

Minutes of the Town Council remote meeting held via Skype,
on **Tuesday 27 April 2021** starting at 20:30hrs

Present:

Chair: Cllr P Burton

Councillors: Cllr S Shepherd, Cllr R Swann, Cllr M Gunn, Cllr V Keitch, Cllr L Taylor,
Cllr A Shearman, Cllr B Hamilton, Cllr F White, Cllr H Lancaster, Cllr I
MacKillop, Cllr M James

Officers: Mr M Tredwin, (Town clerk) Mrs J Earp (Deputy Town Clerk and RFO)

In attendance: Cllr L Vijeh,

893 Public Forum – No members of the public were present

894 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Cllr L Wilcock

895 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hamilton declared an interest in **Agenda Item 16**, friend of the applicant
Cllr Keitch declared an interest in **Agenda Item 17**, member of South Somerset
District Council

896 Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd March 2021 be confirmed
as a correct record.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Extra ordinary meeting held on 30th March 2021
be confirmed as a correct record.

**897 Minutes of the Planning Highways and Transport Committee held on the 6th
April**

Members noted the minutes and Resolved the following **Recommendations**.

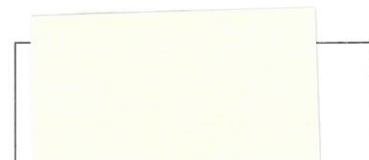
898 P341a RESOLVED to contact Ashcombe Lodge Management Committee to ask if
they would canvass their residents as to if they wanted Time Limited Parking on
Ashcombe Lane. **Proposed Cllr Shearman, Seconded Cllr Taylor**

899 P341b Members RESOLVED to approach South Somerset District Council to
enquire if there was a pilot scheme that Ilminster could be a part of with regards
electric charging points. **Proposed Cllr Shearman, Seconded Cllr Taylor**

900 Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee held on 6th April 2021

Members noted the minutes and Resolved the following **Recommendations**.

901 OS350 Members RESOLVED to obtain quotes for removal of the tree stumps in the
cemetery to create additional cremation plots and for officers to commence work on
receipt of acceptable quotes.



Proposed Cllr Gunn, Seconded Cllr Shearman

- 902 **OS351a**– Members **RESOLVED** for a memorial bench to be located at the proposed location at the bottom of the Cemetery as requested by a member of public who will be funding the bench.

Proposed Cllr Hamilton, Seconded Cllr James

- 903 **OS351b** – Members **RESOLVED** to temporarily relocate a bench from the cemetery to the Canal pending the purchase of a permanent one.

Proposed Cllr Gunn, Seconded Cllr Swann

- 904 **OS353** – Members **RESOLVED** that a wild flower meadow be planted at West Crescent in line with the report provided.

Proposed Cllr White, Seconded Cllr Swann

- 905 **OS354** - Members **RESOLVED** that a chain link fence be erected and the planting of a hedge at the appropriate time around the play park once a decision has been made on the area to be fenced

Proposed Cllr Swann, Seconded Cllr Shepherd

A motion to refer this item back to the Open Spaces meeting was rejected.

- 906 **OS355** – Members **RESOLVED** that no action be taken to instigate Public Spaces Protection Orders on Open Spaces in Ilminster.

Proposed Cllr Shepherd, Seconded Cllr Shearman

- 907 **Minutes of the Resources Committee held on the 2nd March 2021**

Members noted the minutes and Resolved the following **Recommendations**.

- 908 **R319** Members **Resolved** to move money from the Reserves for the New Century invoice of £6,000.00 for the Design of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Proposed Cllr Shepherd, Seconded Cllr Gunn

- 909 **Police Report** It was noted that an increase in violent crimes might be attributable to the Covid affect.

- 910 **Reports from District Councillors**

Members raised the issue of carsharing schemes and the use of E-Scooters in communities. Some concerns around the equality of the E-Scooters scheme were voiced. It was pointed out that the success of the schemes varied in the various locations around Ilminster.

- 911 **County Councillor Report for Ilminster**

This was noted by members

- 912 **Clerks update report**

It was noted that the Neighbourhood plan had reached the point where leaflets were going to be distributed. The Mayor confirmed that he had been sitting in along with the clerk at the recent meetings of the Neighbourhood Plan group.



913 Finance Report was noted

914 Calendar of Meetings

The clerk explained that as a result of the ending of the legislation surrounding online meetings. As a result, measures need to be put in place that would allow delegated authority to be given to the Clerk and officers should meetings not be able to continue in a face to face manner.

Various larger venues were considered by members but it was explained that these were not being made available to external organisations.

Members **RESOLVED** to meet informally electronically in groups with temporary delegated power being given to the town clerk to enact any recommendations from each of the working groups.

Proposed Cllr Taylor, seconded Cllr Burton, resolution was passed by 10 Votes for and 2 Votes against.

915 Footfall monitoring

Members debate the practicalities of the use of the counters. It was commented that the Chamber of Commerce would be interested in any results coming from the project. Concerns were also raised over if the devices could be fitted to the Market House and Cllr Keitch agreed to speak with the Economic Development team and the Conservation Office at SSDC.

Members **RESOLVED** to agree to a 6 month trial of the Footfall Monitoring subject to acceptable responses being received from the Economic Development team and the Conservation Office at SSDC.

Proposed Cllr Hamilton, seconded Cllr Shepherd, resolution was passed by 10 Votes for and 2 Votes against.

920 Skatepark Project

The project was discussed by members and received very supportive comments. Members **RESOLVED** to allow a member of the public to organise a charity event with handprints being placed on the skateparks walls.

Proposed Cllr Gunn, seconded Cllr White

Cllr Keitch left the meeting at 21.27hrs

921 South Somerset District Council Playdays

Members commented upon the success of previous years activities. It was reinforced that Playdays would be required to be in line with Covid restrictions and that if a Bar-B-que was to take place, separate permission would have to be considered due to byelaws being in place that restrict this.

Proposed Cllr Gunn, seconded Cllr White

922 It was proposed that in view of the confidential nature of the following items that the meeting be moved into exempt business and the press and public be excluded.

Proposed Cllr Shearman, seconded Cllr Shepherd

The locum Clerk left the meeting at 21-44hrs



923 Appointment of a Locum Town Clerk

Members **RESOLVED** to confirm the appointment of a locum town clerk to cover the vacancy that arose from the resignation of the previous clerk.

Proposed Cllr Shearman, seconded Cllr Shepherd

924 Recruitment and Retention Report

Members considered the request to change the Administration Officer's hours from full time 37 hours per week to term-time hours. This would change the requirement to advertise for a full time Administration Officer instead of a part-time one.

Proposed Cllr Taylor, seconded Cllr Gunn

925 The recruitment of a permanent town clerk was discussed and members were informed of the need to obtain a further two quotations from organisations to assist in the recruitment.

Members **RESOLVED** for officers to contact other organisations in order to obtain quotes for recruitment.

Proposed Cllr Shepherd, seconded Cllr Shearman

Meeting Closed at 22.04

