STREET PARISH COUNCIL

Extraordinary meeting of the Council held virtually using Zoom with

remote attendance on 12th January, 2021 at 7.16 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor A. Leafe (Chair of Council)

Councillors: P. Birch, S. Carswell, M. Daniells,

D. Drew, P. Goater, D. Knibbs, L. Mogg,

A. Prior, H. Shearer, N. Smith and L. Wolfers

IN ATTENDANCE: L. Ruff – Clerk/RFO

M. Sandiford – Assistant Clerk Projects Officer

R. Clark and S. Todd – Greenbank Pool Trust

APOLOGIES: Councillors R. Boyce – working, D. Goater –

Illness, T.W.E. Napper – at another meeting –

reasons accepted

County Councillor Leyshon – at another meeting

127. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th December, 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.

128. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

In accordance with the Code of Conduct Councillors Carswell, P. Goater 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 Smith explained that although she had attended a recent

meeting with the Pool Trust she had not been officially appointed as a

representative of the Council, was new to the Council and would keep an open mind.

Councillors Birch and Prior declared an other interest under Appendix B in the grant to Greenbank Pool as they were representatives of the Council on the Management Committee. After making representations

they left the meeting from 8.29 p.m. to 8.45 p.m. Councillor Wolfers explained that she had recently stepped down as a representative on the Committee and had not attended any meetings for a year. The Chair explained that he was no longer a representative on the Committee and had not attended any meetings for a year.

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Councillor Mogg declared a personal interest in Greenbank Pool as a family member worked there and left the meeting from 8.29 p.m. to 8.45 p.m. after making representations.

129. GRANT TO GREENBANK POOL AND

PRECEPT AND ESTIMATES FOR 2021/2022

A report from the Clerk and a grant request from the Pool Trust had

been circulated together with supporting papers and proposed

estimates and earmarked reserves for 2021/22.

S. Todd explained that the Trust had been considering the pricing

structure and had carried out a survey with season ticket holders. It

would of course be necessary to keep to current Covid guidance. Over

30 volunteers had offered to help with the Pool. The meeting was

adjourned from 7.23 p.m. to 7.27 p.m. to allow the public to speak. R.

Clark explained that at the end of 2020 the Endowment Fund had

reduced to £374,000 and if the Pool opened in 2021 an estimated loss

of £110,000 would eat into reserves further. S. Todd reported that

maintenance costs in the last 2 years had been high largely due to

replacement of the boilers. The pipework needed to be replaced in

2021 but allowance for this cost had been made in the budget.

In view of the current dire situation with the new Covid variant a

number of members felt that the Pool should be mothballed in 2021 to

keep people safe and noted that the cost of this was around £100,000.

S. Todd reported that the new website would have a GoFundMe page

and that in the future grants would be sought from other councils and

sources and opportunities discussed with the Business Action Group.

In answer to a query she stated that there was every intention of

retaining the Pool in the future and that it was really important for the

local people, businesses and tourism of Street.

A number of members were cautious about increasing the precept by

more than a small percentage in view of the affect on low income and

vulnerable people and felt that income for the Pool should be obtained

from other sources in addition to the Council. Councillor Daniells felt it

would be difficult to justify giving a grant of £75,000 to an organisation

which had £300,000 in an active account.

Councillor Daniells proposed that a grant of £25,000 be made in 2021

for the Pool to be mothballed with the following conditions and this was

seconded by Councillor Smith -

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* + a grant writer is consulted to identify potential grants
  + a comprehensive business overview of new income streams to support and sustain Greenbank for the future
  + to create a clear fundraising strategy involving all members of the community who want to be involved
  + monthly Greenbank/Parish Council meetings throughout the year of mothballing to plan for an amazing 2022 reopening
  + keeping cash and card payments and season tickets.

The Chair requested that the way in which members voted be

recorded in the minutes. Councillor Carswell then proposed an

amendment to the motion to make a grant of £40,000 rather than

£25,000 and this was seconded by Councillor Shearer. The voting

was as follows -

Members Voting For Amendment Members Voting Against

Amendment

Cllr. Carswell Cllr. Daniells

Cllr. Drew Cllr. P. Goater

Cllr. Shearer Cllr. Knibbs

Cllr. Leafe

Cllr. Smith

Cllr. Wolfers

The amendment was lost by 6 votes to 3 votes. Voting on the original

motion was then -

Members Voting For Motion Members Voting Against Motion

Cllr. Daniells Cllr. Carswell

Cllr. Leafe Cllr. Drew

Cllr. Smith Cllr. P. Goater

Cllr. Wolfers Cllr. Knibbs

Cllr. Shearer

The motion was lost by 5 votes to 4 votes. Councillor Goater proposed

that a grant of £40,000 be made in 2021 for the Pool to be mothballed

with the Trust and Council working closely together and this was

seconded by Councillor Drew. The voting was as follows -

Members Voting For Motion Members Voting Against Motion

Cllr. Carswell Cllr. Daniells

Cllr. Drew Cllr. Knibbs

Cllr. P. Goater Cllr. Leafe

Cllr. Shearer Cllr. Smith

Cllr. Wolfers

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The motion was lost by 5 votes to 4 votes. Councillor Knibbs proposed

that a grant of £32,000 be made in 2021 for the Pool to be mothballed

with the Trust and Council working closely together and this was

seconded by Councillor Shearer. The voting was as follows -

Members Voting For Motion Members Voting Against Motion

Cllr. Carswell Cllr. Daniells

Cllr. Drew Cllr. Leafe

Cllr. P. Goater Cllr. Smith

Cllr. Knibbs Cllr. Wolfers

Cllr. Shearer

The motion was passed by 5 votes to 4 votes.

130. PRECEPT AND ESTIMATES FOR 2021/2022

Consideration was given to the precept and estimates for 2021/22 with

the reports discussed in November and the grant to Greenbank Pool

agreed at £32,000.

Councillor Shearer proposed that the precept on Mendip District

Council for 2021/22 be in the sum of £485,500 – an increase of 5% on

a Band D property or £6.01 (50p a month) and this was seconded by

Councillor Carswell. It was agreed that the way in which members

voted on this be recorded in the minutes and the voting was -

Members Voting For Motion Members Voting Against Motion

Cllr. Carswell Cllr. Birch

Cllr. P. Goater Cllr. Daniells

Cllr. Shearer Cllr. Drew

Cllr. Knibbs

Cllr. Leafe

Cllr. Prior

Cllr. Smith

Cllr. Mogg abstained from voting and Cllr. Wolfers had left the meeting.

The motion was lost by 7 votes to 3 votes.

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Councillor Leafe proposed that the precept on Mendip District Council

for 2021/22 be in the sum of £471,500 – an increase of 1.9% on a

Band D property or £2.33 (19p a month) and this was seconded by

Councillor Knibbs. Voting was as follows -

Members Voting For Motion Members Voting Against Motion

Cllr. Birch Cllr. Carswell

Cllr. Daniells Cllr. P. Goater

Cllr. Drew Cllr. Shearer

Cllr. Knibbs

Cllr. Leafe

Cllr. Prior

Cllr. Smith

Cllr. Mogg abstained from voting and Cllr. Wolfers had left the meeting.

The motion was passed by 7 votes to 3 votes.

Consideration was then given to the estimates, earmarked reserves

and other matters discussed in November.

RESOLVED

A. that the Estimates for 2021/22 be agreed as attached as Annex A

to the minutes in the Minute Book and the additional £14,000 agreed

to give a grant to Greenbank Pool of £32,000 be taken from the

Contingency Fund

B. that the information for the council tax section of the District

Council’s website and leaflet be as attached as Annex B to the minutes

in the Minute Book

C. that the general revenue reserves be set at £188,276 for 2021/22

to maintain current assets such as Street Skate Park, the Parish

Rooms and Merriman Park and fund new projects or services as they

arise

D. that the earmarked reserves at 31st March 2022 as circulated be

agreed.

The meeting ended at 9.06 p.m.

Councillor Wolfers left at 8.50 p.m.

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

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ANNEX A

STREET PARISH COUNCIL - ESTIMATES 2021/2022

1. ADMINISTRATION

**STAFFING**

Net Salary Clerk )

PAYE/NI/Pension )

Assistant Clerk ) 109,642

PAYE/NI/Pension )

Assistant Clerk and Projects Officer )

PAYE/NI/Pension )

**GENERAL**

Payroll Costs 416

Telephone/Broadband 3,800

Insurance 2,550

SALC/SLCC/Com. Council subscriptions 2,821

Audit 1,632

Print/Post/Stationery 2,000

Binding Council Minutes 145

Advertising and Publicity 204

Room Hire 200

Computer Aid/RBS/Data Protection 3,468

Travel and Subsistance 400

Training – Staff/Members 1,000

Furniture/Equipment/Improvements 2,000

Chair’s Allowance 750

**SPC BUILDING**

Rates 10,650

Electric/Gas 3,000

Water/Sewerage 380

Waste Collection 1,736

Janitorial 3,376

Maintenance/Renovations 3,000

Legal/Professional 400

LOAN 1 SPC BUILDING REPAYMENTS 22,222

LOAN 2 SPC BUILDING REPAYMENTS 7,985

CONTINGENCY FUND 29,500

**TOTAL 213,277**

2. GRANTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

GENERAL GRANTS 25,000

**OTHER GRANTS**

Mendip Citizens Advice Bureau 10,000

Twinning Association 1,000

Crispin Community Focus 10,000

Strode Theatre 20,000

Library - Staffing 30,100

GREENBANK SWIMMING POOL 32,000

COMMUNITY SAFETY 1,000

**TOTAL 129,100**

3. COMMUNITY

CCTV MONITORING 9,475

HIGH STREET ENHANCEMENT 15,800

LITTER AND DOG BINS 2,000

HIGHWAYS 2,500

ISSUES FOR STREET – YOUTH, VULNERABLE 55,000

STRODE ROAD ALLOTMENTS 860

CYCLEWAY EXTENSION 100,000

**TOTAL 185,635**

4. STREET SKATE PARK **9,000**

5. MERRIMAN PARK **32,000**

6. EVENTS

Chair’s Investiture/Awards 1,200

Christmas Event/Lights/Party 11,000

Merriman Park Fun Day 6,000

Remembrance/Other 3,000

**TOTAL 21,200**

**TOTAL GROSS PAYMENTS 590,212**

ANNEX B

INFORMATION FOR COUNCIL TAX LEAFLET

The following information to appear on the District Council leaflet/website -

Expenditure 2020/21 2021/22

Administration/CCTV/Events £191,940 £189,203

Grants £ 78,500 £ 96,100

Greenbank Swimming Pool £ 18,000 £ 32,000

Skate Park/Merriman Park £ 39,314 £ 41,000

Parish Rooms incl. loans/Community/High Street £336,624 £130,909

Community Safety/Cycle Path/Neighbhood Plan £ 3,000 £101,000

Gross Expenditure £667,378 £590,212

Less: Income £ 53,500 £117,700

Reserves £153,878 £ 1,012

Precept £460,000 £471,500