



Dulverton Town Council

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The Clerk

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Minutes of the Meeting of Dulverton Town Council

Held on Monday 9th January 2017 at 7.00pm, in the Town Hall, Dulverton.

Present: Chairman/Mayor: Mr Nick Thwaites (D.T.C. & W.S.C.); Councillors: Mrs. Judy Ernest; Mrs Christine Dubery; Mr Ian Fleming; Mr Steve Ford; Mr Gerry Lewis; Mr Malcolm Neale; Mrs Louise Parrish; Mrs Margaret Rawle; Mr Bruce Heywood (W.S.C.), Cllr. Frances Nicholson (S.C.C.) who arrived at 8.20pm.

Deferment of Business for Comment by the Public:

None

Apologies:

Cllr. Mike Willison.

Declarations of Interest:

Cllr. Nick Thwaites with regards his position as District Councillor.

Cllr. Steve Ford with regard his positions as Church Warden.

Cllr Margaret Rawle with regards Planning Application – 6/9/16/131

Chairman's Comments & Meeting Management:

The Chairman wished all present a happy new year.

Questions for County and District Councillors:

Cllrs Bruce Heywood & Nick Thwaites W.S.C.:

Car Park Lighting: It was reported that W.S.C. had been contacted by several members concerning the lack of lighting in the car parks, however no action appears to have been taken. Concerns were expressed regarding the safety hazards which exist, when using the steps in Exmoor House Car Park. Cllr Heywood agreed to pursue the issue.

Proposed Merger of District Council's: A consultation event is to take place in the library on 17th January 2017.

Cllr. Frances Nicholson S.C.C.

DTC Sign Post: The damaged post has been identified and reported to S.C.C. who will investigate it further with the Data Survey Team.

Members were informed that in order for a 20mph speed limit to be implemented it would need to be self-enforcing, either because of the current road layout or through the use of additional traffic calming measures. Hence the location of the speed monitor.

Bank Square Light: Since the light has been repaired it has stayed constantly on. Cllr. Neale to pursue the issue.

Social Mobility Index: Funding has been made available over the next three years to investigate initiatives which will help create greater sustainability throughout the area. Authorities involved include the NHS and education providers, who are considering projects which will help achieve this aim.

Minutes of the meetings held on 12th December 2016 as circulated: were approved and signed. Proposed by Mr Ford, seconded by Mrs Ernest and carried.

6130 Update of action points resulting from the last meeting:

6120 All Saints Church - East Wall:

Members were informed that following advice received from Mr Simon Bastone, Structural Engineer, a meeting is to be arranged involving the proposed Contractors to finalize details.

RESOLVED: That DTC accept the tender received from G.A. Sully & Sons Ltd. as advised by Mr Bastone. Proposed by Mr Ford, seconded by Mr Lewis and carried.

6120 All Saints Church – North Wall

Work is ongoing regarding the necessary repairs.

6120 Public Access Defibrillator:

Cllr. Fleming informed members that The British Heart Foundation will provide, free of charge, a defibrillator and case, having received confirmation from the Fire Service that the need for one exists and an undertaking made that individuals will receive CPR training.

6124 Abbots Way Pond:

Members were advised that the specification has been revised and involves digging out the silt and removing it to landfill. There is consequently an increased cost of £169.00. Upon resolution, it is intended that the work will commence on 17th January 2017.

RESOLVED: That the revised estimate is accepted at £779.90. Proposed by Mrs Dubery, seconded by Mrs Ernest and carried.

6131 Accounts:

Requested for approval:

Chris Stephens & Sons	Grounds - Hedge Trimming	£282.00
Cllr. Ernest Expenses	Mileage	£27.93
Salaries Expenses	December 2016	£1,525.94
Parish Lengthsman	December 2016 Wages & Expenses	£528.93

RESOLVED: That the accounts are approved. Proposed by Mr Thwaites, seconded by Mr Ford and carried

The Financial Statement was also presented and approved. Proposed by Mrs Dubery, seconded by Mrs Rawle and carried.

6132 Committees:

Minutes to be approved by the relative Committee members and be adopted as part of this meeting:

1. Planning Committee Meetings - 13th December 2016 and 3rd January 2017

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 13th December 2016 and 3rd January 2017 are approved. Proposed by Mr Lewis, seconded by Mrs Rawle and carried.

6133 Planning Application 6/9/16/134: Lawful Development Certificate for the existing use of the flat over the Coach House as a private dwelling. Northmoor House, Windball Hill, Dulverton, Somerset (CLEUD). (Resolution required).

Observations: Members object to the fact that the planning application has been submitted retrospectively. Proposed by Mr Lewis, seconded by Mrs Ernest and carried with one against.

6134 Lion Car Park Public Toilets – Transfer of asset:

Members were asked to consider the Heads of Terms proposed by W.S.C. Following discussion, it was agreed that there existed several inaccuracies as well as conditions stipulated with which members did not agree. Members have no confidence in the proposed document and request that it is revised.

Members considered and consequently:

RESOLVED: That Cllrs. Ian Fleming, Nick Thwaites and Judy Ernest are authorised to submit an application for funding from the Sustainability Fund. Proposed by Mr Lewis, seconded by Mrs Dubery and carried.

6135 S.L.C.C. Renewal of Membership:

RESOLVED: To renew the annual membership at a cost of £139.00. Proposed by Mr Lewis, seconded by Mr Ford and carried.

6136 Hanover Court – Grant Request:

After lengthy discussion concerning the contents of the application it was:

RESOLVED: Not to award a grant. Proposed by Mr Thwaites, seconded by Mr Ford and carried.

6137 Appraisal Procedure:

Cllr Lewis reported that an appraisal process had been considered by the HR Committee and a proposal for adoption will be placed before the Council at the next meeting.

6138 Fracking in West Somerset:

Having considered the information supplied by Mr Kevin Ogilvie-White (Frack Free EQS) members:

RESOLVED: To declare Dulverton Parish a Frack Free Zone. Proposed by Mr Lewis, seconded by Mrs Rawle and carried with one abstention.

6139 Website:

Cllr. Thwaites requested members to consider the refreshment of the website. The aim being to review the maintenance aspects and reduce costs.

RESOLVED: To delegate Cllrs. Nick Thwaites and Gerry Lewis to overhaul the website. Proposed by Mr Fleming, seconded by Mrs Dubery and carried.

6140 Late Correspondence:

Correspondence noted by members.

6141 Questions for Members who have attended additional meetings:

None.

6142 Issues to be raised with permission of the Chairman:

Farmers Market – 2017: Cllr. Parrish reported to members that the Committee considered that the project would not be financially viable if W.S.C. impose a fee for the use of the Lion Car Park. It was noted that the project last year accrued a profit of £323.25.

Members agreed that in principle DTC should promote the Farmers Market, recognising the value of promoting Dulverton as a place to visit and in turn improving the financial sustainability of the Town. However, they do not consider that W.S.C. should seek to benefit financially by charging for the use of the car park. Cllr. Thwaites agreed to pursue the issue.

A proposal to underwrite the Farmers Market for 2017 is to be considered by members at the next meeting.

Purchase of Digital Projector: Cllr. Lewis agreed to investigate options available.

All Saints Church Yard: Cllr Ford informed members on behalf of the P.C.C. that it was very satisfied with regards the standard of maintenance and the helpful attitude of Mr Kenwood currently undertaking the work.

Exmoor Panel Meeting – 17/01/17: Members were informed that representatives from both Magna South West and W.S.C. would be in attendance.

Exmoor Parish Lengthsman: The Clerk was requested to inform Mr Bryant as soon as possible regarding the amount of work which will be available as from 1st April 2017.

Signage: It was noted that signposts still referred to Dulverton Middle School rather than Dulverton Junior School.

Chairman