

Draft Minutes
of
Yatton Parish Council
held on
Monday 9 March 2020
at Hangstones Pavilion

Meeting opened: 7.30 p.m. Meeting closed: 9.25 p.m.

Present: Councillors: David Crossman, Jonathan Edwards, Graham Humphreys, Chris Jackson, Robert Jenner, Peter Lomas, 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, and PCSO's Rachel Sellars and Rebecca Budd (attended for Police Report only).

Prayers were led by Rev. Tim Scott.

MATTERS FOR DECISION

COU87/20: To receive apologies for absence, and to approve reasons where appropriate.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Rachel Batchelor, Massimo Morelli and Jill Iles.

COU88/20: To receive declarations of interest by Parish Councillors and to consider any written applications for dispensations.

NONE.

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

COU89/20: Public participation.

NONE.

Police report

PCSO Rachel Sellars reported that there had been a significant reduction in vehicle crime since the last report in January following the arrest of one man. There had been a rise in anti-social behaviour in the Mendip Road area. The Police were concentrating their efforts in this location.

North Somerset Councillor's report.

District Councillor Wendy Griggs thanks District Councillor Steve Bridger for all his work during her recent holiday. She reported that North Somerset Council Children's Services had an Ofsted inspection but the results had not yet been received.

District Councillor Steve Bridger had circulated a written report to Councillor prior to the meeting. It had been a very busy period with progress being made in areas of a bus service to Clevedon, improvements to the High Street infrastructure, path/road surface issues at Jones Bridge and North End Road. The Chestnut Park school was not to open until September 2021 and the Strawberry Gardens extra care apartments were delayed until the end of May 2020. There were no new developments with the new medical centre. He had a meeting scheduled with MP Liam Fox 27th March about the Yatton Sorting Office moving to Clevedon. The decision to refuse the Bristol Airport expansion was to be ratified 18th March. A variety of planning

matters were reported including further new developments expected later this year, the alterations to the Arnolds Way roundabout commencing mid-April, the latest Moor Road application was to be called to P&R if the officer was minded to approve and the Curo application has been amended. North Somerset Council are considering the issues surrounding the very poor highway condition in Wakedean Gardens.

Parish Liaison Officer Report

Parish Liaison Officer John Wilkinson wished to highlight the 'Your Neighbourhood' consultation to members. The comment was made that the consultation was a lengthy process to complete with some questions that did not always allow you to answer as you wish. It was also not clear to many people who owned the green wheelie bins, the householder or North Somerset Council. John Wilkinson was to feedback the comments to North Somerset Council.

MATTERS FOR DECISION

COU90/20: To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2020.

The minutes of the meetings held on 13 January 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

COU91/20: Exclusion of public:

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

RESOLVED: that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of agenda item 10 on the ground that publicity would be prejudicial to the public as it concerned the details of a staff contract of employment.

COU92/20: To consider forming a Christmas Lights Working Group.

RESOLVED: that a working group be formed with members being Councillors Rachel Batchelor, Caroline Sheard and Graham Humphreys.

**** The meeting was suspended and reconvened during the next item to allow members of the public to speak.**

COU93/20: To consider the land requirements for the new cemetery.

The North Somerset Council license to use the land for groundwater investigations was due to expire 31st March 2020. The Clerk was requested to renew the license for a further three years. Councillor David Crossman was to talk with the tenant farmer.

North Somerset Council has asked if the Parish Council still required the same area of land in light of the decision to pursue a cremation-only cemetery. During discussion, members considered that it was important to future protect enough land to provide a cemetery for the increasing population of the Parish and the general decline in cemetery provision across North Somerset. There may also be possible advances in drainage technology that would allow the provision of full burials on the site in the future.

RESOLVED: to request that the same area of land is considered within the draft Head of Terms between Yatton Parish Council and North Somerset Council.

COU94/20: To approve the Local Council Award Scheme application for renewal of the Quality Council status.

Members thanked the Clerk for her work on the application.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council had met all the requirements for the Foundation and Quality criteria of the Local Council Award Scheme by content published on its website and other supporting evidence documents.

COU95/20 Finance

To authorise payments, including to note receipts and petty cash payments for March 2020.

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

**COU96/20: To consider the terms of contract for the part-time grounds person.
Confidential Item.**

RESOLVED: that additional hours above the 20 contracted hours were approved to carry out gardening in the Parish. The hours would be paid at the normal salary rate. Gardening work was currently on average 5 hours per week in the spring/summer/autumn and 2 hours in the winter, all weather-dependent.

Matters for Information

COU97/20: Clerk's report.

- i) A reply had been received from Royal Mail Group to a letter from the Parish Council regarding the closure of the sorting office. It stated that no decision had been taken and offered a meeting to discuss this further. The Council wished to accept this offer.
- ii) A request had been received to use Hangstones free of charge for a community event. In the past other organisations have asked for assistance with hall fees using the Parish Council's grant process and members did not wish to set a precedent by moving away from this procedure. As the request had come from a group already in receipt of Parish Council funding it was not deemed appropriate to provide the facility with no charge.
- iii) The retirement lunch for the Parish Council part-time groundsman was on Monday 30th March at 1pm in Hangstones.
- iv) The new noticeboard for Chestnut Park was to be delivered Thursday 12th March. The Clerk was to work with Councillor Bryan Thomas on the installation.

COU98/20: Future agenda items

- i) Relationship with PACT was removed as an item.

Chairman

____/____/2020