STREET PARISH COUNCIL

An extraordinary meeting of the Council held in Room 6, Crispin Community Centre on 26th April 2022 at 6 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor L. Wolfers (Chair of Council)

Councillors: P. Birch, M. Daniells, D. Goater, P. Goater,

A. Leafe, T.W.E. Napper, H. Shearer, N. Smith and A. Sparkes

IN ATTENDANCE: L. Ruff – Clerk/RFO

County and District Councillor L. Leyshon

R. Clark – Greenbank Pool Trust

APOLOGIES Councillors: R. Boyce, S. Carswell, D. Drew, J. Howard,

D. Knibbs, A. Prior – another engagement – reasons

accepted.

277. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th April 2022 which had been circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to County and District

Councillor Leyshon being shown as having given apologies rather than being present.

Councillor Napper read out a statement concerning a long standing personal matter

between himself and a former member and an accusation made against him by a

current member at the meeting on 12th April but not heard by all present.

The Clerk had taken advice from SALC and she and Councillor Shearer, who sat on the

Standards Board, informed members that the matter between Councillor Napper and

a former member was a personal matter to be addressed under the judicial system.

The incident on 12th April was being investigated by the District Council Monitoring

Officer as this was the correct process for a possible breach of the Code of Conduct.

In accordance with advice received from the District Council only very brief details

were contained in the minutes and it was agreed that a confidential note on

proceedings be kept at the office, including the statement read out by Councillor

Napper.

278. 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.

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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.

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

279. GREENBANK POOL – GRANT FOR 2022/23

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated. Members discussed

whether the first £10,000 grant should be paid in part or full as the Pool was to

open on 21st May rather than 30th April. The Pool Trust had explained that it had

been difficult to find and train lifeguards and other staff. Members felt that it was

important to make changes to improve the general and energy sustainability of the

Pool. Grant assistance had only been requested from the Parish Council and with the

cost of a season ticket for a family of four increasing from £160 to £260, without any

discount, it was felt that this was unfair on residents. The ticket prices were felt to be

unaffordable for a lot of people. A number of councillors who had served on the Pool

Management Committee had put forward suggestions to generate income over

several years and disappointment was expressed that no changes had been made. It

was felt by some members that the Trust had not engaged with local people including

replying to their emails and that therefore a Friends of the Pool would not work.

It was agreed that there should be a clear communication to the public explaining

what the Council was doing, why and where responsibilities rested.

RESOLVED

A. that the Council should not grant the first £10,000, look at potential things in the

future – the next 2 payments be made if the conditions had been met but if not

there should be no discussion and they should not be paid

B. that at the first meeting of the Policy and Finance Committee after the annual

meeting of the Council there should be discussion on environmental and funding

sustainability for the Pool for the future and this also be looked at for all grants.

280. REPAIRS AT STREET SKATE PARK

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated. She had visited the site

that morning with a representative of D.B. Gibbons and SLH Services.

RESOLVED

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that the repairs to the concrete surfacing already agreed be carried out as soon as

the remaining wooden fence framework at MacDonalds had been removed – the

Clerk to liaise with the Police Beat Team to ensure that the 2 days when the work

was being carried out were included in the patrol plan – the hedge be lowered

further if possible.

281. MATTERS FOR REPORT

The Clerk raised several minor but urgent issues and the following was agreed -

A. no objection be made to the road closure at The Whithys on 4th June for a

Jubilee street party

B. that the Somerset flag be flown at the Parish Rooms for Somerset Day and then

the union jack for the Jubilee celebrations

C. that the cost of fixing the murals to the Library Garden wall might be more than

originally quoted as the artist and the contractors were still deciding the best and

most secure way to fix them

D. that a link to Virgin Media be added to the website and the issue of Jurassic now

starting to install networks in Street be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 7 p.m.

Councillor Leafe arrived at 6.10 p.m.

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

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