



## **Minutes of the Meeting of Dulverton Town Council**

Held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.00pm, in the Town Hall,  
Fore Street, Dulverton

**Present:** Chairman/Mayor: Mr Gerry Lewis. Councillors: Mrs Christine Dubery; Mrs Judy Ernest; Mrs Louise Parrish, who arrived at 7.25pm; Mr John Preston; Mrs Margaret Rawle; Miss Katheryn Vellacott; Mr Piers Wood; Mr Nick Thwaites (Somerset West & Taunton Council (S.W.A.T.)), who left at 8.00pm, and Mrs Frances Nicholson (Somerset County Council (S.C.C.)) who left at 7.55pm and PCSO Bryan Stevens.

### **Deferment of Business for Comment by the Public:**

**PCSO Stevens – December Crime Report:** A series of incidents, considered to be either crime or anti-social behavior, have occurred, all of which have been linked to a single individual. These incidents have involved this person either as reporting incidents concerning himself as the victim, or being reported with him as an offender.

Some of these incidents are still under investigation and the intension is to move these enquiries forward as quickly as possible; charges may follow.

It is understood that these events have upset and distressed several people within the community, the police are therefore anxious to resolve the problem as soon as possible. These events involve not only the police, but also housing providers, and medical services.

General enquiries have been made concerning the recent incidences of arson, but there are no further developments.

Members were advised that in the event of hazards on the highway (e.g. flooding), the police should be contacted and advised accordingly.

### **Apologies for absence and acceptance of any reasons offered if agreed:**

Cllr. Mr Alan Ottey who has been discharged from hospital today having undergone a knee replacement operation.

### **Declarations of Interest:**

Cllr. Mrs Christine Dubery with regards the Sports Field.

**Chairman's Comments & Meeting Management:** None

## **Questions for County and District Councillors:**

Cllr. Mrs Frances Nicholson S.C.C.

S.C.C. - Meeting with the Leader of the Council: Representatives from this Council are invited to attend a meeting scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> January at 6pm in the White Horse, Exford; where the opportunity would be given for concerns to be expressed regarding Highways issues and the service received from S.C.C., directly to the Leader of the Council. Councillors Mrs Judy Ernest and Mrs Margaret Rawle agreed to attend.

Budget & Budget Setting: Members were informed that finances are now stable. There are no cuts forecast for the next financial year.

Unitary Council/Co-operation & the Sharing of Services: The report has been published, a business plan is now to be created and if proven viable will be presented to Central Government for approval to explore the proposals further and initiate the necessary consultations. The final decision will be made by Central Government.

School Bus Service/Proposed Road Closure: Members expressed their concerns that a scheduled road closure on the B3227, just outside Shillingford, and proposed diversion will result in the children being on the bus, unsupervised, for 85 minutes and questioned as to whether this was legally permissible. Concern was also raised regarding recently reported incidences of bullying. Cllr. Nicholson agreed to pursue the issues as a matter of urgency.

Barle Enterprise Centre: The recent incident of flooding was responded to by the Dulverton Flood Project Group incurring costs (e.g. sandbags), reimbursement of which, members consider should be sought from S.C.C.

Cllr. Mr Nick Thwaites S.W.&T:

Car Park Lighting: Various problems have been reported, which are still to be resolved.

Heritage Centre: A temporary lease has been implemented by S.W.A.T. in lieu of a more permanent solution.

Service Requests: Cllr. Thwaites requested that he is copied into all service requests in order that he can pursue the issues if necessary.

### **Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 as circulated:**

Were approved and signed. Proposed by Miss Vellacott, seconded by Mr Preston and carried.

### **6512 Update of action points resulting from the last meeting:**

6498 Plastic Free Dulverton:

No further developments.

6498 Exmoor Lawns – Electricity Supply:

A response is awaited from Exmoor National Park Authority with regards the proposal to install an electricity supply.

#### 6504 DSFRS Proposals Challenge:

The Clerk confirmed that Council did have the power to pursue or contribute to the cost of a Judicial Review providing certain criteria were satisfied.

Members were relieved to be informed that there no longer existed a threat concerning the closure of Porlock Fire Station.

#### 6508 VE Day 75 Celebrations:

Cllr. Mrs Dubery reported on the recent meeting of the Dulverton Events Group, which met to discuss proposals for the forthcoming events to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

It was agreed that on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May, the VE Day 75 celebration will involve a street party, to be held in Fore Street and offering an afternoon tea, musical entertainment and community singing. Those over the age of 80 will receive complimentary tickets and provision will be made for any children attending. The event will end at 7.00pm and be marked by the ringing of the church bells.

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May the Dulverton Festival will continue on Exmoor Lawns and involve live music and various stalls.

Members will be requested to consider the provision of funding at the next scheduled meeting to be held in February.

#### **6512 Accounts:**

The Financial Statement: See Appendix A

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

Payments for Approval: See Appendix B

RESOLVED: That the payments as per Appendix B are approved. Proposed by Mrs Rawle, seconded by Mrs Ernest and carried.

#### **6513 Committees:**

No minutes were available for approval:

Grounds Committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020 commencing at 4.00pm.

Town Management Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

#### **6514 Cemetery:**

Members were informed of a recent incident involving damage caused to an adjacent property by contractors hired to lower a boundary hedge.

Members agreed that the Council meet the cost, as quoted, to undertake the necessary work required to repair the Perspex roof in recognition that the matter needs to be resolved as soon as possible.

However, the Council do not accept liability. A contractor was sourced to undertake the necessary maintenance work as it was accepted that the task could not be carried out by the grounds man. It is assumed that a risk assessment would have been carried out and that any damage which occurred as a result of the work undertaken would be covered by the contractors' liability insurance.

The Clerk was therefore requested to pursue the Contractors for full reimbursement.

RESOLVED: To meet the cost of repair amounting to £170.00, with regards the damage sustained to the property at 46, Jury Road, Dulverton; and to seek full reimbursement from the Contractors, Stephens & Sons. Proposed by Mr Lewis, seconded by Mr Woods and carried.

**6515 Councillor Vacancy:**

Members were advised that S.W.A.T. had received no requests for an election to be held and that they were able to co-opt a member to fill the existing vacancy.

**6516 Dulverton Family & Toddler Group:**

Deferred until the April meeting when the necessary financial information will be available.

**6517 C.L.O.W.N.S:**

Following discussion, it was:

RESOLVED: That a grant is awarded amounting to £200.00. Proposed by Miss Vellacott, seconded by Mrs Dubery and carried.

**6518 Dulverton Residential Centre:**

Members were informed that S.W.A.T. has determined that the asset does not meet the requirements to be listed as an Asset of Community Value. It is believed that there are ongoing negotiations regarding the future of the Residential Centre. Members determined that no further action is necessary.

**6519 Late Correspondence:**

Correspondence noted by members.

Somerset Association of Local Councils – Website Accessibility Regulations: The Chairman informed members that to comply with the new regulations, to be implemented by 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020, a considerable amount of work had to be undertaken. Members commented that for some Councils it may prove extremely costly to ensure that they meet the deadline and will not be in breach of the new legislation.

**6520 Questions for Members who have attended additional meetings:**

None

**6521 Issues to be raised with permission of the Chairman:**

Dulverton Flood Defence Plan: Members were informed that the plan is currently being updated and will provide comprehensive advice to residents whose homes are threatened by flood. More volunteers are urgently needed.

**Chairman** .....



# Dulverton Town Council

www.dulvertontowncouncil.co.uk

## The Clerk

The Council Office  
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Somerset TA22 9BZ

clerk@dulvertontowncouncil.co.uk  
Telephone: 01398 324561

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### **Bank Balances at 26/11/19:**

General Account	62,938.70
Investment Account	88,322.29
Parish Lengthsman Account	2,867.57

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154,128.56

### **Receipts – December 2019:**

General Account	180.00
Investment Account	NIL
Parish Lengthsman Account	NIL

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154,308.56

### **Payments – December 2019:**

General Account	4,661,486
Investment Account	NIL
Parish Lengthsman Account	947.32

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148,697.10

### **Balances @ 24/12/19**

General Account	58,454.56
Investment Account	88,322.29
Parish Lengthsman Account	1,920.25

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148,697.10

Less unpresented cheques at 24/12/19	1,020.92
Banking after 24/12/19	NIL

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147,676.18

### **Available Funds @ 31/12/19**

### **As per Cashbook:**

General Account	57,433.64
Investment Account	88,322.29
Parish Lengthsman Account	1,920.25

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**147,676.18**

**Dulverton Town Council**  
**Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 07/01/2020**  
**for Cashbook 1 - General Account 38007789**

<u>Bank Statement Account Name (s)</u>	<u>Statement Date</u>	<u>Page No</u>	<u>Balances</u>
General Bank Account 7789	24/12/2019	1	<u>58,454.56</u>
<b><u>Unpresented Cheques (Minus)</u></b>			<b><u>Amount</u></b>
17/01/2019	U002514	Kier Recycling CIC	40.56
10/12/2019	U002734	Somerset West & Taunton Council	408.00
10/12/2019	002739	Dulverton Good Neighbours	250.00
20/12/2019	U002744	HMRC	322.36
			<u>1,020.92</u>
			57,433.64
<b><u>Receipts not Banked/Cleared (Plus)</u></b>			0.00
			<u>0.00</u>
			57,433.64
<b>Balance per Cash Book is :-</b>			<b>57,433.64</b>
<b>Difference is :-</b>			<b>0.00</b>

**Dulverton Town Council**  
**Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 07/01/2020**  
**for Cashbook 2 - Parish Lengthman Acc 38024152**

<u>Bank Statement Account Name (s)</u>	<u>Statement Date</u>	<u>Page No</u>	<u>Balances</u>
Parish Lengthsman Account 4152	24/12/2019	1	<u>1,920.25</u>
<b><u>Unpresented Cheques (Minus)</u></b>			<b><u>Amount</u></b>
			0.00
			<u>0.00</u>
			1,920.25
<b><u>Receipts not Banked/Cleared (Plus)</u></b>			0.00
			<u>0.00</u>
			1,920.25
<b>Balance per Cash Book is :-</b>			<b>1,920.25</b>
<b>Difference is :-</b>			<b>0.00</b>

## Dulverton Town Council

Cashbook transactions totalling £0.01 or more  
for the period 01/12/2019 to 31/12/2019**Payments**

<u>Cb No</u>	<u>Bank Account Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Payment Ref</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1	General Account 38007789	03/12/2019	U002729	S.A.L.C.	25.00
1	General Account 38007789	03/12/2019	U002730	Direct Tec	6.96
1	General Account 38007789	05/12/2019	U002731	Southern Electric	112.75
1	General Account 38007789	05/12/2019	U002732	Mr A. Takel	510.00
1	General Account 38007789	05/12/2019	U002733	Chris Stephens & Son	122.22
	Parish Lengthsman Acc 38024152	19/12/2019	U000153	Mr Shaun Bryant	473.66
1	General Account 38007789	10/12/2019	U002735	Mrs C. Dubery	108.30
1	General Account 38007789	10/12/2019	U002734	Somerset West & Taunton	408.00
1	General Account 38007789	10/12/2019	U002736	Viking Direct	76.57
1	General Account 38007789	10/12/2019	U002737	Biffa Waste Services	34.99
1	General Account 38007789	10/12/2019	002738	Somerset Playing Flds. Assoc	25.00
1	General Account 38007789	10/12/2019	002739	Dulverton Good Neighbours	250.00
1	General Account 38007789	12/12/2019	U002740	Dulverton by Starlight	550.00
1	General Account 38007789	19/12/2019	U002741	Mr A. Nicholas	208.63
1	General Account 38007789	19/12/2019	U002742	Mrs Sylvia Gosling	486.20
1	General Account 38007789	19/12/2019	U002743	Mrs Amanda Munday	1,198.77
1	General Account 38007789	20/12/2019	U002744	HMRC	322.36

**Receipts**

<u>Cb No</u>	<u>Bank Account Name</u>	<u>Date Banked</u>	<u>Amount Banked</u>
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NIL