

Draft Minutes
of
Yatton Parish Council
held on
Monday 13 January 2020
at Hangstones Pavilion

Meeting opened: 7.30 p.m. Meeting closed: 9.15 p.m.

Present: Councillors: Rachel Batchelor, David Crossman, Jonathan Edwards, Chris Jackson, Robert Jenner, Peter Lomas, Massimo Morelli, Steve Phippen, Caroline Sheard, Bryan Thomas and Roger Wood.

Also in attendance: Clerk, District Councillor Steve Bridger and District/Parish Councillor Wendy Griggs, Parish Liaison Officer John Wilkinson, 1 member of Yeo Valley Lions and PCSO Rachel Sellars.

A minute's silence was held in memory of Ralph James who was a former Chairman of the Parish Council from 1991 – 2002.

Prayers were led by Rev. Tim Scott.

MATTERS FOR DECISION

COU71/20: To receive apologies for absence, and to approve reasons where appropriate.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Graham Humphreys and Jill Iles.

COU72/20: To receive declarations of interest by Parish Councillors and to consider any written applications for dispensations.

NONE.

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

COU73/20: Public participation.

NONE.

Police report

PCSO Rachel Sellars reported that there had been an increase in vehicle crime in the parish with 24 break-ins mainly centred at Chestnut Park and Mendip Road areas. The Police were concentrating their efforts in these locations and highlighted the need for vigilance in locking vehicles and activating any available alarms.

North Somerset Councillor's report.

District Councillor Wendy Griggs reported that the Baytree School consultation responses had gained over 90% positive support for the expansion of the school. A planning application was the next stage. The Manor House at the former Claverham Ltd site was for sale and it was noted that a sign stating site for development had appeared in the May Day field. This field was protected from development so this was concerning and required clarification. She was sorry to report that Councillor Jill Iles was not well and a card had been organised for her. Councillor Griggs had requested more funding for Youth Services in budget discussion at North Somerset Council but unfortunately there was no additional funding available. There was concern that the

new North End school which was due to open in September and was still only in the early stages of construction would not be ready even though parents were being asked to select schools by mid-January.

District Councillor Steve Bridger spoke regarding the impacts of possibly closing the post office sorting office in Yatton. He was still trying to gain some clarity about the withdrawal of the Medical Centre. The budget and new corporate plan were to be decided in February with saving required of approx. £5 million. He highlighted that 85% of the services the Council provides are required by law. One area to be consulted on was charging for green waste collections. The next North End Development Steering Group meeting was expected to be on 28th January. The bus service to Clevedon was still being pursued.

Parish Liaison Officer Report

Parish Liaison Officer John Wilkinson reported that the Budget and Corporate Plan were being consulted on currently and it was highlighted that whilst savings were to be made there was to be some budget growth in Special Educational Needs and Social Care. He advised that the position highlighted by Councillor Wendy Griggs regarding the new school on Chestnut Park had occurred elsewhere in the County and that places in schools under construction still had to be offered to give parental choice.

The free flowers offered by North Somerset Council would be available again this summer. Councillor David Crossman highlighted the lack of response from North Somerset Council regarding the new cemetery off Mendip Road as it was now one year since the decision had been taken to pursue a cremation only cemetery. The Parish Liaison Officer was to chase this up.

MATTERS FOR DECISION

COU74/20: To confirm the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 23 September 2019 and the meeting held on 11th November 2019.

The Minutes of the meetings held on 23 September 2019 and the 11th November 2019 were approved as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

COU75/20: Exclusion of public:

If the Council wishes to exclude the public for a particular agenda item, the following resolution must be passed:

‘That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of agenda item(s) ... on the ground that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest [by reason of the confidential nature of the business] or [for other special reason which must be stated].’

NOT REQUIRED.

COU76/20: To discuss the Community Orchard consultation feedback and the final plan for the orchard.

Further to a working group meeting to review the consultation responses from residents of which there had been 15 replies, 13 of which were in full support of the orchard. The working group, having taken all comments into account, recommended that the proposed site at the north end of the fields at Hangstones was planted as a community orchard as the plan from Yeo Valley Lions had proposed.

RESOLVED: that the community orchard was planted at the proposed location and specification on the plan produced by Yeo Valley Lions.

COU77/20 To consider and approve the Parish Council's budget and to set the precept for 2020-21.

Members considered a report from the Clerk (Annex 1) and a draft budget (Annex 2).

The Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee had worked on the draft budget in November and at their December meeting in order to formulate the budget presented to Council. The Committee recommended the budget for approval and had asked for the scenario of how a 1%, 2% and 5% increase affected the Band D Council Tax as a guide. This was included in the Annex 1 Budget Report.

Further to discussion regarding the increasing trend towards increased responsibilities being passed towards Parish Councils members considered that a 3% increase was the most appropriate level. The number of Band D properties had decreased for a number of reasons which had been clarified by the Corporate Accountant for North Somerset Council. This will increase the Band D for Yatton properties in 2020-21 to £77.52 from £75.26 (£2.26 increase per annum). Councillor Peter Lomas as Chairman of Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee gave an overview of the meeting held with CAB regarding the increased grant request.

RESOLVED that:

- To increase the Citizens Advice Bureau Grant 2020-21 to £9,740 – CAB have asked for an increase in grant from £5,443 in 2019-20.
- If the bus service to Clevedon required Parish Council funding assistance of £7,500 this was to be taken from the CIL fund.
- the draft budget for 2020/21 be approved and adopted.
- the precept for 2020/21 be set at £221,563 (3% rise).

COU78/20 To consider commenting on the proposed areas for re-wilding in Yatton.

The Parish Council had promoted the North Somerset Council re-wilding consultation and had also written to all residents adjacent to the proposed re-wilding sites that the Parish Council manage i.e. Heathgate and Well Lane. Councillor Chris Jackson had drafted a response to the North Somerset Council re-wilding proposals based on the consultation responses the Parish Council had received for consideration by members (Annex 3). The Parish Council Gardener had also commented from her perspective in particular on Heathgate (Annex 4). Members thanked Councillor Chris Jackson and the Parish Gardener for their work.

RESOLVED: to submit the comments to North Somerset Council as drafted.

COU79/20 To discuss the Town and Parish Council Liaison meeting notes.

Further to discussion about the meeting and the accompanying notes members were keen to continue liaising with Clevedon Town Council on shared matters of interest such as the Strawberry Line extension and a bus service between Yatton and Clevedon. They were also happy to work with other Parish Councils on mutual projects of interest such as Quiet Lanes Initiative, public rights of way matters etc. However, it was felt that the notes were not an accurate reflection of the discussions and did not wish to take part in any future liaison meetings believing that there was an adequate system already in place.

COU80/20: To consider and approve the updated Freedom of Information Publication Scheme.

RESOLVED: to approve the updated Freedom of Information Publication Scheme.

COU81/2020 To consider approving the Action Plan 2020-21 as recommended on December 10th 2019 by the Finance, Personnel and Administration Committee.

RESOLVED: to approve the Action Plan 2020-21 as recommended by the Finance, Personnel and Administration Committee.

COU82/20 To approve a Calendar of Meetings 2020-21.

RESOLVED: to approve the calendar of meetings 2020-21 subject to date corrections.

COU83/20 To appoint Councillor Peter Lomas to the Hangstones Alterations Working Group.

RESOLVED: to appoint Councillor Peter Lomas to the Hangstones Alterations Working Group.

COU84/20 Finance

RESOLVED: that the payments were authorised, including to note receipts and petty cash payments for January 2020.

Matters for Information

COU85/20: Clerk's report.

- i) A letter had been received from a young person in Yatton asking for funding support for participation in Guiding Overseas Linked with Development. Whilst this was not within the Parish Council's Grant Policy the Clerk was to advise of other organisations who may be more suitable to ask for funds and was to forward the information to Councillors with the young person's permission.
- ii) A request from a resident of Chestnut Park for a noticeboard had been received. Members had considered that this maybe a suitable item for CIL funds. The Clerk was to gain quotes to take to the next Amenities and Properties Committee.

COU86/20: Future agenda items

- i) Relationship with PACT.

Chairman

___/___/2020