

Full Council

MILBORNE PORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council meeting
held in The Council Chamber, Milborne Port Town Hall

Tuesday 6th June 2023 @ 7:00pm

Present:

Parish Councillors: Tim Carty (Chairman) Rob Lockey (Vice- chairman)
Margert Capon Lyn Harrison
Chris Phillips Robert Tizzard
Anna Wagner Ted Watts

In Attendance:

The Parish Clerk: Simon Pritchard
Deputy Parish Clerk: Nathalie Hetherington

❖ **Public Statements:**

- Cllr. Watts reported that a member of the public had contacted him in relation to access to meetings in the Town Hall for someone unable to climb the stairs; they felt that they should not need to request that meetings that they would like to attend be held downstairs, that they should always be downstairs and accessible. Cllr. Tizzard and Cllr. Carty reminded members that this issue was recently debated in a number of different meetings and that the Parish Council had decided that having weighed up the arguments on both sides, meetings will by default be in the council chamber for the next municipal year, but that is possible for anyone to request the meeting be held downstairs. The Clerk confirmed that a request to move the next P&E Committee meeting had been received and this will be actioned.
- Cllr Lockey reported that he had received positive feedback about the new play area at Springfield.

❖ **Reports from Somerset Council:**

Cllrs. Dyke and Clark sent their apologies; they will try to attend meetings when their schedules allow; it is worth letting them know in advance if there a particular issue to cover which is pertinent to their work. Their report had been circulated, covering: LCNs; the extension to the Autumn of the £2 'Bus It' initiative; EV charging; changes to Adult Services delivery.

Agenda Number:	Agenda Item:
21	<u>Apologies for Absence:</u> Cllr. Tom Campbell; Cllr. David Grant; Cllr. Richard Warren.
22	<u>Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensations to Participate:</u> No pecuniary interests declared. Cllrs. Lockey & Watts noted their connection with the Playing Fields Committee in relation to Item 30.

Milborne Port Parish Council: Tuesday 6th June 2023

Parish Clerk: Simon Pritchard PSLCC

Website: www.milborneportpc.org.uk

Signed:.....Date:.....

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23	<p><u>Adoption of Full Council Minutes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Tuesday 7th May 2023 – Annual Meeting▪ Tuesday 16th May – Extraordinary Meeting▪ Tuesday 23rd May – Extraordinary Meeting <p>Cllr. Carty proposed that the minutes of the Full Council meetings of 7th May, 16th May, and 23rd May 2023 be adopted; seconded by Cllr. Watts and resolved unanimously.</p>
24	<p><u>PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS:</u></p> <p>A. <u>Monthly Payments</u></p> <p>The payments list for May 2023 had been circulated and were received.</p> <p>The Community Room is now fitted with a Smart Meter, this is allowing Officers to closely monitor the power consumption.</p> <p>Cllr. Carty proposed that the payments for May 2023 be approved; seconded by Cllr. Harrison and resolved by 7 votes with 1 abstention.</p> <p>B. <u>Full Council Accounts and Bank Reconciliation</u></p> <p>The full council accounts and bank reconciliation had been circulated and were received.</p> <p>Cllr. Lockey asked for clarification re. insurance costs, the Parish Clerk confirmed the underspend was due to a cheaper policy being found this year.</p>
25	<p><u>Committee Terms of Reference:</u></p> <p>Cllr. Wagner noted that The Management and Planning & Environment Committee Terms of Reference currently set a maximum of 9 members on those committees.</p> <p>Cllr. Wagner proposed that the Terms of Reference for both Committees be amended by removing reference to maximum numbers; seconded by Cllr. Lockey and resolved unanimously.</p> <p>Cllr. Carty proposed that the amended versions of the Terms of Reference for both Committees be adopted for this municipal year; seconded by Cllr. Lockey and resolved unanimously.</p>
26	<p><u>Springfield Road: Planning for Fencing Panel</u></p> <p>The formal pre-application advice from Somerset Council that planning permission is not required for the single fence-panel that the Parish Council has installed at Springfield next to one of the new houses was received.</p> <p>Cllr. Carty proposed that the Office forward this information to the resident concerned; seconded by Cllr. Phillips and resolved unanimously.</p>

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27	<p><u>Hanging Baskets on the High Street:</u> Cllr. Lockey has had no success in contacting the Officer responsible at Somerset Council, despite numerous efforts to get in touch; he will now follow up with Somerset Councilors Dyke and Clark.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Cllr. Lockey to liaise with Cllrs. Dyke and Clark.</p>
28	<p><u>Village Litter Pick:</u> Future Litter Pick events of 25th November 2023 and 23rd March 2024 had been put forwards by Cllr Warren. Cllr. Carty proposed that the Parish Council organize litter picking events on the 25th November 2023 and 23rd March 2024 seconded by Cllr. Phillips and resolved unanimously.</p>
29	<p><u>Area Youth Work Tender:</u> Cllr. Carty talked through the information previously circulated; some details still need clarification as the proposals are still rather vague. Project work from time-to-time in response to need up to a value of £5,000 per year for 3 years. There was some discussion about what would be provided for this money; details are in the specification but members would want an opportunity to feed into the assessment and decision making processes.</p> <p>Cllr. Carty proposed that the Council approve the spending of up to £5,000 on a joint project with Castle Cary, Wincanton and Bruton Town Councils for the provision of a youth worker resource; seconded by Cllr. Lockey.</p> <p>Cllr. Tizzard proposed an amendment to the resolution; that the spending of up to £5,000 was approved in principle, subject to further clarification of the services to be delivered; seconded by Cllr. Carty and resolved by 7 votes for - 1 abstention.</p> <p>Therefore, the resolution was: Cllr. Carty proposed that the spend of up to £5,000 for a joint project with Castle Cary, Wincanton and Bruton to provide for a youth worker resource across the four areas be approved in principle, subject to a further clarification of the services to be delivered; seconded by Cllr. Lockey resolved by 7 votes for - 1 abstention.</p>
30	<p><u>Sports Pavilion Extension:</u> Members of the Playing Field Committee met with the appointed Parish Council reps today; they are happy for the Parish Council to go ahead with applying for planning permission based on the drawings provided by Paul Heath.</p> <p>A specification and quotation had been provided by a local planning consultants and this was discussed. Cllr. Tizzard will approach an architect who has strong connections with sport in the village. Cllr. Lockey will again approach one other known to Paul Heath.</p>

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	<p>The item was then deferred to the confidential session.</p>
<p>31</p>	<p><u>Property Valuation/Insurance Cover:</u> The Parish Clerk informed the meeting that a recent training session he had attended had highlighted that many councils are under insuring their buildings. The insurance value needs to be for full reinstatement of the building /structure. The council hasn't undertaken a reinstatement valuation since 2018 so one is due. Two quotes had been obtained. Cllr. Carty proposed that Cardinus be appointed to carry out the re-evaluation of the reinstatement cost of the Parish Council's community buildings/structures, at a cost of £1,795 + vat; seconded by Cllr. Wagner and resolved unanimously.</p>
<p>32</p>	<p><u>New Community Hub @ Wheathill Lane:</u> Cllr. Carty reported that he and Cllr. Grant met for a thorough examination of documents, business plans, correspondence and records of approaches to South Somerset District Council for help, with a view to building a strong case in support of the Parish Council's stance that the building of the Community Hub is an obligation on the part of Redcliffe Homes. Cllr. Carty was due to have an online meeting with Cllr. Dyke and David Kenyon of Somerset Council (South) planning department but it was cancelled at the last moment. Cllr. Tizzard explained his involvement from the start of the process and offered to join the rescheduled meeting with his knowledge about and perspective on what has happened in the past. All agreed that it is very important that Somerset Council is supportive. Cllr. Carty's view is that SSDC's s.106 agreement was badly drawn up and that the clause in the s.106 agreement - 'in accordance with your application' - sets up a conflict between planning permission and the s.106 agreement. Cllr. Wagner stated that the Parish Council should ask to be present during any discussions between Somerset Council and Redcliffe Homes. Cllr. Carty believes that moral arguments in favour of the building of the Community Hub are overwhelming. <p style="text-align: center;">Action: Cllr. Carty to follow up with the rescheduling of the meeting.</p> </p>
<p>33</p>	<p><u>Verbal Reports:</u></p> <p>a) Council Chairman's report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A meeting with the Playing Fields Committee was held today; the Parish Council has their agreement re. the pavilion extension (see Item 30), the proposed youth shelter, and their approval to move ahead with the legal work required as an outcome of the investigations done by Cllr. Wagner into the deeds and historic agreements between the Parish Council and the trustees.

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	<p>b) Parish Clerk's report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Parish Council representative is required for the new Somerset Council LCN; Cllr. Carty had been much involved with the pilot project and agreed to continue representing the Parish Council with Cllr. Lockey supporting. Next meeting 22nd June 2023. • The next Somerset Council Play Day will be on Tuesday 22nd August 2023. <p>c) Members' Reports from outside organisations: None.</p> <p>d) S106 Project Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension to Springfield Play Park: Fencing quotations are now being sought. • Extension to Football Pavilion: Covered early in the meeting (See Item 30). • Tennis Courts re-surfacing: No tenders yet; the Office will liaise with the Clerk of West Coker Parish Council to see what responses she has had, if any. 8 companies have been approached directly and signposted to the specification on Gov.uk. • New Storage Facility (Springfield): Cllr. Carty confirmed that there is no s.106 money for this. • Walking Football Pitch: It was noted that any improvements to the basketball court could mean that it becomes suitable for football as well.
<p>34</p>	<p><u>Confidential Session:</u> Cllr. Carty proposed that the meeting move to Confidential Session as the remaining items relate to commercially sensitive information; seconded by Cllr. Lockey and resolved unanimously.</p>
<p>30</p>	<p><u>Sports Pavilion Extension:</u> <i>Item deferred from earlier on in the meeting.</i> Cllr. Carty proposed the Council set budget of up to £1,500 for outsourcing the planning application process; seconded by Cllr. Watts and resolved by 7 votes with 1 abstention.</p> <p>Action: Cllrs. Tizzard and Lockey to contact their leads and then feedback to the Parish Clerk.</p>
<p>35</p>	<p><u>Painting of Windows/Gutters A30 Side of Town Hall:</u> The Management Committee in Mach received two quotes for a company to provide the traffic management and scaffolding, with the Parish Council then appointing a separate decorator. Rather than making an appointment, the Management Committee asked the Office to approach companies that could manage the whole project. A further three months down the line, with many companies approached, only one tender has been offered.</p>

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There was a detailed discussion about the one quotation that the Office was able to procure for the decoration, scaffolding and traffic management required for this project being managed by the same company.

Other options for how this work could be completed at a lower cost were discussed. It was agreed that the cost of this work is considerable but that if left for a later date, is likely to be higher as the condition of the window frames and guttering would have deteriorated further and require more extensive repair.

Cllr. Harrison proposed approving the quotation provided by Jones Building Group of Yeovil to manage the whole project at a cost of up to £8,928; seconded by Cllr. Capon and resolved by 5 votes for - 1 against - 2 abstentions.

Action: The Office to proceed with commissioning the work with Jones Building Group; clarification of painting plans and treatment of guttering prior to painting required as the works need to be done to the highest of standard.

End of formal meeting – 8:33pm