

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on
25th April 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 P Sellers, Cllr A Shearman, Cllr S Shepherd, Cllr N Tinson

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

In attendance: 1 member of the public

The meeting Chair welcomed Joe Karchud, who observed the meeting as a member of the public prior to the Co-option agenda item.

2023-0001-TC Public Forum

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

2023-0002-TC Apologies for Absence

Cllr V Keitch
Cllr M Gunn
Cllr S Osborne
Cllr D Paul

The Clerk has confirmed that reasons have been provided.

2023-0003-TC County Councillors Report

Members **NOTED** the County Councillors report.

2023-0004-TC Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2023-0005-TC Dispensations

There were no dispensations requested or granted.

2023-0006-TC Minutes – Town Council

Members **RESOLVED** by 7 votes for that the Minutes from the meeting held on 21st March 2023 as a correct record.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Burton

2023-0007-TC Minutes – Planning, Highways and Transport

Members **NOTED** the Minutes from the meeting held on 4th April 2023

2023-0008-TC Minutes – Open Spaces

Members **NOTED** the Minutes from the meeting held on 4th April 2023

23-0012-OS Request to register fields at the base of Herne Hill as a Community Asset

Members **RESOLVED** by 5 votes for and 1 abstention (Cllr Osborne) to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that the land identified as areas I1 and I2 be put forward for registration as Community assets and following further investigation consideration is given to registering I3, I4, I5, I6 and I7 at a later date.

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Members **RESOLVED** unanimously that the land identified as areas I1 and I2 be put forward for registration as Community assets and following further investigation consideration is given to registering I3, I4, I5, I6 and I7 at a later date.

Proposer Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Tinson

2023-0009-TC Mayor/Deputy Mayor Reports

Members **NOTED** the Mayor and Deputy Mayor reports.

2023-0010-TC Police Report

No police report has been received.

Representatives from the Police attended the Annual Community Assembly and gave an update regarding policing in Ilminster.

2023-0011-TC Councillor Representatives of external organisations

There were no reports received.

The Town Clerk reminded Members that are Councillor Representatives of external organisations that there is an expectation that a written update is sent to officers on a monthly basis to be included in that month's Town Council meeting.

2023-0012-TC Co-option of a new Councillor

Mr Karchud introduced himself to Members.

Mr Karchud left the Chamber whilst Members voted.

Mr Karchud returned to the Chamber.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to appoint Joe Karchud as a co-opted Member of Ilminster Town Council and to allow him, upon signing the Declaration of the Acceptance of Office to assume his role on the Town Council.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Sellers

The Mayor congratulated Cllr Karchud and welcomed him to Ilminster Town Council.

2023-0013-TC Income and Expenditure Report

Members **NOTED** the income and expenditure report as of 31st March 2023.

Members thanked the RFO for all her hard work over the last financial year.

A Member asked if the cost of replacing the vandalised toilet doors was going to be placed on Facebook/local newspaper to update residents.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously that underspent funds as at the end of the financial year 2022/2023 are vired forward to 2023/2024.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

2023-0014-TC Schedule of Payments

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to agree the payments for March 2023

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

2023-0015-TC Cemetery Rules

Members discussed the Cemetery rules.

Cllr Hamilton thanked the Open Spaces team for all their hard work looking after the Cemetery.

In the Open Spaces meeting the meeting Chair had expressed concerns about the use of the word 'unsightly' in the Rules and Regulations – General 3.12. Officers updated Members that further investigations had shown that

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the word is the industry-standard word that is used by other local cemeteries and the ICCM.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the amendments for the Cemetery Rules & Regulations as proposed in the Appendices taken to the Full Council meeting with the addition that ERBs are to be set up for a period of 100 years.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Shepherd

2023-0116-TC Clerk's Update

Members **NOTED** the Clerk's update report.

The Town Clerk has spoken to a representative from the funfair regarding their upcoming visit due to the exceptional rainfall we had in March and the ground still being very wet. The Countryside Manager will make the final decision if the ground is able to accommodate the fair without damaging the recreation ground.

The Town Clerk advised Members that he has yet to be advised of the National Pay Award for April 2023.

The Town Clerk has met with a representative from the Cricket Club and the Solicitor, progress has been made and the lease will possibly be ready in early June.

The Clerk was asked if officers could update residents via Facebook on the progress of the tennis courts. The Clerk advised that would be happening in the next few days.

There may be a small number of spare Coronation mugs left over after all the children at the school have received them, there will be an agenda item at a future meeting to enable Members to decide how they would like any spares distributed.

The Christmas Light committee have been busy decorating the town with flags and bunting for the Coronation, purchased by the Town Council.

2023-0017-TC Supporting the Food Bank

Members discussed continuing to support the Food Bank.

Discussions included considering raising the amount we spend, as due to inflation, £100 will buy less than it did a year ago and whether officers should just be restricted to buying cleaning products.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to continue to support the Food Bank by donating up to £125 per month for the financial year 2023-2024 and to allow officers to purchase both cleaning and food items.

Proposer Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Sellers

2023-0018-TC Future of Local Government in Somerset

Members **NOTED** the report.

Members discussed the LCNs.

Discussions included that LCNs are not for personal viewpoints but for the opinion of the local community, the Mayor will need to know what the community would like when she attends the meetings, local groups may also want to send a representative to the meetings, whether to set up a working group and going forward the Councillor Surgeries could have a specific different topic every month and we could ask residents to come along to give their opinion on that months topic.

The Town Clerk advised any Member who had a complex LCN query to contact our Somerset Councillors in the first instance.