STREET PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Council held on 25th April, 2017 at 7.43 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor T. Rice (Chairman of Council)

Councillors: C.E. Axten, S.J. Dowden,

P. Goater, L. Hughes, A. Leafe, T.W.E. Napper,

N.M. Swift and J. Wooldridge

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. L.A. Ruff - Parish Clerk

District Councillor B.A. Beha

APOLOGIES: Councillors: V.A. Appleby and T.L. Emery –

another engagement and L. Zaky – illness -

reasons accepted

239. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st March, 2017 which had

been circulated were approved as a correct record and

signed by the Chairman.

240. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

In accordance with the Code of Conduct Councillors Hughes, Napper and Rice declared an other interest under Appendix B in any matters relating to the District Council and stated that they would keep an open mind when considering issues at either District or Parish level.

Councillor Napper declared an other interest under Appendix B in any

matters relating to the County Council or Glastonbury Town Council

and that he would keep an open mind when considering issues at

either level.

Councillor Hughes declared a disclosable pecuniary interest under

Appendix A in siting a speed indicator device in Overleigh as he lived

there. He took no part in the voting on this site but did not leave the

meeting as it was a minor matter and part of consideration of a number

of sites.

241. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER

PCSO T. Richards had given his report during Public Question Time.

242. PLANNING COMMITTEE

The notes of the informal meeting on 21st March and minutes of the

meeting on 5th April, 2017 were submitted as circulated.

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RESOLVED

that the reports be agreed.

243. HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP

Councillor Hughes gave a verbal report of the meeting held on 29th

March, 2017. It appeared that the lining changes agreed at the site

meeting with Chris Betty would be proceeding apart from those for

Somerton Road. Due to objections made regarding Somerton Road

the County Council had decided to make no changes there.

RESOLVED

A. that the Clerk should refer to the email of 14th March from Chris

Betty confirming the new lining in Somerton Road and ask for the

proposal to be taken forward

B. that the second speed indicator device should alternate between

the following sites with the device outside of Brookside School to be

moved around outside of term time -

further down Brooks Road from Brookside School, Wraxhill Park,

Slugg Hill, Elmhurst, Overleigh coming down from Framptons, Strode

Road

C. that the Highways Working Group be asked to consider siting a

speed indicator device at times on the bypass between Woods Batch

and the traffic lights

D. that the Clerk and the County Councillor be asked to request that

the road by Brookside School should have a 20 mile per hour limit as

with all of the other schools in Street

E. that Councillor Hughes would mark which bus stops it was

proposed to move and where with Chris Hughes as they were different

sizes and the Clerk would check on the quote for this work from GA

Doble

F. that the Clerk with Councillor Hughes would produce a leaflet with

options to deal with the parking issues in Downside, explaining that

they all needed to agree on a proposal and deliver this to properties on

both sides of the road

G. that the Clerk should investigate having a sign saying Slow Down

For Children and Dogs at Woods Batch near the site of the former toilet

block.

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244. CULTURE WORKING GROUP

The Clerk submitted the notes of the meeting held on 5th April 2017

which had been circulated. Councillor Swift reported that plans were

proceeding well for Somerset Day, the Chairman’s Investiture and the

Bike Week event. She and Councillor Axten reported on the meeting

which they had attended on the Wells bid for the City of Culture 2021.

Volunteers were wanted to help hang up bunting for the Somerset Day

event on the evening of 12th May and the morning of 13th May.

Discussion then took place on having a swearing in ceremony for the

new Chairman at the Investiture and on having a closing prayer. The

meeting was adjourned from 8.25 p.m. to 8.28 p.m. to allow the public

to speak about the closing prayer.

RESOLVED

A. that the report be agreed and agreement be given in principle to

having a swearing in ceremony at the Investiture with the exact

wording being agreed each year by the Clerk with the incoming

Chairman and then emailed to all members

B. that there should be a closing blessing at the Chairman’s

Investiture read out by a member of the Council.

The meeting was adjourned from 8.37 p.m. to 8.42 p.m. for a short

break.

245. INTERNAL AUDIT AND SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated.

RESOLVED

A. that the terms of reference for the internal auditor, Probusiness

Ltd. as circulated be agreed

B. that it was not considered that any events had occurred during the

financial year or after the year-end that would have consequences, or

potential consequences, on the Council’s finances which might need to

be reflected in the statement of accounts.

246. LIVE BROADCAST OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Councillor Dowden suggested that the Council waited until live

broadcasts could be done through Facebook using the existing laptop

and possibly with the need to purchase some microphones.

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RESOLVED

A. that live broadcasting of Council meetings be considered again at

the August meeting

B. that the Assistant Clerk should be the administrator of the Council

Facebook page with Councillors Dowden and Zaky having a lower

level of access and then the ‘person’ set up at Street Parish Council

could be deleted

C. that Councillors Dowden and Goater would hold a surgery to deal

with members who were not receiving some of the Clerk’s emails and

to reset their accounts if necessary – Councillors Appleby, Hughes,

Leafe, Napper and Wooldridge.

247. TWINNING EVENT

Councillor Axten reported that the Twinning Association had planted a

liquid amber tree in Merriman Park to mark the 50th anniversary of the

twinning between Street and Gravenchon. She thanked Councillor

Leafe and his wife Karen and Councillors Appleby, Hughes and

Wooldridge for all their help with the event on 15th April. Councillor

Wooldridge thanked Councillor Axten for working very hard to make the

dinner dance and the event on the Saturday fantastic.

248. NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS AND WORKLOAD

Councillor Leafe was concerned that the Council was trying to raise the

profile of Street and keep up with the many events organised by the

other Mendip towns although it only had 12 members and the others

had 16 and with little help from residents or community groups. He felt

that members were at times struggling to do everything that needed to

be done and the Clerk stated that this was also the case for herself and

the Assistant Clerk.

RESOLVED

that from the next elections in May, 2019 the number of councillors on

the Council should increase from 12 to 16, in 12 months time the

Council should actively look for more councillors and in the interim, it

should look at how to recruit volunteers from the community.

249. CORRESPONDENCE/MINOR ISSUES

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated.

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1. Street Skate Park

RESOLVED

that the Clerk be asked to investigate having lights at the Skate Park

which could be switched off at around 10 p.m. and Councillor Napper

to find out when the lights at the Glastonbury skate park were switched

off.

2. Allotments at Farm Lane

RESOLVED

A. that the Clerk should investigate how to keep the entrance to the

allotments clear when traffic was queuing for the recycling centre with

the Police and Highways and report back

B. that as part of the Neighbourhood Plan process and in liaison with

the Glastonbury Neighbourhood Plan, consideration be given to

moving the whole site of the Street recycling centre to the rear of the

Morlands site.

250. REPORT FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Napper reported that provision of the special school at

Beckery was proceeding well. Councillor Hughes asked if Greenbank

Pool could open earlier if the weather was good but Councillors Rice

and Dowden who served on the Management Committee explained

that this could not be done due to staffing issues. Councillor Hughes

also reported that there was a problem with dog faeces at Merriman

Park and it was agreed to put on Facebook that the Council was

reviewing the situation there. It was also agreed that it should be seen

firstly what difference the new dog bins and signs made but that an

item be put on the next agenda to discuss having a byelaw to allow

only dogs on leads or to ban dogs from the Park.

251. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The latest bank reconciliations for all account at 31st March, 2017

had been prepared successfully and sent to all members with the

monthly income and expenditure by account report.

RESOLVED

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that the report and schedule of payments as circulated be approved

and initialled by the Chairman and the income and expenditure by

account report at 31st March, 2017 be noted and the schedule of

payments for April be attached as Annex A to the minutes in the

Minute Book in order to publish payments of £500 or more.

252. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

The Chairman reported that be would be selecting a route for Parkrun

at Millfield with their management team and that it would then take

about 6 to 8 weeks for it to be set up. The Clerk had received

enquiries as to when it would start.

The Chairman had attended the 50th anniversary twinning event and

was dealing with the easement for residents to use the road at the

rear of Cranhill Road. He would be arranging a meeting with District

Councillor Siggs, the District Councillors for Street and Councillor

Axten as the Chairman of the Play Areas Working Group to discuss

issues including securing car parks against illegal occupation. It was

agreed to get a written report firstly from Alison Payne on this matter

and then meet with the District Council to find a way forward. It was

also agreed to request that the District Council set up a working group

to look at the whole issue of travellers.

253. MATTERS FOR REPORT

The Clerk reported that GA Doble were ready to extend the path at

Merriman Park and a meeting with several Council representatives

Kate Carr and GA Doble would be arranged soon to discuss issues

and mark out the path. Plans for the 80th anniversary of the opening

of Greenbank Pool were noted. It was noted that the mural in the

Crispin Centre had been awarded listed building status at Grade II.

254. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings)

Act 1960 amended by the Openness of Local Government Bodies

Regulations 2014, the press and public be excluded from the meeting

for the following item as it involved confidential information on legal

negotiations.

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255. LEASE FOR FIRST FLOOR OF PARISH ROOMS

The Clerk gave a confidential verbal report on when the County

Council might be vacating the first floor of the Parish Rooms.

RESOLVED

that the report be noted.

The meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.

Councillor Leafe left at 9.40 p.m.

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ANNEX A

Subject: Accounts for Payment

NOTE – Chairman’s allowance – expenses for 22nd March to 25th April, 2017 totalled £ - see below. Internal auditor, P. Male of Probusiness Ltd. felt this was a better system whereby the Council could approve expenses each month prior to reimbursement.

The latest bank reconciliations for all accounts at 31st March, 2017 have been prepared successfully and sent to all members with the monthly income and expenditure by account report. Each reconciliation and original bank statement has been signed by Councillor Appleby as part of the monthly check of accounts.

From 1st December, 2014 a schedule of individual nos. for direct debit payments was introduced so that they could be traced more easily as with payments by cheque. The first no. used was DD141501 and from 1st April 2016 numbers will start DD161701.

£20 received from a resident of Walton as first donation to the public subscription for the new war memorial. £150,000 received from Mendip District Council as first half of the precept. £964 received from Mendip District Council as health and well being grant for the Vic Fest September 2016 to be paid on to the Victoria Field Charity. £20 received from Cruse Bereavement for use of small room 31st March. £168 received from We Hear You for use of small room in April. £300 received from Street and District Allotment Association for annual rent of Strode Road allotments.

The Council is asked to approve payment of the following -

Clerk’s net salary incl. national award of 1% As agreed

Assistant Clerk’s net salary incl. 1% and rise to SCP 22 As agreed

Petty cash float to bring back up to £50 for April £ 24.37 transfer

Pension contributions - April SCC Pension Fund As agreed

+ pension deficit recharge 2017/18 – not April or May 16 As agreed

PO Ltd. PAYE and NI contributions – April As agreed

L. Ruff and J. Marshfield

Probusiness Ltd. – payroll April Month 1 £ 24.17 + VAT

DD1718

Mendip District Council – rates grd flr Parish R – £ Nil

1st March - due to small business rate relief the rates for 2017/18 of £4,893

will not need to be paid – this assessment may change when the 1st floor is vacated

Idverde Ltd. – maintenance Merriman Park for April £ 769.75+VAT

E.R. Garrett Ltd. – clean ground floor Parish Rooms Mar £ 114.85+VAT

Southwest Digital Systems Ltd. – copying March £ 12.90+VAT

PC Comms Ltd. – 2 MS Office 365 Business Premium £ +VAT

emails and 12 Business Essentials emails April

and remote support to back up accounts files £ 48.00+VAT

Viking – envelopes, stamps etc. £ 269.99+VAT

Walton Press Ltd. – 20 booklets – standing orders and £ 32.50

financial regulations updated

1st Street Scout Group – grant for 2016/17 as cheque not £100.00

banked in time – cheque no. 004946 returned

G.P. Davis and Son – fitting new filling loop on 1st floor £ 58.00+VAT

Parish Rooms – SCC to refund

EM Print and Signs – 3 A2 printed maps of Community £ 24.13+VAT

Centre, Library and Parish Rooms

BWBSL Water2business – water and sewerage gr flr £ 62.20+VAT

Parish Rooms 28 September 2016 to 16 March 2017

and 1st flr Parish Rooms for same period to be refunded £ 62.53

by SCC

C. Axten – refund for banquet roll for twinning reception £ 13.18+VAT

Atmosphere Karaoke – disco for twinning event 15 April £130.00

Local World Ltd. – online advert for Neighbourhood Plan £149.00+VAT

Officer post 23rd March for 28 days

Taunton Deane Borough Council – dig out and reconcrete £610.00+VAT

weld mesh fencing damaged at Skate Park and reconcrete

2 litter bins

TCBs – clean bin High St. March £ 20.00

and tidying up around Parish Rooms 27th March £ 18.00

South West Councils – subscription 2017/18 £ 369.00+VAT

Blachere Illumination UK Ltd. – hire of Christmas lights for £2,009.24+VAT

High Street – second year of three year hire

Grants -

Mendip Citizens Advice Bureau £ 4,500.00

Street Tourist Information Centre – Glastonbury Tribunal Ltd £ 5,000.00

Street Twinning Association £ 600.00

Crispin Community Focus £ 4,000.00

Strode Theatre £15,000.00

Street Football Club – Fun Day in June £ 1,000.00

NOTE - Street Neighbourhood Watch Association is reducing it’s activities and thus does not need the agreed grant of £500 but may apply for a single grant if it is involved in a particular project in the future.

P. Swift - £16 refreshments for twinning reception and £5 £ 21.00

for N. Swift for part of King Alfred’s costume Somerset Day

BT – calls 16 January to 11 April and rental charges £ 339.23+VAT

DD1718

BT – broadband March to June £ 85.20+VAT

DD1718

Burns The Bread Ltd. – refreshments for twinning event £ 172.00

on 15th April

V. Appleby – refreshments for twinning event 15th April £ 74.79

A. Leafe – cutlery, plates, trifles for twinning event 15th April £ 52.43

J. Marshfield – 16 large Somerset flags for Somerset Day £ 54.82+VAT