# **Draft Minutes**

**of the Meeting of**

Yatton Parish Council

held on

Monday 7 March 2022

Held at Hangstones Pavilion, Stowey Road, Yatton, BS49 4HS.

Meeting opened: 7.30 p.m.    Meeting closed: 9.24 p.m.

**Present:** Councillors Jonathan Edwards, Graham Humphreys, Chris Jackson, Robert Jenner, Peter Lomas, Jessie McArdle, Bryan Thomas and Roger Wood.

**Also in attendance:** Clerk, District Councillor Steve Bridger, Rev.Tim Scott and two members of the public.

\*\*\* Chairman Jonathan Edwards wished to thank Rev Tim Scott on behalf of the Parish Council for his contribution to the Parish on the occasion of his last meeting. He wished him good luck for the future in his new chosen path.

**Prayers were led by Rev. Tim Scott with a special prayer given for people who were affected by the war in Ukraine.**

**MATTERS FOR DECISION**

**COU74/22: To receive apologies for absence, and to approve reasons where appropriate.**

Apologies had been received from Councillors David Crossman, Wendy Griggs and Caroline Sheard.

**COU75/22: To receive declarations of interests by Parish Councillors and to consider any written applications for dispensations.**

Councillor Bryan Thomas declared a non-disclosable pecuniary interest in agenda item 10 as he lived on Chestnut Park.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**COU76/22: Public participation.**

The members of the public attending were both residents of Chestnut Park and both spoke regarding the issues they had with the lack of maintenance of general areas, attenuation ponds and newly laid hedges and trees around Chestnut Park that have been allowed to die due to lack of care provided by the Management Company FirstPort. They had also found it extremely difficult to communicate with the management company who did not reply to letters or emails or return calls. However, FirstPort were very prompt at issuing invoices for their services, chasing payments and adding overdue payment penalty charges.

Police Report

NONE.

North Somerset Councillors’ Report.

District Councillor Steve Bridger reported that North Somerset Council had discussed possible arrangements for refugees from Ukraine in terms of school places and other means of support. He explained that the £150 Government assistance for the rise in energy costs was not being given by reducing Band A to D Council tax bills by £150 but by a direct payment administered by North Somerset Council to all those who have direct debit set up with the Council. The households who the Council do not have account details for will need to be written to about the arrangements to receive the assistance.

Bus services had recovered to 70% of pre-pandemic levels and had received considerable amounts in bus recovery grants from the Government. This grant support was due to end in April but was being extended to October. Beyond October it may mean that while the 54 bus will be retained, some services might be axed. This may possibly include the X2 ending at Arnolds Way Yatton and returning to Bristol rather than continuing on to Weston, hence removing the direct service from Yatton to Weston.

Councillor Bryan Thomas highlighted that the X2 service, which he used regularly, was currently very unreliable and he also did not see the reason for Long Ashton having three services, X7, X9 and X2 whilst services are cut from Yatton. Councillor Jonathan Edwards was to contact First Bus Operations Manager Chris Hanson to arrange a meeting with the Public Transport working group to discuss bus services in Yatton.

Parish Liaison Officer Report

No report as new Liaison Officer not appointed yet.

**MATTERS FOR DECISION**

**COU77/22: Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10th January 2022.**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th January 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**COU78/21: Exclusion of public:**

**RESOLVED:** that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of agenda items 16,17 and 18 on the ground that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business of competitive quotes.

**COU79/22. To consider the co-option of new Councillor.**

Councillors Jonathan Edwards and Chris Jackson had interviewed Stephen Humphrey prior to the meeting and recommended his co-option onto the Council.

**RESOLVED:** to appoint Stephen Humphrey to the Council under North Ward.

Councilor Stephen Humphrey read his Declaration of Acceptance of Office to the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** to appoint Councillor Steve Humphrey to the Planning Committee.

**COU80/22 To consider the re-appointment of a Trustee to Yatton United Charities currently held by David Crossman.**

**RESOLVED:** to appoint David Crossman as a Trustee to Yatton United Charities for another term of office.

**COU81/22 To approve the Calendar of Meetings 2022-23**

**RESOLVED:** to approve the Calendar of Meetings for 2022-23.

**COU82/22 To approve Cllr Caroline Sheard changing from the Planning Committee to the Amenities Committee.**

**RESOLVED:** to approve Councillor Caroline Sheard leaving the Planning Committee and joining the Amenities & Properties Committee.

**\*\*\* The meeting was suspended and reconvened during the next item to allow Councillors to speak to District Councillor Steve Bridger.**

**COU83/22 To discuss a response to complaints from residents about the lack of maintenance of general areas at Chestnut Park by the management company.**

The Council discussed the complaints that residents had raised. A management company that was collecting fees from residents then not providing a service was deeply concerning. The trend by developers to hand over maintenance responsibility to management companies was a potential problem likely to occur on other new estates in the Parish.

District Councillor Steve Bridger was asked to pursue the non-compliance with the Ecological Maintenance Plan formed as part of the planning application approval.

**RESOLVED:** to write a letter to FirstPort regarding all the issues raised by residents about the lack of a maintenance service, communication etc. A copy was to be sent to Bloor.

**COU84/22 To consider forming a working group for the progressing of the Platinum Jubilee events.**

**RESOLVED:** to appoint Councillors Graham Humphreys, Steve Humphrey and Jessie McArdle to the Platinum Jubilee Events Working Group. Councillors Caroline Sheard and Steve Lister were also to be asked if they would be interested in joining. They were to be appointed at the next suitable meeting if they wish to join.

**COU85/22 To further progress the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebration ideas discussed by the Amenities & Properties Committee including the** **drinking and bottle filling water fountain.**

Councillor Chris Jackson had found a very nice drinking and bottle filling water fountain on-line and the details had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Members agreed it was a very good design and other quotes for fountains were to be sought. The Clerk was meeting a contractor 8th March to gain a cost for installing a fountain. The working group were to proceed with organising the ‘Picnic in the Park’ event and the ‘Scarecrow Trail’ idea. The Clerk was to give the working group all the details of information she had gained for the events to date.

**COU86/22 To receive a report on the proposed new burial ground off Mendip Road.**

The Clerk updated the Council on events since the last meeting. The planning application had still not been validated as the last document for the surfacing was not completed. The surfacing specification had now been received and passed to the architect to incorporate into the site layout plan and provide surfacing cross section drawings. An extension to submit had been requested again. As soon as this was received the site layout plan would be submitted and hopefully the application can then be validated.

**COU87/22 To consider a request to plant a tree in memory of a resident.**

**RESOLVED:** to approve the request to plant a tree, the variety to be a Great White Cherry on Hangstones in memory of a resident of the Parish.

**COU88/22 Finance**

To authorise payments, including to note receipts and petty cash payments for March 2022.

**RESOLVED:** To authorise payments, including to note receipts and petty cash payments for March 2022.

**\*\*\* The members of the public remaining left the meeting.**

**COU89/22 To consider quotes for the replacement of the village green benches commemorated to the Platinum Jubilee 2022.**

The Parish Council discussed the replacement of the benches and the type of bench they preferred. In addition, the suggestion was made to also provide a bench in Claverham to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee.

**RESOLVED:** to purchase 3 x 1.8 metre benches from Earth Anchors in brown cost £436.00 each and engraved to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee (engraving cost to be ascertained and location of the Claverham bench to be ascertained).

**COU90/22 To consider quotes for the Parish Council Insurance.**

**RESOLVED**: to approve the quote provided by BHIB Council Insurance based on a three year arrangement. Cost £2,292.12 with Fleet Vehicle Policy cost £845.98.

**COU91/22 To consider quotes for three new lanterns and brackets for streetlights at Henley Park and Lampley Bridge.**

The Clerk advised that a streetlight in Stowey Park had been damaged by a Western Power Distribution fuse box fire. She had obtained an agreement from Western Power distribution that they would pay for a replacement streetlight and she asked the Council if it could be ordered at the same time as the lights for Henley Park and Lampley Bridge.

**RESOLVED:** to approve the quote for three new lanterns and brackets from Weston Rail Services £2,943.01. The Council agreed to ordering the new light in Stowey Park at the same time.

**Matters for Information**

**COU92/21: Clerk’s report.**

i) A ‘Renewable Energy in Yatton and Kenn’ workshop was being held in Kenn Village Hall Saturday 26th March 2022 10.00am to 3.30pm. The Clerk would forward the details to Councillors and promote via the usual channels.

ii) A complaint by a resident from Meadowland about parked lorries and speeding lorries on Arnolds Way affecting the sale of a property had been made several times. Chairman Jonathan Edwards was to raise the issue at the next PACT meeting.

**COU93/21: Future agenda items.**

The new proposed cemetery off Mendip Road.

To consider a contribution of £2,000 towards publicity for the new Yatton to Clevedon bus service - September Full Council 2021.

Weight limit signs in the Parish.

Letter to the Medical Practice.

Newsletter provision.

Lease with North Somerset Council for the new cemetery.

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Chairman