

Draft Minutes
of a Meeting of
Yatton Parish Council
Amenities and Properties Committee
1st August 2022

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

Meeting commenced: 7.30 p.m.

Meeting ended: 8.44 p.m.

Present: Councillors: David Crossman, Jonathan Edwards, Graham Humphreys, Chris Jackson, Robert Jenner, Caroline Sheard and Bryan Thomas.

In attendance: Clerk, Councillor Peter Lomas and two members of the public.

MATTERS FOR DECISION

AAP26/22: Apologies for Absence.

Apologies had been received from Councillors Wendy Griggs, Steve Lister, Massimo Morelli and grounds person Megan Thurgur.

AAP27/22: To receive Councillors' declarations of interests and consider any written applications for dispensations (the Committee may only grant a dispensation to enable a member to speak in public participation).

NONE.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

AAP28/22: Public participation.

The two members of the public both spoke regarding the email that had been sent to Mendip Road allotments tenants following the last meeting of the Committee 27th June 2022. They spoke in objection to the request not to use weedkiller on the grass paths. They asked for clarification about the reasons why this request had been made. They wished to retain the use of it for this purpose once a year in the spring to control couch grass and bindweed invading their plots from the grass paths. Discussion ensued with members explaining the reasons for this request including the loss of grass causing paths to turn to mud easily creating a slippery surface that could cause falls etc. In addition grass should be maintained by strimming, mowing or using shears to keep it under control rather than use weed killer. The members of the public **suggested** that this was not sufficient to prevent the invasion of bindweed and couch grass on the growing areas of the plots.

MATTERS FOR DECISION

AAP29/22: Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th June 2022.

The minutes of the meeting held on 27th June 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

AAP30/22: If the Committee wishes to exclude the public the following resolution must be passed:

NOT REQUIRED.

AA32/22: Parish Gardener and Groundsmen Report. Agenda item 6.

NO REPORT.

AAP33/22. To consider an agreement with Yatton & Cleeve Football Club regarding their use of Hangstones pitches and changing rooms.

The Committee discussed the draft agreement and suggested two additions regarding the notice in advance of fixtures or any other use of the facilities outside of the normal use allied to a scheduled match. Secondly they wished to include some form of penalty for non-compliance with the agreement, therefore the Parish Council wished to include reserving the right to terminate the agreement with immediate effect should any aspect of it be breached. The agreement should be signed by the Football Club and it was to be reviewed at the end of this forthcoming season.

RESOLVED: to approve the agreement with the inclusion of the above additions and stipulations.

AAP34/22 To consider a quote for changing a number of streetlights to LED Corn lamps and review them for their suitability to change to part night timers.

The Parish Council were keen to continue reducing the costs of the unmetered supply to streetlights following the large increase in May. The quote for this work will mean that 57 of the 97 streetlights the Parish Council own will be on LED bulbs. All the streetlights are currently on dawn till dusk timers. The quote will change 36 lights on to part night timers. The changes within the quote will make a significant reduction to energy costs for the lights that will mean the work will be paid for by the savings made within the year.

RESOLVED: to approve the quote from Weston Rail Services for changing 36 lights to LED Corn lamps and half night timers (subject to all lights being in a condition to allow this) at a cost of £2,874.60.

The Committee discussed further savings that could be made by changing the remaining lights to part night timers. The Clerk was to gain a quote for doing this from Weston Rail Services which the Committee agreed could be approved by the Chairman/Vice Chairman of Council and Chairman of Committees by email. The **Committee** did not wish to delay progression of such cost saving work by waiting to take it to a meeting.

AAP35/22 To review the hire fees for Hangstones hall and sports facilities.

The Committee discussed the fees and were aware that this winter the energy costs for the building would rise. This may prompt a review of charges again later this year, however the Committee were aware many groups using the facility were not for profit organisations and realised the impact raising fees may have on the viability of some groups. The Clerk was asked to gain hall/pitch hire fees from other venues

RESOLVED: to retain the fees for hall hire and pitches at the current rates. The fees were to be reviewed as required.

***** The meeting was suspended and reconvened during Clerk's Report item v) to allow a member of the public to speak with the Committee.**

AAP36/22: To receive the Clerk's report. (Agenda Item 10).

- i) The Clerk asked the Committee to begin thinking about the work they would like to do in 2023-24 ahead of budget setting this autumn.
- ii) The play area inspections had been done and the reports received today. The Clerk and grounds staff would review and address issues they could.
- iii) The Clerk and Councillor Graham Humphreys were going to visit Nailsea Patio Centre to look at paving for the Platinum Jubilee water fountain that had just been ordered.
- iv) The Clerk had received an email from Yatton & Cleeve Football Club about the possibility of building permanent dugouts on Hangstones. The Committee would require a specification in order to consider this request.
- v) The Clerk advised that a complaint had been received about the use of hosepipes on the North End allotments which was a breach of the tenancy agreement. A discussion ensued which resulted in the Clerk being asked to gain a price for self-filling galvanised water troughs.

AAP37/22: Future agenda items.

- A new brass commemorative plaque for fallen of wars since WW2.
- Christmas Lights Working Group Report including North End Christmas Tree and additional lighting locations.
- Parish Finger Posts.
- To species label Parish trees and to create a tree trail.
- Bat boxes on Hangstones.
- New cemetery time capsules and opening ceremony.
- New Flagpole at Glebelands.
- To create a hard surface path into Hangstones play area.
- The use of weedkiller at the allotments.

Chairman

____/____/2022