STREET PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Council held on 20th August, 2019 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillor P. Goater (Chairman of Council)

Councillors: C.E. Axten, P. Birch, R. Boyce,

S. Carswell, M. Daniells, D. Goater, A. Leafe,

L. Mogg, T.W.E. Napper, A. Prior, H. Shearer

and L. Zaky

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. L. Ruff – Clerk

Mrs. J. Marshfield – Assistant Clerk

County Councillor L. Leyshon

O. Woodhams and J. Stafford – Somerset

County Council

J. Copestake and M. Wilcox – Mendip YMCA

APOLOGIES: Councillors J. Diment, D. Drew, P. Robinson

– another engagement – reasons accepted

67. MINUTES

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 22nd July, 2019 which had been circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman and the decision in Minute No. 66 to give £200 for the community event on 13th October was ratified.

68. MATTERS ARISING

No matters were raised.

69. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

In accordance with the Code of Conduct Councillors Carswell, P. Goater, Napper and Shearer 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 and stated that he would keep an open mind when considering issues at either level.

All members present declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the alteration of the Parish Rooms for Council and library use and that they had been granted dispensation to speak and vote by the Clerk and would keep an open mind when considering the matter. Councillor Axten declared that she was Chairman of the Friends of Street Library and Councillor Prior that he was a Friend of the Library.

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Councillor Napper declared an other interest under Appendix B in the

grant to the Football Club as he was a member and took no part in the

consideration of this item.

Councillor Axten declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in a report

on negotiations regarding Clockhouse View as she lived there and took

no part in the discussion which was for information only.

70. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER

No Police representative attended the meeting.

71. PRESENTATION BY MENDIP YMCA

M. Wilcox explained that Lottery funding of £750,000 had been used

over a 3 year period to employ full time workers at 9 youth clubs from

Frome to Yeovil. Links had been made with the Police and schools to

deal with issues such as County Lines and child sexual exploitation. A

grant of £10,000 had been applied for in 2019/20 which would be

considered by the Policy and Finance Committee in September with

other applications. The Lottery funding would end in March 2020 and

to deliver the same service in 2020/21 a grant of £22,000 would be

required. A service level agreement could be entered into with

specified work being carried out for the Council. A young person spoke

on the value of the Youth Club to her and others. The importance of

the Youth Service was acknowledged in the light of the many cuts in

funding and services for young carers, young people out of education

etc. Members wished to have statistics on attendance at the Youth

Club including the number of sessions and details on outreach work.

The Chairman noted the suggestion that Section 106 funding be sought

from developers for the Youth Club. The meeting was adjourned from

8.00 p.m. to 8.05 p.m. to allow the public to speak. County Councillor

Leyshon undertook to find out more about the transformation in day

services from Dimensions who ran the Beckery Centre on the ground

floor of the building in which the Youth Club operated. She would also

speak to Richard Clark about the future of the building.

J. Copestake spoke on the Street Foyer and invited members to come

and visit it. They were keen to be involved in local activities.

RESOLVED

that Mark Wilcox and Andrea White be asked to attend a meeting of the

Community Support Working Group to give members a common

understanding of the position with the Youth Club from April 2020 and

what they wanted.

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72. PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting on 16th July, 2019 were submitted and circulated.

RESOLVED

that the report be noted.

73. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

The Chairman made his report. He would arrange a meeting with the

Chamber of Trade representatives to discuss reforming the body with a

less formal name.

74. PARISH PATH LIAISON OFFICER

County Councillor Leyshon was meeting the PPLO the following day to

look at an overgrown path at The Mead.

75. PARISH ROOMS AND LIBRARY

The report of the Clerk had been circulated and publicised on the

Council’s website, Facebook, Twitter and noticeboards. 4 comments

on the issue received via Facebook, email etc. were circulated at the

meeting. The Chairman made a presentation which was circulated at

the meeting on the 2 options for alteration of the Parish Rooms and an

option of taking no action. There was a current temporary community

library partnership agreement until 31st January 2020 and it was hoped

to then have a 7 year agreement with break clause. Other options

including a new building or use of the former library building were not

felt to be as good as altering the Parish Rooms for the reasons set out

in the report.

Option 1 involved removing many of the walls on the ground floor and

moving the staircase to create a large open room for the library and, if

it later moved from the building, Council/community use. It would be

expensive and involve closure of the library and Council office for some

time while the work was carried out.

Option 2 involved removing some walls on the ground floor to create

more open spaces and creating an archway between the 2 offices with

a sliding door. This would be far less costly and could probably be

phased so that the building would not need to close for long.

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O. Woodhams explained that the County Council had allocated

£50,000 for fitting out the new library space and any unspent money

could be used for the alterations to the building. A further contribution

of £60,000 had been considered if the more expensive option had proceeded but would probably not be given for Option 2. It had been

anticipated that the current library space would only be a temporary

arrangement and if alterations were not made the County Council

would consider whether or not 2 members of staff were needed for

Street. The Parish Council had agreed to provide £20,000 with RPI

Increases towards staffing costs for 5 years before the library moved

to the Parish Rooms. The County Council Cabinet had committed to

supporting community library partnerships until March 2026.

Possible use of the former Tesco building was raised but the cost of

acquiring it would be far greater than altering the Parish Rooms. The meeting was adjourned from 8.40 p.m. to 8.50 p.m. to allow the public to speak. It was felt that costs for fitting a lift should be obtained as it would enable all meetings of the Council apart from full Council to be held in the Gravenchon Room, any future member of staff with access issues could work on the first floor and more items could be stored there.

RESOLVED

that Orme be engaged at a cost to be determined of around £18,000

or less to proceed with the works set out in their fee proposal to Stage

4 for Option 2 as detailed, including the exterior works and with or without the lift.

76. COMPLETION OF LIMITED ASSURANCE REVIEW

FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated.

RESOLVED

that the report be agreed.

77. CULTURE WORKING GROUP

The notes of the meeting on 22nd July were submitted and had been

circulated. Members were asked to act as marshalls for the Christmas

Cracker event on 14th December.

RESOLVED

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that the report be agreed and £1,200 allocated for a new scheme – The

Parish Pot where local groups, individuals or schools could put forward

a proposal to improve Street at a cost of up to £200 – applications

would be considered carefully in terms of insurance etc. by a panel

including the Clerk or Assistant Clerk and the successful applicants

awarded their funding at Street Day in May 2020 – contact details to be

collated and retained in accordance with GDPR rules.

78. COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKING GROUP

The notes of the meeting on 30th July were submitted as circulated.

RESOLVED

that the report be agreed and £200 given to the Food Bank to assist

with buying food for vulnerable families.

79. HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP

Notes of the meeting on 5th August 2019 had been circulated. County

Councillors Leyshon and Napper were working on having the large pot

holes in Anthony Road filled in.

RESOLVED

that the report be agreed and the new cycle racks be located close to

CCTV cameras if possible to reduce the risk of cycles being stolen or

the racks being vandalised.

80. HEALTH AND WELL BEING WORKING GROUP

RESOLVED

that in view of very poor attendance at 2 recent meetings this Group

be merged into the Community Support Working Group and members

to always give their apologies to staff if they could not attend any

meeting.

81. BUSKER AND STREET TRADER CHARTER

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated.

RESOLVED

that the Busking Code of Practice is adopted and a copy given to the

Police.

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82. CORRESPONDENCE/MINOR ISSUES

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated.

1. Representatives – Street Community Library Partnership

RESOLVED

that Councillor P. Goater be appointed to serve on the above in place

of Councillor D. Goater.

2. Ringolds Way Play Area

RESOLVED

that the report be noted.

3. Grant – Street Football Club

RESOLVED

that a grant of £200 be made to the Club to buy a new stretcher.

4. Date for Annual Council and Street Day 2020

RESOLVED

that the next annual meeting of the Council be held on 12th May and

the Street Day on 16th May 2020.

5. Annual Inspection of Play Areas at Merriman Park

RESOLVED

that the report be agreed.

6. Former Toll Gate

RESOLVED

that the report be noted.

7. Bristol Airport – Airspace Change Workshop

RESOLVED

that the report be noted.

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8. Somerset Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2019

RESOLVED

that the report be noted.

83. REPORT FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The written report from County Councillor Leyshon had been circulated.

County Councillor Napper was asked to contact Councillor M. Pullin

regarding the small improvement scheme for Brooks Road. District Councillor Shearer promised to share a report she was preparing on health provision across the area when available. District Councillor Carswell reported that the matter relating to Tor Leisure had been

resolved and he had been involved in negotiations regarding works at

Clockhouse View.

84. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The latest bank reconciliations for all accounts at 31st July, 2019

had been prepared successfully and sent to all members with the

monthly income and expenditure by account report, the final report of

receipts and payments for July and schedule of earmarked reserves.

RESOLVED

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 July, 2019 be noted and the schedule of

receipts and payments for August be attached as Annex A to the

minutes in the Minute Book in order to publish payments of £500 or

more.

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85. MATTERS FOR REPORT

The Clerk reported on several matters for information. It was agreed

that Councillor Shearer would contact the Somerset Live reporter on

promotion of Street. It was agreed to ask Richard Clark to have graffiti

removed from the wall in the library garden. It was also agreed to book

Room 6 of the Community Centre for meetings of the Council from

September on.

The meeting ended at 9.40 p.m.

Councillor D. Goater left at 8.28 p.m. and returned at 8.33 p.m. and left

from 9.10 p.m. to 9.14 p.m.

Councillor Boyce arrived at 7.50 p.m.

Councillor Zaky left at 9 p.m.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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