

Minutes

of a Special Meeting of

Yatton Parish Council

Monday 14 December 2009

held at Horsecastle Chapel

Meeting opened: 7.30 p.m. Meeting closed: 9.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors: David Crossman (Chairman), Clare Bessant, Trevor Bidwell-Ford, Wendy Griggs, Jill Iles, Robert Jenner, Rosey Knifton, Susan Morris, Ian Payne, Lucy Perrott, Brian Phillips, Viv Wathen and Jean Watson

In attendance: Clerk, North Somerset Councillor Tony Moulin and 7 members of the press and public.

Prayers were led by Peter Cresswell.

Public Participation

A member of the public asked about the possibility of a new street light in Court Avenue. The Chairman agreed to investigate this.

A member of the public asked about the possibility of a pedestrian crossing south of the railway bridge. The Chairman replied that the Parish Council had been pressing for this for some time.

North Somerset Councillors' reports

Jill Iles reported on discussions about moving Council staff to the former Clerical Medical building in Clevedon. Some staff would remain in the Town Hall but the intention was to co-locate staff and reduce the amount of travelling.

Tony Moulin reported that he had met Justin Smith of First Bus, who was willing to come and talk to Yatton residents about bus services.

Matters for decision

COU480: Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Maurice Blunsdon, Jane Bollen, Mike Cox, Martyn Hooper and Graham Humphreys, and from North Somerset Council Parish Liaison Officer Karuna Tharmananthar.

RESOLVED that Jane Bollen's illness be approved as a reason for her continuing absence.

COU481: Declarations of interests by Parish Councillors

David Crossman, Jill Iles, Robert Jenner and Rosey Knifton declared personal and prejudicial interests in Agenda item 7 (Hinkley Point C connector) as the value of their respective properties might be affected by the eventual route.

Clare Bessant declared a personal interest in the same item by reason of concerns for her family's health.

COU482: Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9 November 2009

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

COU483: Finance

Payments were authorised and receipts and petty cash payments noted (Annex 1).

COU484: Traffic calming measures in High Street, Yatton

Members considered a report from the Clerk (Annex 2).

On the proposal for Location 3 (remove bollards outside Library) members were doubtful about this proposal. Members felt that people using the library needed protection against lorries mounting the kerb. If the bollards were removed members would like them replaced with some alternative protection such as a railing, without any narrowing of the pavement. Alternatively members suggested moving the library gates further away from the road.

RESOLVED as follows:

- Location 1 (mini-roundabout at junction of High Street and Claverham Road): (by 12 votes to 1) the Parish Council supports this proposal and is willing to meet the shortfall of around £6500.
- Location 2 (bend warning signs on Stowey Road): (by 12 votes to 1) the Parish Council supports this proposal on the understanding that there is no cost to the Parish Council.
- Location 3 (remove bollards outside library): that this proposal be deferred for further information

- Location 4 (emphasise bus stop and parking bays by precinct): the Parish Council supports this proposal and is willing to meet the shortfall of around £1500.
- Location 5 (drop kerbs across High Street by Yatton Hall): the Parish Council supports this proposal on the understanding that there is no cost to the Parish Council.
- Location 6 (zebra crossing between Cherry Grove and Heathgate): the Parish Council is not prepared to contribute to this proposal as it feels that the amount it is being asked for outweighs the benefits.
- The Parish Council also strongly supports the proposal for Wig-Wags and an advisory 20 mph speed limit on either side of the zebra crossing by Well Lane. The Parish Council would also like to see Wig-Wags and advisory 20 mph limit on Stowey Road by the school entrance.
- The Parish Council remains convinced of the need for a zebra crossing at location 7 (130 High Street). The Parish Council asks North Somerset Council to continue to monitor this location.
- The Parish Council asks for illuminated posts on the zebra crossing by Well Lane, as on the zebra crossing by The Precinct.

Members asked the Clerk to enquire as to progress with the request for raised kerbs at Barberry Farm Road.

COU485: Hinkley Point C connector

David Crossman, Jill Iles, Robert Jenner and Rosey Knifton, having declared personal and prejudicial interests, left the room

Trevor Bidwell-Ford, Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

The Clerk reported the Resolutions passed at the Parish Meeting held on 8 December 2009 (Annex 3) and reminded members that it was unlawful for a local authority to spend money on publicity intended to persuade people to hold a particular view. It was lawful to spend money on publicity intended to inform and raise awareness in a neutral and objective way.

In discussion members were concerned that the options discounted by National Grid had not been included in the consultation

RESOLVED that the Clerk be authorised to spend up to £1000 on publicity for the campaign provided he is satisfied as to the lawfulness of the content of any publicity.

David Crossman, Jill Iles, Robert Jenner and Rosey Knifton returned to the room and David Crossman resumed the Chair.

COU486: Draft budget for 2010/11

Members considered the Clerk's draft budget for 2010/11 (Annex 4). The Clerk drew attention to the £5000 suggested for capital expenditure on play equipment and £5000 suggested for improvements to Hangstones field such as a path and further hedging and fencing. The Clerk also reported that North Somerset Council were proposing to spend around £52,000 on play facilities at Hangstones and that he would be meeting the North Somerset officer on 20 January.

RESOLVED that the draft budget be noted.

COU487: Release of £23,000 contribution to new car park at Rock Road

The Clerk reported that Yatton Junior Football Club had informed him that all funding for the project had been secured but he had not yet received confirmation of this.

RESOLVED that the Clerk be authorised to release the contribution of £23,000 once he has received satisfactory documentary evidence that all funding has been secured.

COU488: Community Governance Review: consultation on change of name of parish

The Clerk drew attention to the current North Somerset consultation on the Community Governance Review, which included a proposal to change the name of the parish to 'Yatton and Claverham'. This proposal had been included at the request of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED, by 12 votes to 1, to reaffirm the Parish Council's support for the proposal to change the name of the parish to 'Yatton and Claverham'.

The Clerk mentioned that the new noticeboard in Claverham would have the header 'Yatton Parish Council' on a removable plate so that it could be replaced if the name of the parish changed.

COU489: Training for new councillors

The Clerk drew attention to an evening training course for new councillors, arranged by Avon Local Councils Association in Emerson Green on Thursday 4 March 2010, at a cost of £25 per head.

RESOLVED that the cost be paid for any councillor (new or not so new) who wished to attend.

Matters for information

COU490: Clerk's report

- (1) The Clerk was waiting to hear from the North Somerset officer about a meeting with Dignity Funerals concerning the new burial ground.
- (2) North Somerset Council was running a 'Shop Local' Campaign.
- (3) AGM of the PACT on 28 January at 7.30 p.m. in Horsecastle Chapel.
- (4) There had been a successful switch-on of the Christmas lights. Members asked for their thanks to be passed on to Aleana Baird and to councillors who had helped.

The Chairman concluded by thanking Peter Cresswell for making Horsecastle Chapel available and wishing everyone a Happy Christmas.

Chairman

___/___/2010