerk was unable to give an indication of timescales.

Cllr Hamilton declared an interest as a Royal British Legion member and was advised by the Town Clerk that he could vote on the resolution.

- a.** Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to agree a donation of £100 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.
Proposer Cllr Jenner-Hurford **Seconded** Cllr Shepherd

Cllr Tinson declared an interest as a Trustee of The Arts Centre

- b.** Members **RESOLVED** by 10 votes for and 1 abstention (Cllr Tinson) to agree a donation of £300 to the Arts Centre on behalf of the Ilminster Information Centre.
Proposer Cllr Shepherd **Seconded** Cllr Burton
- c.** Members **NOTED** the balance of the report.

2023-0128-TC Schedule of Payments

A Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the payments for September 2023.

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

B Members **RESOLVED** by 10 votes for and 1 abstention (Cllr Shearman as bank reconciler) to approve the completion of the bank reconciliation for September 2023 and note the account balances as of 30th September 2023.

Proposer Cllr Sellers **Seconded** Cllr Osborne

2023-0129-TC Byelaws

Members thanked the Officers and Members who have worked on producing the updated Byelaws.

Members **RESOLVED** to accept the annotated and amended Byelaws presented at the meeting on the 17 October 2023.

Proposer Cllr Sellers **Seconded** Cllr Shearman

2023-0130-TC Grant Application from Horton Cross Nursing Home & Grant Application from Ilminster Ukulele Club

A Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to award a grant of £500 to Horton Cross Nursing home to help purchase a defibrillator.

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

B Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to award a grant of £350 to Ukulele Club to help purchase a portable speaker system for performances.

Proposer Cllr Taylor **Seconded** Cllr Shearman

2023-0131-TC Christmas Lights Storage

Members **NOTED** the increase rent charges.

The Town Clerk advised Members that both Officers and the Christmas Lights Committee have been looking, and will continue to look, for alternative suitable storage facilities within the town.

2023-0132-TC A358 Updated

Members **NOTED** the report.

It was decided that Cllr Hamilton, Cllr Shearman, Cllr Osborne, the Town Clerk, along with a representative from the Community of Parishes as an advisor will attend a meeting with National Highways on 31st October 2023.

2023-0133-TC New Surfacing on the Mound

This item was moved to Exempt Business.

2023-0134-TC Finance/Cemetery Software Quotes

This item was moved to Exempt Business.

2023-0135-TC Cleaning Contract for Town Council Buildings

This item was moved to Exempt Business.

2023-0136-TC North Street

This item was moved to Exempt Business.

2023-0137-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 Osborne **Seconded** Cllr Sellers

2023-0138-TC New Surfacing on the Mound

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the quote and to delegate authority to officers to arrange for the resurfacing of the mound on the recreation ground.
Proposer Cllr Jenner-Hurford **Seconded** Cllr Sellers

2023-0139-TC Finance/Cemetery Software Quotes

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the quote for a 3 year contract with AdvantEdge.
Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Tinson

2023-0140-TC Cleaning Contract for Town Council Buildings

Members discussed the report.
Members have asked officers to investigate various other options for the cleaning contract and bring further information/quotes to the November meeting.

20.35 Cllr Jenner-Hurford left the meeting.

2023-0141-TC North Street

Members **NOTED** the report.
Members discussed the various options regarding the future of North Street.

Members **RESOLVED** by 5 votes for, 4 against and 1 abstention (Cllr Osborne) to notify Somerset Council that they no longer wish to rent North Street and will end the tenancy of the property on the 31st March 2024.
Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

Meeting ended at 21.13.