



**MINUTES for the Meeting of YEOVIL WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL held online on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 7.00pm – 8.28pm**

**Present** – Cllrs Iris Coton, Sharon Hackett, Alfred Hill, Jamie Lock, Colin Rose, John Snell, Royston Spinner, Rob Stickland & Margot Woodward

**Chair** – Cllr Pauline Lock

**Clerks** – Barbara Appleby & Dan Ledger

- **Welcome by Chair** – The Chair welcomed all members as well as the new Clerk to his first meeting. The Chair informed members that Super Saturday was still going ahead as part of a food festival. Although there would be no Yeovil in Bloom presentation, there still would be stilt walkers, buskers and Bug Fest.

- **Public Open Session**

There were no members of the public present

- **District Councillors Reports**

District Cllr Rob Stickland highlighted the need for the Parish to familiarise themselves with the changes occurring within the upper levels authorities. There will be aspects that affect YWPC and the Parish needs to have a firm understanding to be able to utilise any devolvement that may occur. The timeframe for having a Shadow Authority in place is on track for April 2021, with a full transfer by the following year April 2022. The monitoring officer at South Somerset District Council has stated there is currently no means to have a referendum but they are still exploring options. With the recent change in Minister it will be interesting to see how they evaluate the two Unitary options moving forward.

The Chair then read out a short statement on behalf of Cllr Michael Lock stating that road markings for Yeovil Marsh had recently been completed after resurfacing had occurred and the drains had been jetted along Yeovil Marsh and had started within Stone Lane.

- **Outside Bodies**

Cllr Margot Woodward stated that South Somerset District Council's Environmental group had started to reconvene and surveys were starting to occur again

**150/20. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from the following members:

Cllr Graham Oakes – Business

Cllr Amy Grieves – Business

Cllr Mike Lock – Personal

Council **RESOLVED** to accept the apologies

(proposed Cllr Margot Woodward, seconded Cllr Iris Coton)

**Not present** – Cllrs Roger Brown & Simon Hodder

**151/20. Declaration of interest**

No declarations were made

**152/20. Minutes**

The minutes of meeting from 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020 were approved as a true record

**153/20. Planning Decisions**

The planning decisions from South Somerset District Council up until 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were noted by the Council

**154/20. Changes to the Current Planning System Consultation**

Discussion took place on:

- The need for more social housing in the area and whether the proposed changes would lead to a reduction in this type of housing coming forward
- The need for more eco development using sustainable technology and materials
- There are site issues in soil removal. There is a need for more thought and possibly allocating a suitable site for soil to be deposited or a plan for it to be used around the site being moved into the planning documentation required.

It was **RESOLVED** that the delegation be given to the clerk, in conjunction with the Chair of the council, to formulate a response to the Government planning system consultation.

(proposed Cllr Rob Stickland; seconded Cllr Margot Woodward)

**155/20. Parish Clerk's Report**

The Council agreed to note the clerks report and **RESOLVED** that the council allocate an expenditure of £75 to purchase a wreath for the annual event, any remaining funds to be given as a donation to the Royal British Legion.

(proposed Cllr Colin Rose; seconded Cllr Royston Spinner)

**156/20. Finance – Payments, Receipts & Invoices**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments, receipts and invoices.

(proposed Cllr Margot Woodward; seconded Cllr Colin Rose)

**157/20. Appointment of internal auditor**

The council **RESOLVED** to appoint Darkin Miller as the internal auditor for the Council until 2024/25.

(proposed Cllr Iris Coton; seconded Cllr Sharon Hackett)

**158/20. Approval of Council's Insurance Provider 2020/2021**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council appoint Ecclesiastical Insurance, through Came & Company Local Council Insurance, as the insurance provider up until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

(proposed Cllr Colin Rose; seconded Cllr Rob Stickland)

**159/20. Grants**

Cllr Colin Rose gave a short briefing to the Council on the current standing of grants and outlined the proposal of the Guide's grant. It was recognized that due to the continued pandemic grants had not been received or determined to the usual schedule and a temporary procedure for the following year needed to be adopted by the council.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the grant application of £250 to the guide senior division & that the Council will review all grant applications through the Grant's working party in October 2020 & February 2021, recommendations will be brought to the Council in the November 2020 & March 2021 meetings respectively.

(proposed Cllr Pauline Lock; seconded Cllr Iris Cotton)

**160/20. Membership of SALC**

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the continued membership with Somerset Association of Local Councils.

(proposed Cllr Rob Stickland; seconded Cllr Margot Woodward)

**161/20. Bank Mandate**

It was **RESOLVED** that Council remove the outgoing Clerk's (Barbara Appleby's) signature from the bank mandate on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and that the new Clerk's (Dan Ledger's) signature be added in place of this.

(proposed Cllr Rob Stickland; seconded Cllr Colin Rose)

**162/20. Climate emergency community fund**

Discussion took place:

- The possibility of utilising the Environmental Working Party to scope out funding in conjunction with the Clerk
- The well holistic & detailed approach from Somerset Wildlife Trust &

Somerset Climate Action Network

- The need to remember current resources levels within the Council

It was **RESOLVED** that Council accept the proposal from Somerset Wildlife Trust and support the formulation of a grant application for the fund.

(proposed Cllr Margot Woodward; seconded Cllr Iris Coton)

**163/20. Terms of Reference for the Staffing Committee**

It was **RESOLVED** that Members adopt the updated terms of reference for the Staffing Committee.

(proposed Cllr Iris Coton; seconded Margot Woodward)

**164/20. Questions and items arising after the preparation of this agenda, such matters are for noting or deferral to a future meeting**

There were no items or questions arising, Council agreed to note this.

**Confidential Items**

**165/20. Exclusion of the press and public**

The Council **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

(proposed Cllr Rob Stickland, seconded Cllr Colin Rose)

**166/20. Staffing Committee Report**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council:

1. the contract of employment for the new Clerk (Dan Ledger) in the terms attached to the agenda.
2. the new Clerk's pension contributions be matched by the council, up to a maximum of 12% of salary.
3. an increase in the outgoing Clerk's (Barbara Appleby) pay scale from SCP27 to SCP28, backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020
4. the pay & conditions of the National Joint Committee ("the Green Book conditions") , as from time to time are updated, be applied to the contractual terms of both the new and outgoing Parish Clerks.
5. the purchase of a dual sim for the use of the new Parish Clerk.

(proposed Cllr Jamie Lock; seconded Cllr Margot Woodward)

**Chair's Signature** .....

**Date** .....