

Minutes

of a Meeting of

Yatton Parish Council

Monday 14 June 2010

held at Hangstones Pavilion

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

Present: Councillors: David Crossman (Chairman), Maurice Blunsdon, Jane Bollen, Mike Cox, Wendy Griggs, Martyn Hooper, Graham Humphreys, Robert Jenner, Susan Morris, Ian Payne, Lucy Perrott, Brian Phillips, Viv Wathen and Jean Watson

Also in attendance: Clerk, North Somerset Councillor Tony Moulin and nine members of the public

Prayers were led by Rev. Chris Steed

Public Participation

David McGovern from Yatton Against Pylons referred to Agenda item 7 (Hinkley Point C connector). He urged the Parish Council to be more proactive and to object strongly to the current consultation. What the Parish Council said as a statutory consultee was important. What National Grid was doing, in discounting 18 out of 20 options, was not consultation.

Paul Quest referred to Agenda item 6 (questionnaire on Hangstones pavilion redevelopment). He congratulated the Council, and Robert Jenner in particular, on the presentation. He asked the Council to do all it could to encourage residents to respond to the questionnaire. He was, however, concerned that delivery coincided with the start of the school holidays.

Hilary Burn, Chair of the Parish Councils Airport Association, referred to Agenda item 8 (letter from the PCAA). She was disappointed that the Parish Council took the decision not to renew its subscription to the PCAA without notifying the PCAA. The letter from Blagdon Parish Council, which Yatton Parish Council had considered, had several mistakes in it. Yatton was the only Parish Council to have withdrawn from the PCAA.

Richard Sibley described his scheme to offer 'green burials' in exchange for Gift Aid donations to charity.

North Somerset Councillors' reports

Tony Moulin reported:

- The planning application for an extension to Cleeve Court Nursing Home, on Green Belt land, would go to Planning & Regulatory Committee.
- North Somerset Council had refused to discharge Condition 21 of the planning permission granted to Smart Systems in 2007 (in other words it has rejected the current proposal for a wind turbine)
- Eric Pickles, the Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government, had announced the abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies. However housing numbers would still need to be included in the Core strategy in order to prevent speculative applications.
- On Agenda item 12 (changes to mobile library services) he considered that the changes were a fait accompli.
- On Agenda item 8 (letter from the PCAA) he found it helpful to know that parish councils were in dialogue with each other.

Police report

The Clerk passed on a report from PC Phil Kinsella. Hangstones had been quiet but there had been anti-social behaviour in the Rock Road area, including two burglaries at the Youth Club. The police were actively investigating.

Matters for decision

At the start of the meeting the Chairman presented the Clerk with a certificate awarded following completion of the Working With Your Council course and congratulated him on his achievement.

COU552: Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Clare Bessant, Rosey Knifton and Jill Iles.

COU553: Declarations of interests by Parish Councillors

David Crossman and Robert Jenner 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.

COU554: Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 10 May 2010

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 10 May 2010 were approved as a correct record, subject to the addition of a minute recording the

appointment of Maurice Blunsdon as a Trustee of Richard Durban's Trust for a further four-year term, and signed by the Chairman

COU555: Finance

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

COU556: Questionnaire on the redevelopment of Hangstones pavilion

Members considered a draft questionnaire (Annex 2). The Clerk mentioned that reference to returning the questionnaire by email had been removed for security reasons.

Members asked for it to be clarified in the questionnaire that any council tax increase was per household, not per individual.

Members emphasised that the questionnaire must be publicized as widely as possible, on noticeboards, on the website, in the press and by mailings to schools and users.

RESOLVED that subject to the clarification of council tax increase as per household the questionnaire be approved for distribution.

COU557: Hinkley Point C connector

David Crossman and Robert Jenner having declared personal and prejudicial interests, left the room.

RESOLVED that Graham Humphreys take the Chair.

Graham Humphreys took the Chair.

In discussion members considered that National Grid had no intention of consulting on anything other than the two overhead options. Action groups were asking parish councils in their comments to focus on the continuing flawed consultation process. Members considered that they lacked the technical expertise to challenge National Grid on the technical arguments. The Parish Council's comments should emphasise the concerns of large number of Yatton residents who had marched through the village in protest.

RESOLVED that the Clerk write to National Grid accordingly, copying in Dr Liam Fox MP, the Infrastructure Planning Commission, Ofgem and neighbouring parish councils.

David Crossman and Robert Jenner returned to the room and David Crossman resumed the Chair.

COU558: Letter from the Parish Councils Airports Association regarding non-renewal of the PCAA subscription.

The Clerk reminded members that a Parish Council decision could be reversed within six months only on a written resolution signed by 14 members, or on the recommendation of a committee.

RESOLVED that the Finance, Personnel & Administration Committee be asked to make a recommendation on the renewal of the Parish Council's subscription to the PCAA.

COU559: Review of the effectiveness of internal audit.

Members considered the results of a review of the effectiveness of internal audit (Annex 3).

RESOLVED that the Finance, Personnel & Administration Committee be asked to consider whether to extend the term of the current internal auditor for a further year, or to invite other expressions of interest.

COU560: Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2010

RESOLVED that the Annual Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31 March 2010 as circulated (Annex 4) be approved.

COU561: Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2010

RESOLVED that the Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2010 as circulated (Annex 5) be approved subject to the correction of the name of the grant received of £2500.

COU562: Changes to North Somerset mobile library services

In discussion members noted that the changes would take place but regretted that North Somerset Council had not consulted parish councils in advance.

RESOLVED that the Clerk write to North Somerset Council accordingly.

COU563: North Somerset Partnership draft Older People Strategy

Sue Morris agreed to read this and report back to the next meeting of the Council.

COU564: Society of Local Council Clerks summer branch meeting

The Society invited a councilor to accompany the Clerk at a cost of £15 (including lunch).

RESOLVED that David Crossman accompany the Clerk.

RESOLVED that payment of a cheque to SLCC Somerset branch for £15 be authorized.

COU565: Training for the Clerk for the Certificate of Local Council Administration

In discussion members considered that a trained Clerk would benefit the Council as well as himself.

RESOLVED that the training be authorised, at a cost of £230.

Matters for information

COU566: Clerk's Report

- (1) Strawberry Line Café Project had received a major grant.
- (2) An officer from North Somerset Council would meet members to discuss the Site Allocations DPD on Wednesday 14 July.
- (3) A North Somerset Local Food Directory was available

Chairman

___/___/2010