



Minutes of the Grounds Committee meeting held on 29th November 2022 commencing at 1.00pm, in the Town Council Office, Lady Street, Dulverton.

Present: Chairman: Cllr. Mrs Christine Dubery. Cllrs: Mr Alan Ottey; Mr John Preston, Mrs Allison Crisp; Mrs Ann Van Praag and Mrs Margaret Rawle.

Deferment of Business for comment by the public. None

Apologies: Cllr. Mrs Louise Parrish

Declarations of Interests: None

Chairman's Comments & Meeting Management: None

Matters Arising:

All Saints Boundary Wall:

Members were informed that Mr & Mrs Daughy had kindly agreed to meet the cost of the necessary works on their land, behind the retaining boundary wall.

RESOLVED: To recommend to full Council to accept the quote from Chris Ware Construction for £16,652.94 plus VAT to repair the wall as specified. Proposed by Mrs Crisp, seconded by Mr Preston and carried.

Grounds Work – Hourly Rate 2023/24.

RESOLVED: To increase the hourly rate paid with regards grounds work from £12.50 to £13.25 as from 1st April 2023. Proposed by Mr Preston, seconded by Mr Ottey and carried.

Parish Lengthsman Scheme 2023/24:

RESOLVED: To approve the draft work specification and proposal from the Clerk to commit to 34 days per year into the scheme, at the hourly rate of £13.75. Proposed by Mr Preston, seconded by Mrs Crisp and carried.

Budget Requirements 2023/24:

Members considered the anticipated costs regarding all grounds for 2022/23, and the proposed budget figures for 2023/24 as presented by the Clerk. After lengthy discussion it was:

RESOLVED: To submit Appendix A to the Legal & Finance Committee with regards inclusion when considering the council budget for 2023/24. Proposed by Mrs Dubery, seconded by Mr Ottey and carried.

Urgent maintenance issues with regards all other grounds with permission of the Chairman:

Cemetery - Artificial Flowers: In response to a letter received from a member of the public, members reconsidered the regulation stating that plastic flowers are not permitted. It was determined that the regulation should be retained not least due to environmental concerns (to encourage a plastic free environment), but also regarding general maintenance issues.

Cemetery – Request to install a centrally placed headstones: Cllrs. Mrs Crisp and Mrs Van Praag agreed to carry out a site visit before members make a decision as to whether the proposal is logistically possible.

Cemetery – Hedge: Members intend to carry out a site visit to check the work has been carried out to the standard required.

Chairman.....

