

# Full Council

## MILBORNE PORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council meeting  
held in The Council Chamber, Milborne Port Town Hall  
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022 @ 7:00pm**

### **Present:**

Parish Councillors: Mr Tim Carty (Chairman), Mr Tom Campbell, Mrs Lyn Harrison, Mr Rob Lockey (Vice-chair), Mr Chris Phillips, Mr Robert Tizzard, Mrs Anna Wagner, Mr Ted Watts.

### **In Attendance:**

Cllr. Sarah Dyke (arrived 7.10 during Item 31)

Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer: Simon Pritchard

Deputy Parish Clerk: Nathalie Hetherington

Members of the Public: 12

### **❖ Public Comment Time:**

- One member of the public queried public accessibility issues for disabled people who prefer not to request a change of venue for meetings that they would like to attend, especially where the Court Lane application is involved. Cllr Carty referred to the outcome of discussions around these issues from the previous Full Council meeting.
- Martin Lancaster (Village Hall Bookings Secretary) thanked members for their prompt action regarding the removal of the chains in the car park at the Village Hall. Cllr. Carty thanked Martin for this update.
- One member of the public representing the WI said there had not been enough time to consider the idea in detail and a number of concerns had been identified during initial review, but that the WI was open to discussions.

### **❖ Reports from Somerset County Council:**

- Report has been sent out by Cllrs. Dyke and Clark and forwarded to Members.
- New Chief Executive will be appointed later this month.
- Numerous Highways issues being addressed but is difficult to organise meetings with pertinent officers. Cllr Carty reported that some residents of New Town had objected to the new highspeed fibre cable road works, so this has been put on hold, but important that the area has the infrastructure installed eventually.
- There will be more news over the next few months on the proposed Local Community Networks, the new Somerset Authority has already identified a large shortfall in funding and there is no specific funding in place for the operation of the LCNs. Cllr. Carty expressed concern about transition and staffing.

### **❖ Reports from South Somerset District Council:**

- Issues over mowing issues and Abri; these are being dealt with, but residents should contact Cllr. Dyke if they are not resolved. Somerset Waste Partnership has been experiencing IT problems resulting in some issues with green waste collections.
- Fixybus mobile van to repair electronic goods, third week of July. The Clerk has requested the bus; Cllr. Dyke will chase.

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- Thermal imaging cameras initiative has been trialled in Milborne Port via the Milborne Port Climate Action Group/Sarah Warren. Data is being gathered and monitored.

❖ **Local Government Reorganisation in Somerset:**

Cllr Carty would cover later in his chairman's report.

❖ **Reports from Somerset Constabulary:**

Cllr Carty is keen to follow up with the PCSO as the report that has been sent out repeats information from one month to another.

Agenda Number:	Agenda Item:
30	<p><b><u>Apologies for Absence:</u></b> Cllr R Warren – Somerset Climate Action Network (CAN) Environment Seminar.</p>
31	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest &amp; Applications for Dispensations to Participate:</u></b> Cllrs. Watts and Lockey are on the Playing Fields Committee (Item 39). Cllr. Harrison is the Secretary and Treasurer of Milborne Port History and Heritage Group (Item 38).</p>
32	<p><b><u>Adoption of Full Council Minutes:</u></b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022</b></li> </ul> <p>This item was deferred to the next Full Council meeting as the minutes of the meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> June had yet to be circulated to Members.</p> </p>
34	<p><i>This item was moved up the agenda</i></p> <p><b><u>CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>A. Interview of Candidates</u></b> David Grant and Margaret Capon introduced themselves and gave some information about their background and experience. No questions were asked.</p> <p><b><u>B. Nominations and Voting</u></b> Cllr. Carty nominated David Grant for co-option, seconded by Cllr. Campbell and resolved unanimously.  Cllr. Carty nominated Margaret Capon for co-option, seconded by Cllr. Harrison and resolved unanimously.</p> <p><b><u>C. Declarations of Acceptance of Office</u></b> The Parish Clerk witnessed the new members to sign their Declarations of Acceptance of Office. Cllrs. Grant and Capon were welcomed by Cllr. Carty onto the Council and joined the other Members.</p>

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<p>35</p>	<p><b><u>Location of Milborne Port Library:</u></b></p> <p>Cllr. Carty gave some context which came from rapid increase in electricity prices and led to discussions about the use of the WI room and the possibility of housing the Library temporarily, ahead of it being housed in the new Community Hub at the Redcliffe Development. WI and Friends of Milborne Port Library have been consulted. Accessibility issues regarding the upper chamber at the Town Hall prevented that option from being pursued. There are also the financial challenges of kitting out any new area.</p> <p>Cllr. Carty invited Rick Jones (Friends of Milborne Port Library) to summarise their discussions so far and he reported that they would be delighted to pursue the idea; the Library Service would lend support.</p> <p>Cllr Tizzard and Cllr Carty envisage that the Community Hub, where the Library will be one of the organisations using the new facility, will likely not be in operational use for two to three years.</p> <p>The WI representative reported that the WI has had little time to discuss the proposition; she described how it was used now, post Covid, and reiterated concern over the use of space. Meetings can be attended by up to 30 people.</p> <p>One of the librarians reported that the librarians are keen to work with the WI and the community. -4 degrees Celsius up to 32 degrees Celsius in the Library bus at times, and there are no toilet facilities.</p> <p>Cllr. Watts believes that the Library should be in the Village Hall; no discussions have been had around this. Rick Jones outlined the reasons why this might not work. The Redcliffe s106 monies could not be allocated in this way. Martin Lancaster would be willing to discuss the matter further with FoMPL but outlined the financial and logistical challenges already discussed by the Trustees.</p> <p><b>It was agreed that representatives of the WI, Village Hall and FoMPL meet, with some Council Members attending, to thrash out concrete versus conceptual problems and report back to a meeting of the Parish Council on the 16<sup>th</sup> of August.</b></p>
<p>36</p>	<p><b><u>Review of Current Council Projects Including all S106 Projects:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Cllr. Lockey reported that the Playing Fields Committee is awaiting the final plans from Paul Heath for the Football Club changing room extension. A planning application will need to be submitted by the Parish Council with the agreement of the Playing Fields Committee.</li><li>▪ Cllr. Wagner reported that 3 quotations have been received for the Springfield pay area extension; all very similar and all over budget. It was agreed that Cllr. Wagner would meet on site with Cllr. Lockey and any other interested Member before the next P&amp;E meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> July in order to be able to report back. Possible planning permission for large climbing frame; need to look carefully at space that it will take up.</li></ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gainsborough Bicycle racks quotations needed; Cllr. Lockey will look again at this again and request updates on quotations if needed.</li> </ul>
<p><b>37</b></p>	<p><b><u>Parish Council Policies – Councillor &amp; Officers Training</u></b>            The Clerk explained that this policy is required in order to meet one of the criteria of the Local Government Award - Foundation level.</p> <p>There was some discussion over some of the wording in the document, i.e. the degree to which the vocabulary/phrasing reflects the responsibility of the Council to provide, and Members and staff to receive, formal training.</p> <p>It was agreed that Cllrs. Grant, Tizzard and Lockey liaise over amendments in response to comments from Members and propose those amendments in time for September’s Full Council meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Cllrs. Grant, Tizzard and Lockey to liaise.</b></p>
<p><b>38</b></p>	<p><i>Cllr. Dyke left the meeting at 8.15 pm</i></p> <p><b><u>Cemetery Chapel Roof – Appoint Contractor</u></b>            Cllr. Carty queried what monies are available, considering that this work has not been budgeted for; the Clerk confirmed that there are funds available.</p> <p>The tenders had been presented to members anonymously.</p> <p><b>After some discussion, Cllr. Carty proposed the choice of Company 2, at a cost of £10,624.71 + VAT, on the condition that the quotation remains the same if there is a significant delay in the work being started; this was seconded by Cllr. Campbell and resolved by 9 votes with 1 abstention.</b></p> <p>NB: The contractor is Meister Emson Roofing.</p> <p>Further discussion resulted in an agreement that the expertise, knowledge and experience of Members be more proactively offered/sought in cases where projects require extra input/support from Members. Cllr. Tizzard suggested that Cllrs. Phillips and Watts be consulted over this particular contract.</p>
<p><b>39</b></p>	<p><b><u>Potential Sale of Public Land at Springfield</u></b>            Cllrs. Carty and Tizzard gave some context into the history of negotiations regarding this strip of land. Cllr. Carty has written to the owner to suggest that negotiations are re-opened. Cllrs. Carty, Tizzard and Watts (as a Trustee of the Playing Fields Committee, the lessee) will attend a site meeting with the purveyor. The Trustees of the Village Hall might also need to be involved; there are concerns over lack of pavement for users of Village Hall, play area and playing fields. An updated valuation is probably needed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Site meeting to be arranged.</b></p>

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40	<p><b>Verbal Reports:</b></p> <p><b>a) Council Chairman's report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Attended Local Government Reorganisation poorly attended briefing: Local Community Networks will consist of: Committee of SCC with 6 councillors, then an advisory board to that LCN, then a broad meeting of parish and town councils to be consulted on 3 or 4 times a year; no planning matters up for discussion. Young people were represented and discussed; the LCN pilot can support the formation of a Youth Council in Milborne Port.</li><li>▪ Castle Cary Town Council have hired an apprentice to work in their office; possible Milborne Port Parish Council involvement in the future. South Somerset District Council were clear that devolution of assets is going to start happening next April, but not of services.</li><li>▪ Cllr. Tizzard will use his access to Land Register re. Somerset County Council land that might become available as part of the devolution process and report back.</li></ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action – Cllr Tizzard</b></p> <p><b>b) Parish Clerk's report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Scaffolding and traffic management for Town Hall redecoration is proving very problematic; has been very difficult to get good advice and advice has been conflicting. Cllr. Phillips will lend support on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July.</li><li>▪ Work has been completed on the allotment track and entrance. The Clerk has procured an SSDC grant for half the cost.</li></ul> <p><b>c) Members' Reports from outside organisations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nothing to report at this time</li></ul> <p><b>d) Chairmen's Reports from the Parish Council Committees</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nothing to report at this time.</li></ul>
33	<p><i>This item was taken out of turn at the end of the meeting.</i></p> <p><b><u>PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS:</u></b></p> <p><b>A. <u>Monthly Payments:</u></b></p> <p>The July payments list had been circulated to Members ahead of the meeting and were received.</p> <p><b>Cllr. Carty proposed that they be approved, was seconded by Cllr. Lockey and resolved unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>B. <u>Full Council Accounts &amp; Balances:</u></b></p> <p>The information had been circulated ahead of the meeting and was received.</p> <p>Cllr. Carty asked after the requested new bin at the corner of East Street and Wheathill Lane; this request has been made to SSDC by the Localities Team and a response is awaited.</p>

**End of formal meeting – 9:10pm**

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