

AGENDA ITEM 8

Minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on
Tuesday 7th November 2023 at 20.15 hrs, in the **Council Chamber,**
Council Offices, North Street, Ilminster, TA19 0DG

Chair: Cllr B Jenner-Hurford

Committee: Cllr B Hamilton, Cllr M James, Cllr P Sellers, Cllr S Shepherd, Cllr N Tinson

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

Councillors: No members of the public, Cllr A Shearman, Cllr L Taylor and Cllr M Gunn.

R23-024 Public Forum

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

R23-025 Apologies for Absence

Cllr V Keitch

The Clerk has confirmed that reasons have been provided.

R23-026 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

R23-027 Dispensations

None requested, none granted.

R23-028 Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Minutes of the meeting held on **5th September 2023** as an accurate record.

Proposer Cllr Jenner-Hurford **Seconded** Cllr James

R23-029 Financial Monitoring

Members **NOTED** the financial report.

R23-030 Citizens Advice Somerset

Members discussed the grant application.

Discussions included the current financial situation within Somerset Council (SC), concerns around possible funding cuts from SC, Members are aware that Citizens Advice is a vital resource that residents of Ilminster use, considered deferring item until January Town Council meeting when more information regarding SC may be known.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to defer this Agenda item to the January 2024 Town Council meeting.

Proposer Cllr Jenner-Hurford **Seconded** Cllr James

R23-031 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 Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Jenner-Hurford

R23-032

Staff Update

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to agree the back payment of salary 1 April 2023 to all employees in line with the National Pay Award for the financial year 2023-24.

Proposer Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Tinson

Members **NOTED** employee 5's salary will be increased by one SCP following a successful annual appraisal.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to appoint the Recreation Manager to Open Spaces Manager with effect from the 18 November subject to a 6 month trial period and to recruit a replacement Countryside Manager on the proposed Pay Spines.

Proposer Cllr Jenner-Hurford **Seconded** Cllr James

Members resolved unanimously to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that an additional member of the Open Spaces Team should be recruited, pending the outcome of any Somerset Council's Medium Term Financial Plans being confirmed.

Proposer Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr James

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to agree that employees 8 and 13 CiLCA costs be paid for from the council's training budget.

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

20.55 The Town Clerk left the meeting.

Members **RESOLVED** by 3 votes for and 3 votes against, the Mayor cast the deciding vote for the resolution to move the Town Clerk up one SCP level in line with his contract.

Proposer Cllr Tinson **Seconded** Cllr Hamilton

Following a discussion with the Town Clerk, officers realised that the action of not allowing the Chair of the Committee to have the Casting Vote in a tied decision, the resolution passed was an unlawful decision. This means the Recommendation to Full Council cannot go ahead. An item for this will be included at the 28 November 2023 Full Council Meeting.

Meeting ended 21.07