



Dulverton Town Council

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The Clerk

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Minutes of the Meeting of Dulverton Town Council

Held on Monday 12th March 2018 at 7.00pm, in the Town Hall, Dulverton.

Present: Chairman/Mayor: Mr Gerry Lewis. Councillors: Mr Keith Coulman; Mrs Christine Dubery, Mr Ian Fleming; Mrs Margaret Rawle; Mr Nick Thwaites; (D.T.C. & W.S.C.); Miss Hattie Sloggett; Mr Piers Wood; Cllr. Frances Nicholson (S.C.C.) who left at 7.40pm.

Deferment of Business for Comment by the Public:

None

Apologies:

Cllrs. Mrs Judy Ernest and Mr Bruce Heywood (WSC).

Declarations of Interest:

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

Cllrs. Mrs Christine Dubery with regard the Sports Field Management Committee and Planning Application 6/9/18/102.

Cllr. Mr Piers Wood with regard Planning Application 6/9/18/102

Cllr. Mr Ian Fleming with regard the Sports Field Management Committee.

Chairman's Comments & Meeting Management:

None.

Questions for County and District Councillors:

Cllr Nick Thwaites W.S.C.:

Car Park Lighting: The light in the Lion car park situated at the entrance to Abbots Way has been replaced. There still exists a broken light in the Guildhall car park.

Leat Vegetation: Maintenance work is still to be undertaken.

W.S.C. Car Park Strategy: The Task & Finish Group set up to consider the future of the car parks is to meet on 20th March 2018.

Cllr. Frances Nicholson S.C.C.

No 25 Bus Service: Following intervention by S.C.C. the 5.15pm service will be reinstated as from 1st April 2018.

Library Consultation: The debate has now evolved to include discussion concerning the lack of opportunities available in West Somerset.

Battleton Fence: It was reported that the fence has been repaired since the last meeting. Cllr. Nicholson intends to ascertain as to who carried out the repairs.

Minutes of the meetings held on 12th February 2018 as circulated: were approved and signed with the following amendment:

'Declarations of Interest: Cllr. Mrs Margaret Rawle with regards Item 7 Battleton Traffic Issues'.

Proposed by Mr Fleming, seconded by Mrs Dubery and carried.

6274 Update of action points resulting from the last meeting:

Minute 6270 Somerset Library Service Consultation:

Members were given sight of the response to the consultation as proposed by Cllr. Lewis to be sent on behalf of the Town Council. Members were happy with the content.

6275 Accounts:

Financial Statement: See Appendix A

RESOLVED: That the Financial Statement as per Appendix A is approved. Proposed by Mr Coulman, seconded by Mrs Dubery and carried.

Payments for approval: See Appendix B

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

6276 Committees:

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

1. Planning Committee Meeting-

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 6th March 2018 are approved. Proposed by Mrs Rawle, seconded by Mr Wood and carried.

6277 Dulverton Youth Club – Match Funding Request:

Members were provided with details of the current financial accounts along with the recent bank statement.

It was subsequently:

RESOLVED: That an award is to be granted, available to be drawn down to match funding raised by the members of the Youth Club, backdated as from 8th January 2018, to be available until 31st December 2018. Proposed by Mrs Dubery, seconded by Mr Lewis and carried.

6278 Sport Relief Fun Run – Funding Request:

No further representation has been made or information received.

6279 Road Closures & Related Diversions:

Cllr Nicholson informed members that the responsibility to organise the necessary signage lies with the statutory undertakers of the proposed works, which is why she considers that local information gets lost and consequently problems arise. She confirmed that County Highways do approve the proposed signage. Members agreed that there exists an element of mis-management with regards both the erection and removal of signage and commented that often unnecessary signage is used, causing confusion, and on occasions it is placed in a potentially dangerous position.

Members requested the use of a direct telephone line to a responsible officer for use when problems arise.

6280 Speed Indicator Device (SID) Programme:

Members considered the two options as proposed by S.C.C. with regards contributions relating to a revised programme. After lengthy discussion it was agreed that previous experience had led them to conclude that the installations failed to discourage the speeding of vehicles, furthermore the results obtained have failed to initiate the implementation of traffic calming measures.

It was therefore resolved unanimously, with reluctance, not to participate in any future schemes as they were not deemed financially viable.

The Clerk was requested to enquire from E.N.P.A. as to whether there would be any objections raised to the erection of signage with regards traffic calming measures.

6281 Sponsorship:

Cllr. Thwaites suggested to members that sponsorship is sought from local businesses with regards the financial cost of maintaining local facilities (e.g. Lion public toilets, Exmoor Lawns).

Cllr. Sloggett responded by suggesting that the issue is brought up at the next Traders Association meeting.

Cllr. Thwaites was nominated to pursue the issue.

6282 Citizen of the Year

Members were informed that during the recent spell of severe weather Mr Mark Thompson, the local pharmacist had gone to extra-ordinary measures to ensure that the service provided was maintained. Members agreed that his commitment and kindness should be acknowledged and requested that a letter of thanks is sent to Mr Thompson from the Council on behalf of residents.

Furthermore, a 'Gold Award' is to be introduced to be awarded to those who the Council consider go beyond the call of duty for the benefit of Dulverton residents. The Clerk was requested to notify the Dulverton Voice and West Somerset Free Press in the event that an award is made.

6283 Late Correspondence:

Correspondence noted by members.

6284 Questions for Members who have attended additional meetings:

West Somerset Parish Councils Meeting – 20th February 2018. Attended by Cllrs. Mr Gerry Lewis and Mr Keith Coulman and the Clerk. A report of the meeting was circulated to members.

Exmoor Panel Meeting – 8th March 2018. Attended by Cllrs. Mr Nick Thwaites and Mr Keith Coulman who circulated a report of the meeting.

Patient Group meeting - 13th March 2018. Attended by Mrs Rawle who circulated a report of the meeting.

The Clerk was requested to ensure that notices are displayed to inform the public as to where the defibrillator is situated.

6285 Issues to be raised with permission of the Chairman:

Councillor Resignation: Councillor, Miss Hattie Slogget informed members that she will be closing her business in Dulverton and will therefore no longer meet the criteria with regards being a member of the Council. She tendered her resignation in writing to the Chairman which was accepted.

Members expressed their appreciation for her contributions as a member of this Council and wished her all the best regarding her future endeavours.

Burridge Woods Bridleway: Cllr Fleming agreed to clarify the status of the footpaths/bridleways from Kennel Farm through Burridge Woods.

Chairman