

STREET PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Council held in Room 6, Crispin Community Centre on
28th September 2022 at 7.10pm

- PRESENT: Councillor L. Wolfers (Chair of Council)
Councillors: S. Carswell, D. Goater, P. Goater, N.Kellett,
B. Knickerbocker, A. Leafe, B. Reina, H. Shearer, N.Smith,
A.Sparkes and N. Swift
- IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk: L. Ruff
Deputy Clerk: Z. Leach
Assistant Clerk: D. Price
County and District Councillor L. Leyshon
PC Pople
Climate Emergency & Resilience Officer Glastonbury Town
Council
- APOLOGIES Councillors: P.Birch, J.Howard, N.Howiantz, T.Napper – another
engagement - reasons accepted.

77. MINUTES

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 16th August 2022 which had been
circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

78. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk requested that Councillors send apologies if they are unable to attend
meetings.

79. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

In accordance with the Code of Conduct Councillors P.Goater, Carswell, 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.

Councillors Carswell and Shearer declared an other interest under Appendix B in any
matters relating to the County Council and stated that they 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 and Glastonbury Chamber of Commerce as she worked freelance for them.

Councillor Sparkes declared an other interest under Appendix B in any matters relating to the Victoria Club as he is a Trustee.

Councillors P. Goater, D. Goater and H. Shearer declared an other interest under Appendix B in any matters relating to Houndwood Community Group as they were members of the group.

80. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER

PC Pople gave a verbal report and provided an update on hotspot locations for the last three months. There had been 7 calls to the High Street, 7 from YMCA, 5 for West End, 5 for Clarks Village and 4 for Greenbank. This is a low number of calls. PC Pople will provide an update again next month. He urged the public to report anything criminal or dangerous that they see.

PC Pople fed back from the 'Meet the Team meeting' of 24th August and was pleased that the markings on Elmhurst Lane had been repainted and the large dip at the entrance to Glaston Road had been repaired. PC Pople thanked Councillor P.Goater and the graffiti clean up team for the great work that they have been doing around Street.

A Councillor raised a concern about the speeding throughout the 20mph zones. PC Pople suggested that Highways could be contacted and a request made for speed bumps/chicanes. PC Pople is a big fan of community speed watch.

Councillors were reminded that the next Meet the Team meeting would be held on 2 November at 7 pm at the YMCA and the next Neighbourhood Watch meeting would be held on 14 December. PC Pople advised that a new Inspector, Matthew Reed, had been appointed and hopes will stay here for the foreseeable future.

PC Pople requested that any questions are forwarded to him at mark.pople@avonandsomerset.police.uk.

81. CLIMATE CHANGE

The Climate, Emergency & Resilience Officer at Glastonbury Town Council gave a presentation on resilience and climate. The areas of work of Glastonbury Town Council in addressing the climate and ecological emergency and decisions and challenges that still need to be addressed were shared. The crucial role Councillors play in educating, influencing, and supporting the community were outlined.

A Councillor commented on the need for the Council to prioritise one or two key areas of focus. It was also acknowledged how community resilience can lead to a reduction in crime.

82. PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 16 August 2022 were circulated with the agenda.

RESOLVED

that the report be noted.

83 POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting of 6th September and notes of the informal session were circulated with the agenda and appear as Annex A to the minutes in the Minute Book.

The Policy and Finance Committee, under delegated power, awarded grants under the value of £2,000 as detailed in the minutes. The committee made recommendations to the Council for decision on grant applications over £2,000; the Council considered these, together with the grant application from Houndwood Community Group and a further application from Crispin Hall Trust for help towards the provision of a soup kitchen. Cllr P.Goater gave a brief presentation on the Houndwood Community Group application prior to leaving the meeting together with Cllrs.D. Goater and H.Shearer who were also members of Houndwood Community Group.

RESOLVED

- A that the Principal of Strode College and Manager of Strode Theatre are asked to make a presentation to the Council on their 2023/24 annual grant application of £20,000 to support Strode Theatre in its ongoing recovery from the pandemic.
- B that the grant to Strode College Sports Centre is deferred until the Council has heard from the Principal of Strode College at the October Council meeting and the Officers have mapped out the school holiday activities and free food provision already on offer in Street. Officers will contact the Sports Development Manager to seek clarification on whether SASP or similar funding had been applied for in relation to the bursary places for children in street accessing free school meals.
- C that the grant application from Elmhurst School Association is declined as the Council is constrained by budget and feels other causes are better suited.
- D that Houndwood Community Group is awarded a grant of £600 to cover the running costs of the organisation.

- E that Citizens Advice Mendip are requested to make a presentation to the Council in support of their 2023/24 annual grant application of £10,000 which has been agreed. The Council seeks further information on how the grant would be spent. A detailed paper could be sent in advance for circulation to Councillors prior to a Q&A session at a full Council meeting.
- F that Crispin Community Focus are awarded an annual grant for 2023/24 of £10,000 to be ringfenced for use at Crispin Community Centre.
- G In respect of the previous application from Strode College for PFSA funding it was agreed to inform them that bids will be invited in 2023 for youth outreach and mental health services provision.
- H To arrange a meeting with Crispin School and the Policy & Finance Committee to discuss assistance and the new bid scheme.
- I that Crispin Hall CIO are awarded a grant of £1270 for the Winter Soup Kitchen.
- J that Officers will map the space in Street available for hire.
- K that the minutes and notes of the informal session were agreed.

84. COMPLETION OF LIMITED ASSURANCE REVIEW FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated. The review of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) has been completed and the notice of conclusion of audit with sections 1,2 and 3 of the certified AGAR has been published on the Council's website.

RESOLVED

that the report be agreed.

85. CHRISTMAS TASK AND FINISH GROUP

The Assistant Clerk provided a verbal update on the plans for the Street Festive Market and confirmed that the Grange had been granted permission for an ice rink which will open mid-November.

86. CULTURE WORKING GROUP

The notes of the Culture Working Group meeting of 7th September had been circulated with the agenda.

The Clerk advised that the Council has an opportunity to apply for a Creative Mendip Grant of up to £7,500 to develop projects in the area. This must be spent before the end of March 2023. Councillors discussed the possibility of applying for this grant to further enhance the back wall of the library gardens, either side of the new murals. The pavilions at either end of the library garden wall, however, are in terrible condition and would require repair first; at a cost of approximately £30k. The Clerk is aware of a separate grant for this purpose that could be applied for.

RESOLVED

- A. that the notes be agreed
- B. to investigate applying for a grant from a local trust to repair the library garden pavilions.
- C. to pursue applying for a Creative Mendip Grant to further enhance the back wall of the library gardens.

87. HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP

The notes of the Highways Working Group of 13th September had been circulated with the agenda.

The draft Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for Street had been circulated to Councillors for comment prior to the 17th October.

RESOLVED

- A. that SLH are asked to check that the batteries in the SIDs are in good working order and confirm that they are continuing to move the SIDs around every few weeks.
- B. that the High Street is added as an additional new SID site to the Memorandum of Understanding with the County Council.
- C. That Councillors will email comments on the LCWIP to the Deputy Clerk prior to the 15th October.

88. MERRIMAN PARK AND FUN DAY

The Assistant Clerk thanked Councillors for their help in supporting the Street Parish Council stall and soft archery activity which had been a tremendous success.

Financially, this had been the second most successful fun day held at the park.

The Chair passed on her thanks to the Assistant Clerk for her help in supporting the organisation of the event.

RESOLVED

- A. that Officers will consult with the Merriman Park Garden and Landscape Designer on the planting of two memorial trees at Merriman Park, one in recognition of the Platinum Jubilee and the passing away of Queen Elizabeth II (a Pencil Oak tree if possible) and another in recognition of the victims of Covid 19.
- B. Officers will investigate the purchase of a non-flammable table to replace the fire damaged table in the teenage shelter at Merriman Park. Officers will request SLH dispose of the fire damaged table and replace the wood chippings with something less flammable.

89. CONSULTATION OF LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORKS (LCN's)

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated. LCN consultation papers had also been circulated to all Councillors.

The Deputy Clerk gave a verbal report on the LCN meeting she attended with the Chair of Council on 27th September. The new Council is consulting with stakeholders to help form the basis of LCNs. LCNs will identify priorities in a local area and consider how to address them. The new Council is looking to learn lessons from the pilot schemes they are running and the other Unitary Councils. There is no funding for LCNs, though Unitary Staff will support them. Funding may be available down the line to help deliver projects.

The consultation asks for feedback on the roles and responsibilities of LCNs, boundary proposals and the 'Local Community Network' name by the 17th October.

RESOLVED

- A. To hold an Extraordinary Council Meeting at 2pm on Friday 7th October to consider the Council's response to the Consultation.
- B. Councillors who wish to attend the Conference for local councils on 4th October at Westlands in Yeovil to contact the Deputy Clerk so that she can register their attendance.

90. REPORT FROM CHAIR

The Chair thanked the Officers and Councillors for their support on Operation London Bridge and felt that Street had done itself proud. The church service was well attended and supported by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant and other local dignitaries.

The Chair offered congratulations to Glastonbury Town Council on securing the Glastonbury Town Deal.

91 PARISH PATH LIAISON OFFICER

Nothing to report

92 CHAIR UPDATES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS.

Nothing to report.

93. ANTI GRAFFITI DAY

Councillor P.Goater reported that a number of anti-graffiti days have now been held. The group knows what works well in removing the graffiti but is unfortunately fighting an ongoing battle as new graffiti is constantly emerging throughout the village.

94 CORRESPONDENCE/MINOR MATTERS

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated.

RESOLVED

A that Councillors will consider potential nominations for the County Chairs Awards for services to the community and share any thoughts with the Council prior to the deadline of 31st October.

B that the Deputy Clerk will email suggested dates for the Community Wellbeing Working Group to consider how the Leigh Road Methodist Church building and school rooms at the rear might be used to assist the community and become sustainable.

C that Councillor Smith is appointed to the Environmental and Climate Change Resilience Task and Finish Group and removed from Highways, the Community Wellbeing Group, Unitary Group and Staffing Committee.

D that Councillor Howiantz is appointed to the Strobe Theatre Users Group in place of Councillor Wolfers.

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

County and District Councillor Carswell advised that footfall counters are now operational in the High Street and Officers can access the data from these. The next tourism meeting, which he is unable to attend, is on 20th October.

County Councillor Leyshon reported that the new CEO for Somerset Council starts on Monday. Clarks Village are looking to include a changing place toilet in one of its toilet blocks.

County and District Councillor Shearer advised of the Energy Saver website which has energy saving tips and information on grants that can be applied for. She was pleased to advise that an Independent Living Centre had now opened in Shepton Mallet offering support and advice on staying independent.

RESOLVED

A. that County and District Councillor Shearer will liaise with the Officers to recirculate signposting regarding vulnerable people.

96. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

97. MATTERS FOR REPORT

A Councillor enquired about a Council Emergency Plan and the expectation of Councillors in an emergency.

RESOLVED

that the Clerk will circulate the Council's emergency plan; and bring it to a future Council meeting for discussion.

The meeting ended at 9.20pm

Cllr Leafe left the meeting at 8.45pm

Chair _____