

Mrs L. A. Ruff
Clerk of the Council
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20th April 2022 PLEASE NOTE DATE TIME VENUE

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are summoned to attend the extraordinary meeting of the Street Parish Council which will be held in **Room 6, Crispin Community Centre, Leigh Road, Street** on **TUESDAY, 26th APRIL, 2022** for the purpose of transacting the business specified in the following agenda. In accordance with Standing Order 1 t a councillor shall speak only in relation to the motion under discussion and shall not exceed 3 minutes without the consent of the Chair (excluding motions moved under 1 r).

Public Question Time will commence at **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. The Council meeting will commence at approximately **6 p.m.** or as soon as Public Question Time is closed by the Chair. Numbers may be restricted in accordance with Covid guidance at the time. All attendees except children under 16 years may be required to check in by scanning the NHS QR code poster or providing their name and number. Current rules must be adhered to including, if relevant, social distancing, wearing a mask and hand sanitizing. Anyone experiencing Covid symptoms must not attend. It may be necessary to invite people in to the meeting in several sessions to keep within permitted numbers. Alternatively residents are encouraged to make written representations on issues rather than attending in person – contact details above.

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 12th April 2022 (attached) **Pages 3 – 8**

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. GREENBANK POOL – GRANT FOR 2022/23

To receive the report of the Clerk (attached) **Pages 9 - 10**

 6. REPAIRS AT STREET SKATE PARK

To receive the report of the Clerk (attached) **Page 11**

 7. 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

A meeting of the Council held in Room 6, Crispin Community Centre on 12th April 2022 at 7.25 p.m.

- PRESENT: Councillor L. Wolfers (Chair of Council)
Councillors: P. Birch, D. Drew, D. Goater, P. Goater, J. Howard, D. Knibbs, A. Leafe, T.W.E. Napper, A. Prior, H. Shearer, N. Smith and A. Sparkes
- IN ATTENDANCE: L. Ruff – Clerk/RFO
PC M. Pople – Street Beat Team
County and District Councillor L. Leyshon
- APOLOGIES Councillors: R. Boyce, S. Carswell and M. Daniells – another engagement – reasons accepted.

259. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th March 2022 which had been circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair and the following was ratified -

Minute No. 247 – second sentence to be altered to read ‘It was noted that a 1 year Extension with Blachere had been recommended for the Christmas illuminations for the High Street and Parish Rooms and this was agreed.’

Minute No. 258 – replacement of Councillor Napper with Councillor Knibbs on the Victoria Field Charity Committee.

260. MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Napper referred to the notes of public question time on 15th March and was unhappy that the College would not provide a venue for the fair as previously discussed to come to Street in May. It was agreed to ask the College again to assist the community by allowing the fair to use the overflow car park for the proposed week in May when most students would have left and it would be empty.

261. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

In accordance with the Code of Conduct Councillors 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 County or Parish level. He also declared an other interest under Appendix B in Street Football Club.

Councillor Howard declared an other interest under Appendix B in any matters relating to the Crispin Hall as she was a trustee.

Councillor Drew declared an interest in any matters relating to the Street Library as she was a member of the Friends of Street Library.

Councillor Wolfers declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in any matters relating to Street Chamber of Commerce as she worked freelance for it.

262. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER

PC Pople gave his report and informed members that another fire had been lit at the Skate Park that day causing more damage to the concrete surfacing.

It was agreed to leave replacing the damaged ramp until steel fencing replaced the wood fence at McDonalds and to look at solutions to deal with anti social behaviour. PC Pople agreed that CCTV surveillance was not the perfect solution.

There was speeding all around Street. Councillor Shearer had arranged for the Walton Community Speed Watch to contact Councillors Smith and Sparkes.

PC Pople would monitor parking on the corners of Harvester Drive and that area and Councillor Napper would try to get the zig zag lines there repainted.

263. PLANNING COMMITTEE

The notes of the informal meeting on 16th January, 2022 were submitted as circulated.

RESOLVED

that the report be agreed.

264. INTERNAL AUDIT AND SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated. Details of the independence of Probusiness Ltd. from the Council, it's skills and experience in internal audit and that the payroll function was completely separate to the internal audit function were contained in the report.

RESOLVED

A. that the report be agreed including the terms of reference for the Internal Auditor

B. that Probusiness Ltd. be engaged to carry out the internal audit for the years Ended 31st March 2023 and 2024 for a maximum fee of £625 + VAT and to carry out the payroll function and file the annual PAYE return online for a fee of around £34 + VAT per month for 3 employees or more to 31st March 2024 – the payroll fee would rise if there was a change in statutory requirements

C. that the Council did not consider that any events had occurred during the financial year or after the year end which had or could have consequences on it's finances.

265. TASK AND FINISH GROUP – SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE

The Clerk reported on the matter as set out in the agenda.

RESOLVED

that a meeting date is agreed at the annual Council meeting on 17th May for the Policy and Finance Committee to consider the grant applications and make final recommendations to Council.

266. FIRE SAFETY AT PARISH ROOMS

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated.

RESOLVED

that the report be agreed.

267. NEW TREES FOR MERRIMAN PARK

The report of the Assistant Clerk was submitted as circulated. Councillor Napper to send details of trees which had died at Middle Brooks and of the green area at Blenheim Road where more could be planted. The District Council had a plan for tree planting which might include these sites. Councillor Drew hoped that there could be a scheme as in other places where families could gift a tree and/or maintenance of it in memory of a loved one.

RESOLVED

that the Park designer be asked to provide a plan diagram showing existing trees, where new trees could surround the war memorial without being too close to it to affect the roots and keeping the wide grass space as this was the reason for moving the memorial and the type of new trees to be planted.

268. BUSINESS ACTION GROUP

Councillor Prior reported that the contact at Truespeed had left the company.

269. REPORT FROM CHAIR

The Chair offered to organise the Chair's Investiture with awards although it had been agreed in February not to hold the event. Most members and the Clerk felt that due to staff shortage and timescales it was not possible to have the event for some months. The Chair and Councillor Smith were willing to organise an event if one other member would join with them. The Clerk would report at the annual meeting on the consequences of the loss of the general power of competence as at least two thirds of councillors would not have stood for election.

It was agreed to organise an official unveiling of the new murals on the Library Garden wall at 11 a.m. on Saturday 14th May and to have a microphone for the Chair and artist to make speeches, send out invitations to the community, Mendip District Council and press. Leaflets to be given out on the day explaining all about the project and information and photos to be uploaded to the website.

The Chair had arranged for a person that she knew to provide a new backing for the Chair's chain of office with an attachment at the back for badges of the names of previous Chairs. These could be gradually added on to spread the cost. It was agreed to thank the person for this work and to add details of the past Chairs to the website.

Members were invited to the Parish Rooms from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on 28th April for coffee and cakes to say farewell to the Assistant Clerk, Jenny Marshfield who was retiring. Members were also arranging an evening meal.

The Council wished to record a huge message of thanks and deep gratitude to Jenny Marshfield for all her marvellous work with the Council over more than 6 years.

270. PARISH PATH LIAISON OFFICER

County and District Councillor Leyshon was not present so there was no report.

271. MENDIP STRATEGIC TOURISM GROUP

No report was made.

272. CORRESPONDENCE/MINOR MATTERS

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated.

1. List Entry Amended – Street War Memorial in Merriman Park

RESOLVED

that the amendment of List Entry No. 1455731 by Historic England to the new location of the war memorial within Merriman Park be noted and that this was shown on the accompanying plans as a small blue dot.

2. Changes to Crossing at Farm Road

RESOLVED

that all options be explored through consultation with the College, Crispin School, Youth Club etc. on the preferred way/s to show support for all sections of the community including LGBTQ+.

273. STAFFING MATTERS

The confidential report of the Clerk was submitted as circulated to members only. The Clerk left the meeting for this item. Councillor Shearer reported on the recent appointment of the new Deputy Clerk/RFO and on recruitment of an Assistant Clerk.

RESOLVED

that the report be agreed with annual leave and time off in lieu due to the Assistant Clerk and annual leave for 2021/22 due to the Clerk being paid to them.

274. REPORT FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

The Clerk read out the report of County and District Councillor Leyshon.

Councillor Shearer reported that 2 NHS Trusts would be merging and the District Council was appointing an officer to deal with anti social behaviour.

Councillor Drew was informed that the first floor of the Parish Rooms could be used by the Friends of the Library for children's activities on a Saturday.

275. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The latest bank reconciliations for all accounts at 31st March 2022 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 March, 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 March 2022 be noted and the schedule of receipts and payments for March be attached as Annex A to the minutes in the Minute Book in order to publish payments of £500 or more.

276. MATTERS FOR REPORT

The Clerk reported on a request from Somerset Archives and Local Studies Service for a snapshot of the parish in the Platinum Jubilee Year. It was agreed that information on the new murals etc. be submitted together with an idea from Councillor Drew.

The Chair reminded members of the Code of Conduct and the need to act in a proper manner at meetings.

Councillor Smith asked how much it cost to open the Library each day and the Clerk explained that it was difficult to quantify this eg. as energy was provided for other users of the building including Council staff. The offices and Library were running very well together and discussions were ongoing regarding the eventual move back of the Library to the 1924 building.

The meeting ended at 9.15 p.m.

Councillor Birch left at 8.10 p.m.

To: Council
From: Clerk
Subject: Greenbank Pool – Grant for 2022/23

The recommendation of the Policy and Finance Committee of 8th February was agreed by the Council on 15th February except that there was not to be a joint press release from the Council and Pool Trustees and this Minute is attached for information.

The meeting has been called to consider payment of the first grant of £10,000. The original proposal was to open on Saturday 30th April but due to difficulties in finding and training lifeguards and other staff the Pool Trust is now proposing to open 3 weeks later on Saturday 21st May. Due to this shorter opening period season tickets will be reduced eg. for a family of 4 a reduction to £220 for Street residents only until 20th May.

The Council reserved the right not to pay the grant if dates changed and members are asked to consider the best course of action.

L.A. Ruff
Clerk/RFO
26.04.22

The Clerk submitted a report and associated accounts and papers circulated to members. County and District Councillor Leyshon reported on the meeting with the Council Chair, Councillor Wolfers and Richard Clark of the Pool Trust. The Pool would open from the first May Bank Holiday weekend, there would be season tickets and it was hoped that Fusion or Millfield would assist with training of lifeguards. T. Rice was involved in setting up a Friends of the Pool. It was suggested that a conditional grant was made and that consideration was given to ensuring that vulnerable families could access the facility. It had been suggested that the Trust apply for funding from Glastonbury Town Council.

RESOLVED

that the Chair of Council and County and District Councillor Leyshon would report back on why the Pool charity declaration stated that the 3 Council representatives were involved in the day to day running of the Pool – this was not appropriate and needed to be clarified or removed.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

that a grant of £30,000 be made in 2022/23 to Greenbank Pool Charitable Incorporated Organisation subject to the following conditions -

Communication – that a joint press release from the Council and Trustees be issued after the full Council meeting on 15th February giving the opening date and hours

Payment of Grant – 3 payments of £10,000 with the first when the Pool is fully open to the public on the Saturday of the first May Bank Holiday weekend, the second on 13th July and the third when the season was completed on the second Saturday in September although the end of September would be preferred – the Trustees could explain why dates may change but the Council would reserve the right not to pay

Opening Dates and Times – the Pool to be fully open to the public by the early May Bank Holiday weekend at the latest and remain open to at least the second Saturday in September. Opening hours to remain as previous years (pre Covid) and to add 2 early morning sessions for lane swimming. All regular opening hours to remain family swimming (not lanes).

Tickets – season tickets to be offered as in 2019 with a greater reduction in the price of family season tickets for Street residents using the additional funding from the Council. To consider another season ticket at a higher price to include early morning sessions. Cash to remain a payment option at the turnstile and shop.

Future Developments – the Trustees of the CIO to support the formation of a Friends of Greenbank Pool with T. Rice as Chair, offering a voice for the users of the Pool, to encourage more volunteering and to develop fundraising opportunities. The Trustees to work with the Council and the Friends on sustainability plans for 2023 onwards.

Management and Governance – to revisit the name of the Management Committee reflecting that it is an advisory committee and agree terms of reference

To: Council
From: Clerk/RFO
Subject: Repairs at Street Skate Park

On 12th April the Council agreed to leave replacing the fire damaged section of ramp at the Skate Park until the wood fencing at MacDonalds had been replaced with steel fencing and to look at solutions to deal with the anti social behaviour. PC Pople had reported that a further fire had been lit at the Skate Park that day causing further damage. He agreed that CCTV was not a perfect solution.

Having considered the matter it is now suggested that the repairs are carried out as already agreed and the Skate Park is re-opened and wide publicity given asking young users and others to help in monitoring the facility and reporting any further problems as soon as possible to the Police.

L.A. Ruff
Clerk/RFO
26.04.22