



DULVERTON
GATEWAY TO EXMOOR

The Clerk
Dulverton Town Council
The Council Office
2A Lady Street, Dulverton
Somerset TA22 9BZ

www.dulvertontowncouncil.co.uk

clerk@dulvertontowncouncil.co.uk
01398 324561

Minutes of the Meeting of Dulverton Town Council

Held on Monday 10th January 2022 at 7.15pm, in the Town Hall,
Fore Street, Dulverton TA22.

Present: Chairman: Mrs Christine Dubery. Councillors: Mr Alan Ottey; Mrs Louise Parrish; Mrs Margaret Rawle; Mrs Ann Van Praag and Cllr. Mrs Frances Nicholson, Somerset County Council (S.C.C.), who left at 8.20pm and one member of the public.

Deferment of Business for Comment by the Public: None

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

Cllr. Mr Bill Gash

Cllr. Mr John Preston

Cllr. Mr Nick Thwaites (DTC & Somerset West & Taunton (S.W.T.))

Declarations of Interest:

Cllr. Dubery with regards the Sports Field.

Cllr. Mrs Ann Van Praag regards Parish Rooms

Chairman's Comments & Meeting Management: None

Presentation: Mr Phil Collins, Station Commander – Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service.

With regards the draft Community Risk Management Plan, members were informed that in the opinion of Commander Collins there exists nothing in the consultation document which implies changes to personnel or appliances stationed in Dulverton. However, the Dulverton Station is to be provided with a large 4x4 vehicle which will be able to respond to incidents situated on Exmoor.

It was confirmed that co-responders will still be available; the need for which has been highlighted during the Covid pandemic.

There exist 11 fire fighters in post. However there is concern that the average age is over 40 years, which may create recruitment issues in the future. A maximum of 14 personnel can be in post at any one time. The contracts offered are very flexible however a considerable amount of training is required in the first year.

The station has been averaging one call out per week, some incidents of which have been serious. The available cover averaged at around 92% throughout last year.

Members thanked Commander Collins for attending and requested that thanks were forwarded to the firefighters/co-responders voluntarily serving this community.

Questions for County and District Councillors:

Cllr. Mrs Frances Nicholson - S.C.C.

Road Closure – Members were informed that the road into Taunton will be closed for 10 days between 9.30am and 3.30pm as from 21/01/22.

Exmoor Panel Meeting: The S.C.C. proposals and the impact they would have on the Parish Lengthsman Scheme were discussed in anticipation of the meeting scheduled for Thursday 14th January 2022.

Local Authority Elections – May 2022: The elections will be held on current S.C.C. boundaries/divisions, but two members will be elected for each division. The District Council will remain in place for a further year.

Blocked Drains & White Lines: Members reported that some of the drains have been cleared, those that haven't have been reported again to S.C.C. along with further blocked drains. The condition of the white lining by the Bridge Inn has also been reported.

Cllr. Nicholson reiterated her belief that the jetting of drains and gullies should be carried out locally, paid for by S.C.C.

Abandoned Vehicle – Fishers Mead: The shell of a car has been situated on the highway for over 6 months. Cllr. Nicholson agreed to investigate as to who is responsible for its removal.

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

Not present.

Bin Replacement Project: Several new recycling bins have been situated in the Town by SWT, however subsequently members have raised several concerns:

- 1) That the one situated on DTC land at the rear of the toilet block will not be seen or easily accessed when motor bikes are parked in front of it.
- 2) That despite assurances, a bin owned by DTC specifically designed to house rat bait has been taken.
- 3) That the new bin in Guildhall CP replaced two waste bins and one dog bin.
The Clerk was requested to pursue the issue.

Minutes of the meeting held on 13th December 2021 circulated: were approved and signed. Proposed by Mrs Van Praag, seconded by Mrs Rawle and carried.

6757 Update of action points resulting from the last meeting:

6745 Emergency Town Centre Grant:

A further meeting of the Dulverton Partnership was held on 5th January 2022, the minutes of which will be circulated.

6745 All Saints Church – North Wall:

Subject to weather conditions work will commence during late March/early April to reinstate the boundary wall.

Mr & Mrs Harrison and the Parish Office have been informed.

6745 The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebrations:

Further quotations concerning the provision of entertainment are being sought.

6758 Accounts:

Financial Statement: See Appendix A

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

Payments for approval: See Appendix B

RESOLVED: That the payments as per Appendix B are approved. Proposed by Mr Ottey, seconded by Mrs Vann Praag and carried.

6759 Committees:

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

None held.

6760 Planning:

No applications were received. Approvals, refusals and correspondence as per Appendix C were noted.

6761 Councillor Vacancy:

No further developments.

6762 Correspondence:

Correspondence noted by members.

Somerset Waste Partnership - Bright Blue Bag Test-Drive: Cllr. Mrs Ann Van Praag has volunteered to take part in the trial.

6763 Questions for Members who have attended additional meetings:

None

6764 Issues to be raised with permission of the Chairman:

Milham Lane Light: Following a request to S.C.C. concerning the need for an additional street light in Milham Lane a ‘no obligation’ quotation has been received for members to consider at the next meeting.

Chairman

