

## STREET PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Council held in the John Webster Room, 6 Leigh Road, Street, on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillor B. Knickerbocker (Chair of Council)  
Councillors: P. Birch, S. Carswell, D. Goater P. Goater, J. Howard, N. Howiantz, N.Kellett, A. Leafe, T. Napper, B., H. Shearer, N. Smith, A.Sparkes N. Swift and L. Wolfers

IN ATTENDANCE: Acting Clerk: Z. Leach  
County and District Councillor: L. Leyshon

APOLOGIES Councillor B. Reina

### 45. QUORUM

The meeting was quorate.

### 46. MINUTES

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023 which had been circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to noting the following amendment:

**Minute 44 Matters for Report**  
**Brookside Road should read as Brooks Road**

### 47. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Napper was unhappy that the change of venue listed on the agenda did not refer to the John Webster Room.

The meeting closed at 19:05 for the acting Clerk to move her vehicle. The meeting reopened at 19:09.

### 48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

In accordance with the Code of Conduct Councillor Carswell and Councillor Shearer declared an other interest under Appendix B in any matters relating to the Somerset Council and stated that she would keep an open mind when considering issues at County or Parish level.

Councillor Carswell declared an other interest under Appendix B in any matters relating to Merriman Park as he is Chair of the Merriman Park Community Group.

Councillor Napper declared an other interest under Appendix B in any matters relating to Glastonbury Town Council and Street Football Club.

Councillor Howard declared an interest under Appendix B in any matters relating to Crispin Hall and Community Centre, the Victoria Club and Friends of Strode Theatre as she is a trustee of these.

Councillor Wolfers declared a pecuniary interest in any matters relating to Street and Glastonbury Chamber of Commerce as she is a board member

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

Councillor Smith declared an other interest under Appendix B in any matters relating to Glastonbury FM as she is a board member and any matters relating to Merriman Park and Greenbank Swimming Pool as she attends meetings in a non-voting capacity.

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

49 COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER

PC Pople explained that due to operation Hibiscus he will only be on duty in Street 1 day out of every 6 until October. The PCSOs will still be actively patrolling the Street area.

The top three areas highlighted from the click sense data:

High Street – 9 calls in 3 months (anti-social behaviour, concern for welfare, violence)

Auto Number Plate Recovery (ANPR) camera – 7 calls

Lydford – wild swimmers

PC Pople stated that he had been contacted by a Councillor asking him to corroborate a claim made at the previous Council meeting from a representative of Key4Life who were in attendance to present their grant application bid to the Council. The claim was in relation to a kidnapping and stabbing of a female in Street. PC Pople advised that he was aware of a similar incident that had taken place in Wells a few years prior but there had not been an incident of this nature in Street, neither was he aware of an incident in Street of a young girl forming a relationship with a county lines dealer of whom she had a child with. It was stated in Key4Life's presentation that the police had confirmed these incidents to be true. PC Pople wished to place on record that he had not confirmed these incidents to Key4Life and was not aware of either of these incidents happening in Street. PC Pople was concerned that the Council may have been misinformed.

PC Pople thanked Councillor Leyshon for investigating issues raised during last month's public question time and trusts that her findings have now put minds at ease.

Glastonbury Town Council would like to work with Street's Speed Watch team.

The next meet the team meeting will be at 7pm on 9 August 2023, Street Foyer (YMCA)

RESOLVED:

that the Acting Clerk will write to Somerset Civil Parking Team and request they target the whole of the High Street and ticket cars parking illegally, especially those on the zig gags, as the Council hopes this will send out a message to the community that action is being taken.

50. PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 20 June 2023 were circulated with the agenda.

RESOLVED

that the minutes of the meeting be noted.

51. REPORT FROM CHAIR

The Chair attended the Mayor's New Clothes launch in Wells and will circulate details regarding this for anyone who is interested.

The High Sheriff visit took place on 13<sup>th</sup> July and included a tour of Street including the Alfred Gillett Trust, Wilfred Road, the Forest School at Elmhurst and the Quaker Meeting Room. The High Sheriff was very impressed and had positive things to say about Street.

The Alfred Gillett Summer Garden Party was well attended on 15<sup>th</sup> July. The new name was announced 'Shoemakers Museum' The Story of Clarks.

52. SUSTAINABLE STREET WORKING GROUP

A summary report from the Acting Deputy Clerk was circulated with the agenda. Councillor Swift reminded the Council of the eco event taking place on Saturday 22 September, 10am-3pm, which is being planned by the owner of the eco shop with support from Councillors. Councillor Swift requested that any available Councillors provide support on the day and visit the eco shop, following the strategy setting training day, to ask how they can help.

RESOLVED:

that the report be noted

53. YOUTH OUTREACH AND MENTAL HEALTH

The notes of the Youth Outreach and Mental Health working group meeting held on 30 June 2023 were circulated with the agenda

RESOLVED:

A that the notes be agreed

B that the acting Clerk will share the minutes of this Council meeting with the school representatives on the working group

54 CULTURE WORKING GROUP

The notes of the Culture Working Group held on 5 July 2023 were circulated with the agenda.

RESOLVED:

- A. that the notes be agreed subject to noting the following amendment to Minute 3 High Sheriff of Somerset Visit, which should read:  
“It was agreed that Councillor Sparks would bring strawberries for the visit and Councillor Swift would bring the cream”.
- B. that at the end of any sub-committee meeting the Clerk will confirm the actions agreed during the meeting and by whom.

55 COMMUNITY AND WELLBEING WORKING GROUP

The notes of the Community Wellbeing Working Group held on the 6 July were circulated with the agenda.

Councillors discussed engagement with the community and wished to trial attendance on a Thursday market stall.

RESOLVED:

- A. that the notes be agreed.
- B. The acting Clerk will approach Michaela from Crispin Community Centre to ask if the Parish Council can join them on their next market stall.

56 YMCA PROPOSAL UPDATE

Councillors Howiantz and Kellett provided feedback on their meeting with the YMCA Youth Work Team Leader.

The YMCA are struggling to recruit team members – this is particularly difficult when funding is only secured for a year. What would be a stabilising influence for the club would be for the regular SPC grant of £10K to become a service level agreement as it is in Glastonbury, Frome and Yeovil where there are 3 or 5 year agreements. This allows for more coherent forward planning, more attractive posts for recruitment and more commitment from central Brunel administration. A point to consider at the next round of grant applications.

The YMCA had already secured funding for the summer holiday club but unfortunately, due to the short length of time that the work is on offer, they have been unable to recruit sufficient staff to fully implement the programme. They are providing a skeleton holiday programme but would like to provide more in the future. However, it is clear that recruitment will always be an issue.

No framework was given to the YMCA for the scoping exercise that they completed for Street Parish Council. The Director of Youth and Community and the Youth Work Team Leader have provided a detailed and costed list of goals that they would like to achieve in developing the work of the YMCA. The champions are meeting on 14 August to discuss the next steps and will be meeting with the Director of Youth and Community and the Youth Work team Leader after that.

The YMCA Youth Work Team Leader's hours have been cut to a minimum so she is unable to do the outreach work that is needed particularly communicating with other agencies. She is very keen to develop links with youth agencies.

RESOLVED:

That the champions advise YMCA to request a longer term commitment of funds on their annual grant application form for consideration by the Council.

57 LIBRARY GARDENS PROJECT

The acting Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated. The acting Clerk advised that the final account from the builders will not be settled until the work to level the resurfaced raised platform has been undertaken.

The meeting was closed at 8.27 for an input from Councillor Leyshon and reopened at 8.30pm

RESOLVED

- A that the report be agreed
- B that the acting Clerk circulate the response received from the Nine Square Trust to the grant request made by the previous Clerk.
- C that officers research any other potential sponsorship opportunities

58. CORRESPONDENCE/MINOR MATTERS

The acting Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated.

Councillor Knickerbocker provided a positive update on the water leak at Strode Road Allotment – a further company has visited the site of the leak yesterday, at a call out cost of £50, which does guarantee a quotation is sent to the Council within 48 hours.

RESOLVED:

- A that the report be agreed.
- B that upon Councillor Napper's request he is not reappointed to the staffing committee but is appointed to: Planning Committee, Appeal Panel, Highways Working Group, Sustainable Street Working Group, Youth Outreach and Mental Health Working Group, Emergency Plan Management Team, Cox's Charity and Street Business Park.
- C that power is delegated to the acting Deputy Clerk to agree a quotation to fix the water leak at Strode Road Allotment up to a maximum of £2,000.
- D that help for first time buyers onto the property ladder will be referred to the Community Wellbeing Group for consideration – in terms of signposting and potentially inviting appropriate organisations - i.e., Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Baptist Church - to the Discover Your Community event.

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

County Councillor Leyshon advised that Somerset Council are working on next year's budget which is even more difficult than last years. It has been requested that a risk statement is sent to all town and parish councils in Somerset warning of any services at risk – in line with the precept setting schedule.

County Councillor Leyshon advised that the government is getting involved in the phosphates issue as it recognises this is a considerable issue for the building industry across a wide geographical area.

County Councillor Leyshon advised that there are lots of tree issues in Street and a tree officer has been requested to do an examination.

County Councillor Shearer advised that the mental health and wellbeing board meet every quarter which helps with building relationships and sharing good practice.

Somerset Council is helping relations between the NHS and local authorities in building trust with each other.

60. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The latest bank reconciliations for all accounts at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 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 June, 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 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 be noted and the schedule of receipts and payments for June be attached as Annex A to the minutes in the Minute Book in order to publish payments of £500 or more.

61. CCLA PUBLIC SECTOR DEPOSIT FUND (PSDF) ACCOUNT

The CCLA statement for May 2023 had been sent to the Councillors. The Acting Clerk has not yet received the factsheet for June. Councillor Sparkes advised that he had accessed it online and recommended that funds continue to be invested in the CCLA PSDF account.

RESOLVED:

that funds are retained in the CCLA PSDF account.

The press and public left the meeting at 8.57pm due to confidential item number 62

62. STAFFING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Staffing Committee meetings of 28<sup>th</sup> June and 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were circulated with the agenda.

RESOLVED:

- A that the minutes of both meetings be noted.
- B that the recommendations made by the staffing committee at the meetings on 28<sup>th</sup> June and 10<sup>th</sup> July be agreed
- C that the acting Clerk will diarise and circulate times that the acting Clerk and acting Deputy Clerk will be working on the CILCA qualification – these times to be protected.
- D that the Clerk advert and application pack is approved to include the priorities and long term plan to be agreed at the strategy setting day on July 19<sup>th</sup> .

The meeting reopened to the public at 9.09pm

63 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Street Football Club have held their EGM. Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July is their opening first team league game.

Cllr Smith reported that the Salvation Army foodbank is not receiving as many donations as before and previously the Council had provided a grant to support the purchase of Aldi vouchers.

Cllr Howiantz advised that the Street Park run will be celebrating its 200<sup>th</sup> run on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August and invited Councillors and Officers to attend and support the event.

Councillor volunteers are requested for the Merriman Park Fun Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 to collect donations. Raffle prizes are also welcome.

RESOLVED:

to ask the Policy & Finance Committee to consider providing the Salvation Army with a grant to purchase Aldi vouchers to give to families in need.

The meeting ended at 9.22pm

Chair \_\_\_\_\_