



Dulverton Town Council

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The Clerk

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Minutes of the Meeting of Dulverton Town Council

Held on Monday 13th November 2017 at 7.00pm, in the Parish Rooms,
Rosemary Lane, Dulverton.

Present: Chairman/Mayor: Mr Gerry Lewis, Councillors: Mrs Judy Ernest; Mr Keith Coulman; Miss Hattie Sloggett; Mrs Margaret Rawle; Mr Nick Thwaites (D.T.C. & W.S.C.); Mr Piers Wood; Mr Bruce Heywood (W.S.C.) Mrs Francis Nicholson (S.C.C.), who left at 8.15pm and one member of the public.

Deferment of Business for Comment by the Public:

None.

Apologies:

Cllrs. Mr Ian Fleming & Mrs Christine Dubery.

Declarations of Interest:

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

Chairman's Comments & Meeting Management:

None.

Questions for County and District Councillors:

Cllr. Francis Nicholson (S.C.C.):

High Street Posts: According to Cllr. Nicholson the existing highways maps bear little resemblance to the actual pavements etc. She intends to pursue the issue.

20mph Proposed Speed Restriction: The process regarding implementation is ongoing.

Family Support Service & Children's Centres Consultation: Cllr. Nicholson confirmed that as the Dulverton Centre was re-designated at the last re-organisation the current proposals will not affect any changes to the service available in Dulverton. However, she maintains that as a result of the proposed changes a better service will be provided throughout Somerset.

Road Surface Safety Strategy: Cllr. Nicholson stated that as Somerset is a predominately rural area, she is specifically concerned about the safety of horses and riders; and that when reviewing the policy it is ensured that their requirements are considered.

Library Service: Cllr. Nicholson informed members that she hoped to have further discussions with Parishes concerning future library service provision.

On Street Parking Restrictions: It was confirmed that some of the yellow lines have been painted; others such as the junction at Rosemary Lane & Vicarage Hill and The Paddocks/Northmoor Road are still outstanding.

Northmoor Road: Members reiterated that there still existed access problems due to large lorries attempting to get through despite the warning signs.

Cllrs. Bruce Heywood and Nick Thwaites (W.S.C.):

Guildhall Car Park/ Leat Vegetation: Cllr. Heywood is pursuing the issue regarding overgrown shrubbery.

Guildhall Car Park Wall: A boundary wall has collapsed. Initial investigations have indicated that the wall is owned and therefore the responsibility of the Co-Op.

Car Parks - Lighting/Salt: Ongoing issues are being dealt with by West Somerset Council.

Minutes of the meetings held on 9th October 2017 as circulated:

Were approved and signed. Proposed by Mrs Rawle, seconded by Mr Woods and carried.

6236 Update of action points resulting from the last meeting:

6232 Lorna Doone Festival 2019:

Notes of the meeting held on 6th October 2017, written by Ms Katrina Munro (E.N.P.A.), were distributed to members. Members commented that the proposal to organise a year-long celebration may be hard to sustain although noted that different locations as far afield as Tiverton are likely to be involved.

Many of the proposed events either don't require funding or are self-financing, however Cllr. Coulman requested that members consider as to whether DTC wished either to organise events or fund events managed by other organisations.

It has been suggested that proposals are submitted before the end of November, however members did not consider that this deadline was possible.

It was generally agreed that the way to progress was for DTC to collaborate with the Dulverton Traders Association and discuss proposals regarding possible events at the next meeting.

6237 Accounts:

The Financial Statement: See Appendix A

RESOLVED: That the Financial Statement as per Appendix A is approved. Proposed by Mrs Ernest, seconded by Miss Sloggett and carried.

Payments for Approval: See Appendix B

RESOLVED: That the payments as per Appendix B are approved. Proposed by Miss Sloggett, seconded by Mr Thwaites and carried.

6238 Committees:

Minutes submitted for approval:

Planning Committee Meeting – 17th October 2017 and 7th November 2017.

RESOLVED: To adopt as part of this meeting the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 17th October 2017. Proposed by Mrs Rawle, seconded by Mr Lewis and carried.

RESOLVED: To adopt as part of this meeting the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 7th November 2017. Proposed by Mrs Rawle, seconded by Mrs Ernest and carried.

Legal & Finance Committee Meeting – 31st October 2017.

RESOLVED: To adopt as part of this meeting the minutes of the Legal & Finance Committee meetings held on 31st October 2017. Proposed by Mrs Ernest, seconded by Mr Lewis and carried.

RESOLVED: That the annual subscription regarding affiliation to the Somerset Association of Local Councils is renewed at a cost of £359.32. Proposed by Mrs Ernest, seconded by Mr Thwaites and carried.

RESOLVED: To approve the purchase of a dual door wall mounted notice board up to a cost of £425.00. Proposed by Miss Sloggett, seconded by Mr Thwaites and carried.

Grounds Committee Meeting – 7th November 2017

RESOLVED: To adopt as part of this meeting the minutes of the Grounds Committee meeting held on 7th November 2017. Proposed by Mrs Ernest, seconded by Mr Thwaites and carried.

RESOLVED: To replace the existing goal posts as advised by the annual inspection report and recommended by the Grounds Committee up to a cost of £399.00. Proposed by Mrs Ernest, seconded by Mr Thwaites and carried.

6239 Precept 2018/19

Members, having being supplied with a budget statement and forecast and taken note of the recommendation from the members of the Legal & Finance Committee:

RESOLVED: That the precept for the financial year commencing 1st April 2018 is set at £73,330. Proposed by Mrs Ernest, seconded by Mr Lewis and carried.

6240 Dulverton by Starlight:

RESOLVED: To purchase the five large Christmas trees at a cost of £435.00 Proposed by Mrs Rawle, seconded by Mr Lewis and carried.

6241 Royal British Legion: __

RESOLVED: As per custom & tradition to award a grant of £50.00. Proposed by Miss Sloggett, seconded by Mrs Rawle and carried.

6242 Somerset Playing Fields Association:

RESOLVED: To renew the annual subscription at £15.00. Proposed by Mrs Ernest, seconded by Mr Thwaites and carried.

6243 DSFRS - Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan Consultation:

Having considered the document members noted that no statistical information was available which could be used to base a response on.

It was suggested that it was unlikely that Dulverton Fire Station would be affected by the review as it housed the only specialist vehicle in the country able to access moorland. Cllrs. Mrs Margaret Rawle and Mr Keith Coulman agreed to respond on behalf of the Council. Members were also recommended to respond individually.

6244 Use of Emails:

The Chairman requested members give consideration to the possible negative consequences of entering into debate via email in between Council meetings, and when possible refrain from doing so.

6245 Late Correspondence:

Correspondence noted by members. None.

E.N.P.A. Carol Carder – Signage Refurbishment Training Course: Cllr. Miss Hattie Sloggett agreed to attend, accompanied by Cllrs. Mr Keith Coulman and Mr Piers Wood.

6246 Questions for Members who have attended additional meetings:

Dulverton Library Meeting – 19th October 2017: Held between representatives from D.T.C., S.C.C. and the Friends of the Library to discuss the 'way forward', with the aim of encouraging community involvement.

Hinckley Point 'C' Site Visit – 30th October 2017. Attended by Cllr. Mr Keith Coulman.

Exmoor Panel Meeting – 7th November 2018: Attended by Cllr. Margaret Rawle, who provided a written report advising the following:

- Rural Housing Issues – Magna are anticipating building 600 new houses to rent in West Somerset & West Dorset over the next three years.
- Police Issues: No known plans to regarding the proposed scrapping of P.S.C.O.'s.
- Highways – Jury Road will not be resurfaced until March 2018
- The total amount of income received from parking charges etc. as from 1st April 2016 until 31st March 2017.
- Total cost of maintenance work carried out as from 1st April 2016 until 31st March 2017.

6247 Issues to be raised with permission of the Chairman:

Dulverton Traders Association: Members congratulated the Association on the success of the recent Halloween event. Very positive feedback has been received. Funds raised will be spent on promoting the Town and building a website.

First Aid Course – Saturday 9th December 2017: An event which will take place at the Youth Club from 9.30am until 4.30pm.

War Memorial: The Chairman informed members that it is unlikely that a grant request submitted to the War Memorial Trust will be successful as it has been deemed as low priority.

Cllr. Lewis considers that the existing flag stones are in fact a trip hazard and being surrounded by grass create a very muddy environment. He proposes that alternative paving is laid, reaching to the kerb. The proposal is to be considered by the Town Management Committee.

Elections – May 2019: The Chairman drew members' attention to the next election and asked them to consider, in advance, their position. He also suggested that consideration should be given to the anticipated costs should a new Clerk be required to be employed.

Car Parks: The Chairman requested the Clerk to submit a Freedom of Information request to West Somerset Council concerning the three car parks in Dulverton identifying the income derived from these in 2016/2017.

Chairman