STREET PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Council held virtually using Zoom with remote

attendance on 16th February, 2021 at 7.07 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor A. Leafe (Chair of Council)

Councillors: P. Birch, R. Boyce, S. Carswell, M. Daniells, D. Drew, D. Goater, D. Knibbs, L. Mogg, T.W.E. Napper, A. Prior, H. Shearer, N. Smith and L. Wolfers

IN ATTENDANCE: L. Ruff – Clerk/RFO

M. Sandiford – Assistant Clerk Projects Officer

PCSO E. Cave – Street Beat Team

County Councillor Leyshon

K. Thick – candidate for casual vacancy

Dr. S. Temple

155. MINUTES

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 28th January, 2021 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.

156. MATTERS ARISING

No matters were raised.

157. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

In accordance with the Code of Conduct Councillors Carswell, 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 also declared an interest under Appendix B in any matters relating to the County Council and that he would keep an open mind.

Councillor Drew declared an other interest under Appendix B in the Library as she was a Friend of the Library and a representative on the

Community Library Partnership and Councillor Prior was a volunteer.

They did not leave the meeting as no significant decisions were made.

Councillor Napper declared an other interest under Append B in CCTV as he was the Council’s representative on the Mendip CCTV Users Group but did not leave the meeting as no significant decision was made.

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Councillors Boyce, Carswell, Daniells and Mogg declared an other interest under Appendix B in moving the war memorial within Merriman Park and did not leave the meeting as no significant decision was made – the Section 106 agreement had already been considered and decisions made to move forward with it.

158. MINDFUL EMOTION COACHING/ADVERSE

CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES

Dr. S. Temple gave a presentation on the impact of adverse childhood

experiences and her work with emotion coaching for 14 vulnerable

families in Yeovil and also for PFSAs, health workers and teaching

assistants. The implications on the long term physical and mental well

being of adults and especially children due to the pandemic were

concerning. Details of the work could be found at

[www.emotioncoaching.somerset.gov.uk](http://www.emotioncoaching.somerset.gov.uk)

Details of the presentation would be circulated to members. The

meeting was adjourned from 7.40 p.m. to 7.45 p.m. to allow a member

of the public to ask a question. It was agreed to consider this issue.

159. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER

PCSO Cave reported that the Beat Team were helping to support

people during the pandemic and to raise the morale of the community.

They carried out home visits for PFSAs to make sure children were

all right.

RESOLVED

that the report be noted and discussion on CCTV be taken at the end of

the meeting as a confidential item.

160. PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Committee meeting on 19th January were submitted

as circulated with the Mendip Local Plan Part II: Sites and Policies:

Consultation on Additional Main Modifications. Members were

reminded that there would be an extraordinary meeting on 2nd March to

consider the application for a petrol filling station and other facilities at

Oaklands Nursery site. Councillor Napper would not be attending as

he had a personal interest in the application. Consultation on a model

design code was noted.

RESOLVED

that the reports be noted.

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161. POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting on 2nd February 2021 which had been

circulated were submitted and appear as Annex A to these minutes in

the Minute Book. There would be an additional meeting on 23rd

February to receive presentations on Strode Theatre and a new rail

station in Somerton or Langport. Any contribution recommended for

the feasibility study on the rail station could be agreed by the Council

on 2nd or 16th March.

The Chair pointed out the experience and many roles which former

Councillor P. Goater had performed for the Council. Councillor Goater

had recently resigned and other members also paid tribute to him and

asked Councillor D. Goater to pass on the sentiments expressed.

RESOLVED

that the report and recommendations be agreed and consideration be

given at the meeting on 23rd February to appointing a replacement for

P. Goater to operate the Bankline system and be issued with a debit

card.

162. CASUAL VACANCY ON SOUTH WARD

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated. There was 1

candidate who was present. Councillor D. Goater proposed Katie

Thick for consideration and this was seconded by Councillor Carswell.

All members voted for the candidate.

RESOLVED

A. that Katie Thick be co opted to fill the vacant seat in the South Ward

for the current term of office to May 2023 and that she should sign the

declaration of acceptance of office at or before the next ordinary

meeting on 16th March

B. that Katie Thick be appointed to initially serve on the following

working groups - Culture, Christmas, Community Support and Street

Community Library Partnership.

163. HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP

The ACPO submitted a report which had been circulated. The initial

success of the bid to the County Council for £55,000 for the cycle path

extension should be known soon. Councillor Napper was pursuing the

need to repair the road where it had subsided at The Mead near the

roundabout.

RESOLVED

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A. that the report be agreed and the remaining Section 106 funding

be used to provide a new bike rack in a location agreed with cyclists

through a post on Facebook and possibly a survey

B. that the Group would consider having more posts for the speed

indicator devices and possibly buying another SID and funding for this.

164. STREET COMMUNITY LIBRARY PARTNERSHIP

Notes of the meeting on 28th January as circulated were submitted. A

verbal report was made of a meeting on 11th February with the library

staff. The Chair, Clerk and other members gave thanks to former

Councillor P. Goater for the massive amount of work he had put into

the project at the Parish Rooms.

RESOLVED

that the reports be agreed and approval given to the re-opening of the

Library from 1st March for 4 hour periods detailed by the Library Service

with no need at present for volunteers subject to Covid rates.

165. CHAIR’S REPORT

Councillor Leafe had emailed his report to councillors.

166. PARISH PATH LIAISON OFFICER

County Councillor Leyshon had not seen the PPLO but would make contact with him.

167. BUSINESS ACTION GROUP

Councillor Prior reported that the Group would meet on a regular basis

and agree a plan of action. The ACPO reported that the survey on

broadband provision was on the website and Facebook and could be

publicised more widely. People would be made aware of the

Truespeed option and that they sign up as having an interest in this.

Councillor Drew asked if anything was happening regarding the former

Tesco building which had been vacant for a number of years.

Councillor Napper asked for an update on the alternative site for the

social housing proposed at the cemetery extension and Cranhill Road

car park. Councillor Leyshon reported that this was being investigated

by the District Council but was complicated. Access to the site was not

simple and all developments in 2021 were likely to be on hold while a

solution was found to the phosphates issue.

RESOLVED

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A. that the report be agreed and the owners of the former Tesco site

be pushed to improve/develop it with the help of the District Council

and the local MP

B. that Councillor Leyshon would find out if information was available

on the chemical tests carried out at Cranhill Road car park.

168. MENDIP STRATEGIC TOURISM FORUM

The ACPO reported on current initiatives including that the District

Council had secured £450,000 Active Travel funding for various

schemes. The District Council was offering free silver membership for

21 businesses in each town on the Visit Somerset website. There

would be a Visit Street section with text and images provided by the

Parish Council. Training would be given so that councils could manage

the site themselves. Councillor Carswell reported on a Walkers

Welcome app used by Frome Town Council and a Fiver Fest where

businesses offered £5 or 5% off for a week.

RESOLVED

that the ACPO in consultation with the Business Action Group be given

delegated authority to circulate a letter inviting businesses to take up

the Visit Somerset membership including the Mullions, Wessex Hotel,

Strode Theatre, Greenbank Pool and independents and to agree text

and images for the Street section.

169. CHAIR UPDATES

No reports were made.

170. CORRESPONDENCE/MINOR MATTERS

The Clerk had submitted a report which had been circulated.

RESOLVED

A. that the report be agreed, the Data Protection Policy be approved

and it be agreed that the Council does not need to appoint a Data

Protection Officer as it is not handling high volumes of personal data

and, that in the event of a data security breach, the services of

Winckworth Sherwood be engaged to assist as necessary

B. that in accordance with Standing Order 22 a authority be given to

execute the Section 106 agreement as circulated for the relocation of

the war memorial within Merriman Park – this to be signed by the Chair

and Vice Chair or any 2 councillors and witnessed by the Clerk as the

Proper Officer.

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171. REPORT FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Shearer reported that she would share a report setting out

what the District Council was doing and that the Police and Crime Panel had vetoed the proposed precept increase and was to consider a new reduced proposal.

Councillor Napper reported that around 750 County Council employees

had been deployed to work on Covid measures and so some services

were very depleted. Councillor Carswell reported that the Economic

Development Team were dealing with grants for businesses. Staff were also working at the Bath and West vaccination centre and some other work was not being done as a result. Councillor Leyshon gave

details of the many work days lost by Somerset Waste Partnership due

to illness and the need to self isolate. There would also be elections to

organise in May and the Census to assist with in March.

172. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The latest bank reconciliations for all accounts at 31st January, 2021

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 January, schedule of earmarked reserves

and a consolidated summary.

RESOLVED

that the report and schedule of payments as circulated be approved

and initialled by the Chair and the income and expenditure by account

report at 31st January, 2021 be noted and the schedule of receipts

and payments for February be attached as Annex B to the minutes in

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

173. MATTERS FOR REPORT

The Clerk reported that the Annual Parish Meeting was normally held

between 1st March and 1st June and could not be a remote meeting. It

would not be held in March and a decision was awaited on whether the

current regulations on holding remote meetings would be extended

beyond 7th May. Members were happy for the Merriman Park Group to

do a presentation on the Park in March and to discuss the bandstand.

174. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

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

1960 as amended by the Openness of Local Government Bodies

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

for the following items as they involved confidential staffing and CCTV

monitoring information.

175. PENSION TRANSFER

The Clerk submitted a confidential report which had been circulated

to members only.

RESOLVED

that M. Sandiford be permitted to transfer his previous benefits into

the Council’s LGPS scheme.

176. CCTV

A confidential discussion took place on CCTV monitoring in Mendip.

RESOLVED

that a confidential meeting be arranged between representatives of

the Police, District Council and Town Councils to consider options and

decide the best way forward in respect of CCTV and, Landsec be

approached about the possible linking into their system.

The meeting ended at 9.30 p.m.

Councillor Wolfers left at 8.13 p.m.

Councillor Knibbs left at 8.18 p.m.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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