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14th May 2020

PLEASE NOTE DATE AND TIME

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Street Parish Council which will be held **virtually using Zoom** with remote attendance **on TUESDAY, 19TH MAY 2020** for the purpose of transacting the business specified in the following agenda. Public Question Time will commence at approximately **5.55 p.m.** The Chair will allow each person who has registered with the Clerk to speak for up to 3 minutes on any subject/s and will firstly explain the procedures for the meeting. Persons speaking will have been informed that the meeting will be recorded. The Council meeting will commence at approximately **6 p.m.** or as soon as Public Question Time is closed by the Chair. The meeting will be streamed live on YouTube on the Council's YouTube channel at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiwCtXUydITXA9OpDqQfvIA/videos>

In accordance with standing orders 7 c and d, a member with a disclosable pecuniary interest must leave the meeting and be placed in the waiting room during the relevant item of business, unless permitted to remain following the grant of a dispensation. Councillors with an interest in relation to any item of business being transacted at a meeting under Appendix B (Other Interests) or where a matter relates to a financial interest of a friend, relative or close associate, may (i) make representations, (ii) answer questions and (iii) give evidence relating to the business being transacted but must thereafter leave the meeting and be placed in the waiting room, unless permitted to remain following the grant of a dispensation. At a convenient time the Chair will also give this opportunity to any members of the public who have registered to speak with the Clerk prior to the meeting.

Yours faithfully,

L.A. Ruff
Clerk of the Council

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - acceptance of any reasons offered.
2. MINUTES
To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 17th March 2020 (attached) **Pages 5 - 7**
3. MATTERS ARISING
4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS
To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on agenda items and to receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any). Clerk to grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.
5. COMMUNITY POLICEMAN

6. MOTION - EMERGENCY PROVISIONS

In accordance with Standing Order 9 (b) the Chair gave 7 clear days written notice of his intention to move the following motion at this meeting and this was signed by him and 3 other members -

A. In light of the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic and any other future emergency and government advice this council resolves that:

(a) Should the council be unable to meet for whatever reason, the Clerk be given delegated authority to progress all ongoing matters and projects and authorise all regular payments and incur expenditure in line with the council's agreed budget

(b) Any decisions taken under resolution (a) above will be taken, whenever possible, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of Council and the relevant committee chair (if appropriate). A record of all decisions and expenditure incurred under delegated authority will be kept and reported to members when the council next meets

(c) The authority to decide the council's response to planning applications be delegated to the Clerk or Assistant Clerk, in consultation with the Chair of the Planning Committee and Chair and Vice Chair of Council. Whenever possible, members of the Planning Committee (or Council in the case of large applications) will be informed of applications out for consultation and will be invited to submit comments to the Clerk or Assistant Clerk

(d) The provisions outlined in resolutions (a) to (c) above will override any requirements to the contrary in the Council's standing orders, financial regulations or terms of reference

(e) In the interest of staff, volunteer and public safety the Council office will be closed to the public, except by appointment, whenever government advice deems this to be appropriate

(f) In line with government advice, staff will be encouraged to work from home

(g) Should the Clerk be unable to perform her duties, the Assistant Clerk or Chair or Vice Chair of Council or if they are unavailable, another councillor will assume the role of Proper Officer and RFO, in an unpaid capacity with the exception of the Assistant Clerk

(h) The Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair, may incur expenditure from the project earmarked reserve where such expenditure will help the community's efforts to support those in need of assistance or prevent social isolation

(i) Should government allow councils to meet virtually (online), the Council will take all reasonable steps to facilitate this

B. Funding to support the community should be made through recognised organisations only such as the Foodbank, Salvation Army and Bridging the Gap and anyone asking for assistance should be referred to an appropriate organisation

C. An email to be sent to the Community Centre and other organisations as appropriate making it clear that funds were available to them and that if they applied to the Council they would be supported very quickly

D. Positive community news to be posted once a week on the website, Facebook etc.

7. **PLANNING COMMITTEE**
To receive minutes of the meeting on 18th February 2020 for information and details of applications and recommendations made under the agreed emergency arrangements by email (attached) **Pages 8 - 11**
8. **POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**
To receive the minutes of the virtual meeting held on 12th May 2020 including a recommendation that the holding of the annual meeting is reviewed on a regular basis (attached). NOTE – it was agreed under delegated authority by the Clerk in consultation with the Chair, Vice-Chair and other members not to hold the Annual Parish Meeting in 2020 as the new regulations do not allow for this to be held remotely. **Pages 12 - 14**
The Council is also asked to review and adopt Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and to review the Code of Conduct – green booklet. The protocol for remote meetings will be attached as an annex to Standing Orders.
9. **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2019/20 PART 3 SECTION 1 – ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2019/20 ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2019/20**
Reports and documents were circulated with the agenda for the Policy and Finance Committee on 12th May. Council is asked to consider approving the reports and documents, review the adequacy of internal audit and control and consider it's responses to the statements set out in Section 1 Annual Governance Statement.
10. **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2019/20 PART 3 SECTION 2 – ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2019/20**
Section 2 and supporting documents were circulated with the agenda for the Policy and Finance Committee on 12th May. Council is asked to approve the accounts, supporting documents and Section 2.
11. **CHAIR'S REPORT**
12. **PARISH PATH LIAISON OFFICER – County Cllr. Leyshon to give a verbal report on behalf of PPLO Jake Dalton.**
13. **PARISH ROOMS AND LIBRARY –** on 25th February it was agreed to proceed with the alterations. The building contract and library agreement will be signed when consent is received for the loan and work will commence when Government advice allows. In accordance with delegated authority the Clerk in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair agreed to enter into a new temporary CLP agreement to 30th September in view of the current crisis.
14. **STREET COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP – verbal update**
15. **HIGHWAYS – to discuss closing the High Street and bus routes**
16. **UPDATE FROM ASSISTANT CLERK (attached) Page 15**
17. **UPDATE ASSISTANT CLERK AND PROJECTS OFFICER (attached) Page 16**
18. **CHAIR UPDATES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS**

19. REPORT FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS
Questions to be noted for written replies and matters for consideration referred to the appropriate working group. All reports received have been emailed to members.

 20. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT (schedule of payments attached for approval and initialing by Chair to be arranged) and confidential detailed income and expenditure by account report at 31st March and 30th April 2020 including budget variance – emailed to members only with bank reconciliations and earmarked reserves schedule. **Pages 17 - 24**

 21. MATTERS FOR REPORT
Consideration of items not on agenda for information only
 - (a) Report from Clerk
 - (b) Matters raised by members - TO BE NOTIFIED TO THE CLERK IN ADVANCE OF MEETING.
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To: Chair and Members of Street Parish Council

STREET PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Council held on 17th March, 2020 at 7.15 p.m. The meeting was opened at the Community Centre and then re-convened on the ground floor of the Parish Rooms due to the Centre being closed due to the coronavirus.

PRESENT: Councillor C.E. Axten (Vice Chair) (In the Chair)

Councillors: S. Carswell, D. Drew, D. Ellis,
A. Leafe, L. Mogg and L. Zaky

IN ATTENDANCE: L.A. Ruff – Clerk

APOLOGIES: Councillors: P. Birch, R. Boyce, M. Daniells,
J. Diment, D. Goater, P. Goater (Chair),
T.W.E. Napper, A. Prior and H. Shearer –
another engagement or social isolating due to
coronavirus – reasons accepted

211. MINUTES

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 25th February, 2020 which had been circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

212. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

In accordance with the Code of Conduct no interests were declared as considerations were only of a general nature relating to continuing with the business of the Council until the coronavirus emergency ended.

213. CORONAVIRUS

In view of the coronavirus emergency situation Government advice was to avoid social contact and work from home as much as possible to reduce the spread of the virus. It was agreed therefore to only consider this issue.

The Council was waiting for consent from MHCLG to take out the agreed loan for the alterations to the Parish Rooms. The Merriman Park Community Group had been given an undertaking from an anonymous benefactor to give £50,000 to match the same amount earmarked by the Council for the refurbishment of Merriman Park. It was intended to proceed with the following projects as much as possible to provide positive outcomes for the local community - alteration of the Parish Rooms for council, library and community use, moving war memorial in Merriman Park, sensory garden, exercise equipment and new under 10 play area at Merriman Park.

It was agreed to record the gratitude of members to the Clerk for her leadership and assistance during this difficult time and to the Assistant Clerk for all her hard work in organising the recent Discover Your Community event.

RESOLVED

C. In light of the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic and government advice this council resolves that:

(j) Should the council be unable to meet for whatever reason, the Clerk be given delegated authority to progress all ongoing matters and projects and authorise all regular payments and incur expenditure in line with the council's agreed budget

(k) Any decisions taken under resolution (a) above will be taken, whenever possible, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of Council and the relevant committee chair (if appropriate). A record of all decisions and expenditure incurred under delegated authority will be kept and reported to members when the council next meets

(l) The authority to decide the council's response to planning applications be delegated to the Clerk or Assistant Clerk, in consultation with the Chair of the Planning Committee and Chair and Vice Chair of Council. Whenever possible, members of the Planning Committee (or Council in the case of large applications) will be informed of applications out for consultation and will be invited to submit comments to the Clerk or Assistant Clerk

(m) The provisions outlined in resolutions (a) to (c) above will override any requirements to the contrary in the Council's standing orders, financial regulations or terms of reference

(n) In the interest of staff, volunteer and public safety the Council office will be closed to the public, except by appointment, whenever government advice deems this to be appropriate

(o) In line with government advice, staff will be encouraged to work from home

(p) Should the Clerk be unable to perform her duties, the Assistant Clerk or Chair or Vice Chair of Council or if they are unavailable, another councillor will assume the role of Proper Officer and RFO, in an unpaid capacity with the exception of the Assistant Clerk

(q) The Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair, may incur expenditure from the project earmarked reserve where such expenditure will help the community's efforts to support those in need of assistance or prevent social isolation

(r) Should government allow councils to meet virtually (online), the Council will take all reasonable steps to facilitate this

D. Funding to support the community should be made through recognised organisations only such as the Foodbank, Salvation Army and Bridging the Gap and anyone asking for assistance should be referred to an appropriate organisation

E. An email to be sent to the Community Centre and other organisations making it clear that funds were available to them and that if they applied to the Council they would be supported very quickly

F. Positive community news to be posted once a week on the website, Facebook etc.

214. STREET LIBRARY

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Richard Clark regarding the hope of the trustees of the original library building that negotiations with the County Council and all renovation work would be completed within 3 years. When the building had been renovated the Library Trust would like the library to move back there from the Parish Rooms. If this did not happen the Trust would consider other charitable community uses for the building.

RESOLVED

that the Library Trust be informed that when the library building had been repaired it could negotiate with the Street Community Library Partnership comprising the County Council, Parish Council and Friends of Street Library regarding moving the library back there.

The meeting ended at 8 p.m.

STREET PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of Planning Committee held on 18th February at 6:30pm

PRESENT: Councillor L Zaky - Chair
Councillors: P Birch, A Leafe, L Mogg

APOLOGIES: Councillors D Ellis, J Diment

IN ATTENDANCE: J Marshfield – Assistant Clerk.

30. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2020 which had been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Cllr. P Birch Cllr. declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in application no. 2020/0118/FUL as she knew the applicant and left the meeting while it was considered from 6.40 p.m. to 6.45 p.m.

32. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated.

RESOLVED

that the following recommendations be submitted to the District Council as the Local Planning Authority.

2019/2456/TPO T1 - Mature Weeping Willow (*Salix babylonica*) - Prune back to previous pruning points (Re-pollard) to allow more light into house and to prevent limb loss due to potentially weak branch unions at 6 Merriman Road Street – APPROVAL

2020/0102/TCA Proposed works to tree(s) in a Conservation Area: T1 (Norway Spruce) – Fell at Overleigh Farm Overleigh Street – APPROVAL

2020/0118/FUL Demolition of extension to existing house and erection of a new dwelling at 1 Cranhill Road Street – RECOMMEND THAT THE DECISION BE LEFT TO THE PLANNING OFFICER AT MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL AND TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION ACCESS TO THE PROPERTY.

2020/0156/FUL Change of use of public footpath to create an increased pavement cafe seating area at 111-113 High Street, Street – OBJECT DUE TO ENCROACHMENT ON PAVEMENT AND EXTRA NOISE OR DISTURBANCE TO RESIDENTS.

2020/0178/FUL Erection of front porch at 13 Stonehill Street - APPROVAL

2020/0211/ADV Replacement of existing ATM header signage to comply with new HSBC UK branding at 101 High Street, Street - APPROVAL

2020/0275/FUL Change of use from A1 (retail) & B8 (storage) to A1, B8 and D2 (leisure). Provision of off-street parking for the owner/tutor of the classes at 56 West End Street - APPROVAL

NOTE – 2 new unit approved – 4 since May 2019.

The meeting ended at 6.50pm.

Planning applications, approvals and refusals received after COVID-19 office close down. Emailed to the Planning Committee 30th March 2020

1. 2020/0565/HSE Front extension to garage at 17 Oakfield Road Street for Mr Ben Brown – J Alvis – Reply 6.4.20
2. 2020/0603/HSE Demolish existing prefabricated building and new single storey extension to rear at 38 Green Lane Street for Mr & Mrs Payne – J Alvis – Reply 8.4.20

APPROVALS AND REFUSALS

2020/0233/APP Approval of details reserved by condition 5 (surface water drainage system) on planning consent 2019/2862/HSE at Mon Abri Middle Brooks Street – APPROVAL

2020/0178/FUL Erection of front porch at 13 Stonehill Street – APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS – SPC – APPROVAL

2019/1046/FUL Erection of a 1no. residential dwellinghouse at 6 Hawthorn Road Street – REFUSAL – SPC - REFUSAL – Access and egress too small. Neighbours access reduced and building not in keeping with surrounding area.

2020/0118/FUL Demolition of extension to existing house and erection of a new dwelling at 1 Cranhill Road Street – APPROVAL – SPC - RECOMMEND THAT THE DECISION BE LEFT TO THE PLANNING OFFICER AT MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL AND TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION ACCESS TO THE PROPERTY.

2020/0280/HSE Erection of a Single Storey Rear Extension and Alterations at Pantiles Middle Brooks Street – APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS – SPC – No recommendation made as application was due to be considered at the 17.3.20 planning meeting.

2020/0156/FUL Change of use of public footpath to create an increased pavement cafe seating area at 111-113 High Street, Street – APPROVAL -SPC - OBJECT DUE TO ENCROACHMENT ON PAVEMENT AND EXTRA NOISE OR DISTURBANCE TO RESIDENTS.

2020/0211/ADV Replacement of existing ATM header signage to comply with new HSBC UK branding at 101 High Street, Street – APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS – SPC – APPROVAL

Planning Applications received by Street Parish Council during the Covid-19 lockdown emailed to the Planning Committee 28.4.20

1. 2020/0728/HSE Two storey side extension at 205 Strode Road Street for Lucie & Kerrienne York – J Alvis – 29.4.20
2. 2020/0764/FUL Removal of external ATM at 72 High Street, Street – J Cawsey – Reply - 6.5.20

APPROVALS AND REFUSALS

2020/0319/CLP Single storey extension to rear at 48 Elmhurst Lane Street – APPROVAL

2020/0362/ADV Application to Display Adverts – APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS – SPC – RECOMMENDATIONS NOT SUBMITTED AWAITING REMOTE MEETING.

2020/0275/FUL Change of use from A1 (retail) & B8 (storage) to A1, B8 and D2 (leisure). Provision of off-street parking for the owner/tutor of the classes at 56 West End Street - APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS – SPC – APPROVAL

2020/0312/HSE Demolition of existing garage & erection of single storey extension to East elevation & erection of front porch at 5 Leigh Furlong Road Street - APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS – SPC

M1378 Provisional Tree Preservation Order has been made by Mendip District Council for the Garden of the Street Inn, Somerton Road, Street,

Comments from Planning Committee Councillors:-

Cllr. L Mogg – I have to declare an interest with the first application as I know those people.

As for the second application I would only add if possible that I am concerned that the bank would removing a ATM machine at this current time where we are encouraged to social distance and that it offers an option for people who still need access to cash at this time an alternative to going into the bank.

As for the other reason I'm disappointed to see the NatWest bank removing a very much well used service even before the Covid-19 outbreak.

STREET PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Policy and Finance Committee held virtually using Zoom with remote attendance on 12th May, 2020 at 6 p.m. The Chair gave a statement on how the meeting would be conducted.

PRESENT: Councillor C.E. Axten (Chair)

Councillors: P. Goater, A. Prior and H. Shearer

IN ATTENDANCE: L.A. Ruff – Clerk/RFO
J. Marshfield – Assistant Clerk
M. Sandiford – Assistant Clerk and Projects Officer

APOLOGIES: Councillor: S. Carswell – another engagement – reason accepted

32. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 4th February, 2020 which had been circulated, were approved as a correct record and arrangements would be made for them to be signed by the Chair in accordance with current guidance.

33. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

In accordance with the Code of Conduct the following declarations of interest were made -

Councillors P. Goater and Shearer – other interest under Appendix B – District Council – would keep an open mind when considering issues at either level

Councillor Axten – other interest under Appendix B – Library as Chair of the Friends of Street Library and Councillor Prior as a Friend of the Library – did not need to leave the meeting as only decided to wait for more information

Councillor Axten – other interest under Appendix B – Twinning Association as a Council representative – did not need to leave the meeting as organisation did not request a grant

Councillor Prior – other interest under Appendix B – Community Centre under Crispin Hall CIO as a Council representative – did not need to leave the meeting as only decided to wait for more information.

34. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2019/20
PART 3 - SECTION 1 – ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT
2019/20 AND ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2019/20

The Clerk submitted reports and documents, which had been circulated, prior to being submitted to the Council on 19th May for consideration and approval. Page 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return the Annual Internal Audit Report 2019/20 and a letter from Probusiness Ltd. had been circulated and no matters of concern had been raised. The Chair thanked the Clerk for all her hard work in preparing the accounting statements.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

A. that the internal audit and control reports including the annual risk assessment and internal control procedures, be approved and having considered them it be agreed that the internal audit and control system is adequate

B. that agreement be given to each of the statements set out in Section 1 of the Annual Return and the Annual Governance Statement 2019/20 be approved and signed by the Chair of the Council meeting and the Clerk at that meeting/soon afterwards in accordance with current guidance.

35. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2019/20
PART 3 - SECTION 2 – ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2019/20

The Clerk submitted a report, Section 2 and supporting documents which had been circulated, prior to being submitted to Council on 19th May for consideration and approval. It was noted that page 22 I detailed the reasons for the difference in income – administration on the income and expenditure account between 2018/19 and 2019/20. It was noted that the Training Plan needed to be altered to add Councillor Shearer to the list of members who attended the Councillor Essentials training in November 2019.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

that Section 2 of the Annual Return, the accounts for the year ended 31st March, 2020 and other documents as circulated, be approved and signed by the Chair of the Council meeting on 19th May soon afterwards in accordance with current guidance, having already been signed by the Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer.

36. ANNUAL GRANTS 2020/21

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated. It was noted that the Somerset Community Fund had given a grant to the Baptist Church rather than to the Council.

RESOLVED

- A. that Councillor P. Goater be asked to contact Strode Theatre to request more information on the need for the grant of £20,000
- B. that the grant of £5,000 for the Community Centre should not be paid yet pending advice on the community work being done
- C. that the grants of £1,000 each would not be paid to the Football Club as there would not a fun day or to the Twinning Association which had agreed not to receive the funding so that it could be spent on supporting the vulnerable
- D. that consideration of payment of the staffing charge in respect of the library for April to June be deferred until July
- E. that a grant of £2,000 be made to St. Margarets Hospice and a further grant be considered in September – the Twinning Association to be informed that the funding which they had given up had been given to this organisation
- F. that a grant of £1,000 be made to Street Baptist Church to fund meals for the vulnerable to mid/end June
- G. that consideration of the grant of £3,335 requested by Crispin School in March to extend the mentor scheme be deferred probably until September for more information on what was now being done
- H. that the letter of thanks for the VE Day cream tea sent by residents be given to the Street Community Support Group and that they be publicly thanked for all their hard work at the Council meeting on 19th May.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

- A. that the grant of £9,800 should be paid to Mendip Citizens Advice Bureau and the organisation be informed that if it needed more funding the Council would be prepared to look at this
- B. that the grant of £18,000 be paid to Greenbank Swimming Pool Management Committee subject to the Council's representatives reporting on the viability of the facility to ensure that it was not likely to fold after the grant was made.

37. PROTOCOL FOR REMOTE MEETINGS AND ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

A. that the draft protocol for remote meetings be agreed and attached as an annex to Standing Orders

B. that the annual meeting should not be held in May and the holding of it be reviewed on 19th May and then at every other monthly meeting.

38. INSURANCE AND RISK ASSESSMENT

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated. Members gave careful consideration to insurance cover and risk assessment.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

that the fidelity guarantee should remain at the £1 million band and the report and levels of cover provided and updated risk assessments be agreed.

39. PERIODIC REPORTS AND INSPECTIONS

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated. Internal control checks for November on would be carried out by Councillors Carswell and Prior when current guidance allowed.

RESOLVED

that the report be approved and that Councillor P. Goater would check the accounts from November on using the online Bankline system as an additional internal control.

40. RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS JANUARY TO MARCH, 2020

The Clerk submitted reports which had been circulated. The detailed income and expenditure report by code at 31st March, 2020 appears as Annex A to these minutes in the Minute Book. Attention was drawn to significant variations between the budget set and expenditure/income.

The Chair thanked all 3 members of staff for organising remote meetings and all the other work which they were carrying out. The Clerk thanked her 2 assistants for excellent work, particularly in regard to IT matters.

RESOLVED

that the reports be noted and the Assistant Clerk and Projects Officer be instructed to investigate a 3 year rate for gas and electric at the Parish Rooms and electric for the clock in the High Street comparing standard rates with a green energy plan.

41. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended by the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 and the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority meetings) (England) Regulations 2020, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involved confidential staffing information.

42. PAYROLL SUMMARY 2019/20

The Clerk submitted a confidential report which had been circulated to members only.

RESOLVED

that the report be noted.

The meeting ended at 7.25 p.m.

Update report for Council meeting 19th May 2020 from Jenny Marshfield - Assistant Clerk.

High St Banners.

The Union banners were due to be put up w/c 4th May to coincide with the VE Day celebrations on 8th May. These would then be replaced w/c 11th May with the original Street banners, at an agreed cost for £1064 plus VAT

At a previous Zoom catch-up meeting, a costing query was raised that in light of the current circumstances, should the Parish Council be spending an extra £612 plus VAT on the Union banners, only to be replaced a week later with the Street banners?

It was agreed to put up the original Street banners only as they would, along with the hanging baskets and planters, enhance the High Street throughout the Spring and Summer months. The Street Banners will be in place w/c 11th May. Emprint will carry out the installation.

Hanging Baskets and Planters

W/c 18th May, Sweetacre Nursery will install 78 brightly coloured hanging baskets in the High Street and will also replant the 12 planters and horse trough. These will be watered and tended to daily by SLH Services.

I have been in contact with SLH Services they are equipped and prepared to commence the watering and tending to the baskets once in place.

Merriman Park and The Skate Park

During lock down, SLH Services have continued to monitor both parks and the usual park maintenance has been carried out, ensuring social distancing measures are being adhered to. Weekly risk assessments of the parks have been received. The following issues have been dealt with: -

Wire and tape flags had been placed around Merriman park by a member of the public highlighting dog mess. The flags and dog mess were removed. Cable ties, signs and tape had been removed from teenage play apparatus. All have now been replaced.

Two Separate groups were asked to leave the skate park having climbed in over a locked gate. The skate park is monitored when SLH are carrying out the daily maintenance within the park.

Grant Applications

The Parish Council have applied for the following grants to help the community during the Corona Virus outbreak, £5000 from Somerset Community Foundation and £7500 from Western Power Distribution. So far, we have been unsuccessful with the Somerset Community Foundation and still awaiting notification from Western Power. We are continuing to apply for grants weekly.

Council Meeting 19th May 2020 - Update on Planning Applications

Greenbank Pool Cycle Racks

A full planning application has been submitted to Mendip District Council to replace the existing weathered and damaged cycle racks at the front of Greenbank Pool, with 10 stainless steel tubular racks.

The application was validated by Mendip District Council on 30th April and a decision is expected by 25th June.

To date no comments have been recorded by Mendip or found on social media.

Full details of the planning application can be found on the Mendip District Council website at the following address:

<https://publicaccess.mendip.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=Q9ASDPKPLPE00>

Merriman Gardens War Memorial

A full planning application, along with listed building consent, has been submitted to Mendip District Council to relocate the war memorial from its existing location to a subtly raised area in the south-east corner of the park. The memorial will retain a prominent position within the park, whilst allowing for greater community use of the gardens.

The application was validated Mendip District Council on 28th April and a decision is expected by 23rd June.

To date the only comment recorded by Mendip is a consultee comment confirming that there are no objections to the planning application on archaeological grounds.

A number of comments have been made on social media objecting to the relocation due to the memorials locally historical significance. At the time of reporting, negative comments had been posted by 13 individuals to sites that have in excess of 15,000 members.

Full details of the planning application can be found on the Mendip District Council website at the following address:

<https://publicaccess.mendip.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=Q9GCFTKPLQ600>
<https://publicaccess.mendip.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=Q9GCFXKPLQ700>

ACPO

07/05/2020

