

Minutes

of a Special Meeting of

Yatton Parish Council

Monday 27 July 2009

held at Hangstones Pavilion

Meeting opened: 7.30 p.m. Meeting closed: 8.38 p.m.

Present: Councillors: David Crossman (Chairman), Jane Bollen, Robert Jenner, Brian Phillips, Viv Wathen and Jean Watson, Clare Bessant, Susan Morris and Ian Payne.

In attendance: Aleana Baird (clerking) and 11 members of the press and public.

Public Participation

Questions and statements from members of the public

Pat Stevens had the following questions for Yatton Parish Council:

- a) Would his questions and comments be minuted? Councillor David Crossman assured him that they would.
- b) What was the alternative use for the site if it was not used as a burial ground, for example community housing?
- c) Should not the Parish Council seek a mandate from all parishioners to decide if the Burial Ground would be an asset to the Parish if it is open to all residents of North Somerset and if they would be willing to accept the additional costs if this was the case. Mr Stevens had understood that parishioners views regarding attitudes towards green burials only had been ascertained.
- d) Does the statement in Agenda 5 that "80% of funerals are now cremations" apply to Yatton or nationally?

Neil Whitehead enquired if a site map of the proposed burial ground was available and if the public consultation would include a proposed layout . He also asked if the Parish Council had views on the provision of additional allotments and the likelihood of them being provided.

Matters for decision

COU453: Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Maurice Blunsdon, Wendy Griggs, Graham Humphreys, Rosey Knifton, Tony Moulin and Karuna Tharmananthar.

COU454: Declarations of interests by Parish Councillors

None

COU456: Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20 July 2009

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

COU457: Exclusion of the press and public

RESOLVED that there were no exempt items to consider on the agenda that required exclusion of the press and public..

COU458: To consider a report from the Burial Ground Advisory Committee.

The Burial Ground Advisory Committee had made the following recommendations for Councillors consideration:

** Chairman David Crossman and members agreed to change the order of the recommendations on the agenda.

(d) Minute COU337, so far as it was resolved 'not to pursue the option of a jointly managed facility with North Somerset Council', be rescinded.

RESOLVED: to rescind Minute COU337. The reasons for rescinding were as follows,
North Somerset Council will not sell the land to Yatton Parish Council, therefore it was in the interests of the community and a preferable option to pursue the provision of the land for use as a burial ground and additional allotments rather than see it possibly sold for housing development.

** A proposal was made to consider the following two recommendations together.

(a) Yatton Parish Council work in partnership with NSC to lease land at Land Farm from NSC at a peppercorn rent and develop part of it as a

new Burial Ground with (if available) capital finance from North Somerset Council;
(b) consideration should be given to using part of the site for additional allotments:

RESOLVED: to work in partnership with North Somerset Council to secure the land for use as a burial ground and allotments.

(c) There should be full consultation with local residents before any decisions on development of the site were taken;

RESOLVED: that full consultation takes place with residents before any decisions on the development of the site are taken.

*** The meeting was suspended to allow Councillors to speak to a member of the public.
The meeting was then reconvened.

COU459: To consider commenting on the draft briefing for the North Somerset Executive Member concerning a pedestrian crossing near 130 High Street, Yatton (circulated at the Council meeting on 20 July)

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council disagreed with the findings of the draft briefing and that the following comments were submitted to North Somerset Council,

a) A proposal was made to “disagree with the findings of the report as, in the opinion of the Parish Council and the local knowledge and experience of its members, a crossing near to 130 High Street was the most suitable site with the highest usage.

The location was used by many pedestrians from the station and from the Horsecastle, Wakedean, Hawthorn and Arnolds Way Estates who use the station incline to access onto the High Street. Many then cross to go down Barberry Farm Road onto Stowey Road as a safer route to walk to the schools.

The proposal was unanimously supported and the comment was made that in light of the progress that have been made ie dropped kerbs, towards a safer walk to school, the installation of the crossing would be a further step towards this.

b) Councillors all had a copy of the PACT response (I have attached a copy if you have not already received one) and were in support of the points it has raised.

c) The Parish Council was very critical that the criteria being used when assessing the location relied upon people being injured before a crossing would even be considered and Councillors felt that the prevention of an

accident should a priority. The comment was also made that should the crossing be installed at this location the section of kerb that was very narrow on the right hand side heading towards the village centre would need to be widened.

The clerk was asked to enquire who did the survey into the location of a crossing under the 106 agreement for the development of the Oxford Instruments site.

Chairman

___/___/2009