



WINCANTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 7PM ON TUESDAY 23rd AUGUST 2021 AT THE TOWN HALL

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: 6

MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL PRESS: 0

PROPER OFFICER IN ATTENDANCE: Stephen Hill, Town Clerk

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Anderson, Shelbourn-Barrow (Chairman), Ellard, Hix, Power, Ralph, Smith, Tudgay (Deputy Chairman), Vagg and Walters.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Three members of the public spoke during Public Participation.

Public Participation was closed at 19:11.

The Chairman asked and Councillors confirmed that they had received all the Agenda and Papers.

074-22

APOLOGIES

RESOLVED – that the reason for the apologies were accepted from Councillors Atherton, Cole, Greening, Old and Thomas.

075-22

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Smith declared a personal interest in Agenda Items 9 and 10: SOLAR SITE, SOUTH OF BRAINS FARM, MOOR LANE, WINCANTON and COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND (SOLAR FARM). Councillor Ellard declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 24: WINCANTON RECREATION TRUST (WRT) (Sports Ground)

076-22

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 26th JuLY 2021 were approved.
Proposed: Cllr Ralph, **Seconded:** Cllr Power - Unanimous

077-22

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

NOTED – the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 10th August 2021 and Finance & General Purposes Committee 3th August 2021 were noted.

078-22

REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS COLIN WINDER AND NICK COLBERT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR ANNA GROSKOP

None

079-22

REPORT FROM WINCANTON TOWN COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Council received a verbal report from the Chairman, which will be encapsulated in the next Newsletter.

080-22

MEMBER FOR PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council Voted on including a Member to Planning Committee following the Town Clerk receiving notification of the “standing down” of a Member from the Planning Committee.
**Cllr Vagg Proposed Cllr Tudgay, Seconded: Cllr Power – 6 for
Cllr Anderson Proposed Cllr Ellard, Seconded: Cllr Ralph – 4 for
RESOLVED – that Cllr Tudgay be elected to the Planning Committee.**

- 081-22 **SOLAR SITE, SOUTH OF BRAINS FARM, MOOR LANE, WINCANTON**
At its meeting 10 August 2021, Planning Committee recommended Support of the Planning Application; Council is asked to **RESOLVE** to approve Support. Councillors highlighted that the site has been visited, trees planted and there is an educational aspect.
<https://publicaccess.southsomerset.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=QVXN98OWHRT00>
Councillor Smith declared a personal interest and abstained from the Vote.
RESOLVED – that the Town Council Support the Planning Application Ref: 21/02205/FUL.
Proposed: Cllr Ellard, Seconded: Cllr Power: 9-0-1 (for-against-abstain)
- 082-22 **COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND (SOLAR FARM)**
Council discussed the Deed and Compliance Letter.
Councillor Smith declared a personal interest and abstained from the Vote.
RESOLVED – that the Town Council accept the Deed and Compliance Letter for the Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund at a one-off financial community payment of £10,000.
Proposed: Cllr Ralph, Seconded: Cllr Tudgay: 7-0-3 (for-against-abstain)
RESOLVED – that the Town Council elect the Chairman to sign the Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund Deed and Compliance Letter.
Proposed: Cllr Tudgay, Seconded: Cllr Vagg: 7-0-3 (for-against-abstain)
- 083-22 **BUS SERVICE CONSULTATION**
Council noted had it had commented previously and noted the need for a broader range of vehicles including for small communities and clean energy. Cllrs were asked to provide any other comments.
RESOLVED – that any further comments be provided via the Somerset County Council Bus Service Improvement Plan Consultation.
Proposed: Cllr Ellard, Seconded: Cllr Tudgay: unanimous
- 084-22 **CAR PARK COMPENSATION SCHEME**
Council received an update on the Car Park Compensation Scheme with South Somerset District Council (SSDC) including compensation at £24,500 20/2, description of SSDC delay, highlighted no route for appeal or referral to RICS and that signage needs to be removed.
- 085-22 **TIC AT THE COMMUNITY OFFICE (TO CLARIFY OFFER)**
Council considered the Tourist Information Centre offer that the Town Council offers to the public at the Community Office (Town Hall).
RESOLVED – that a Working Group be established with both Cllrs and external representatives to determine what TIC service to offer now and in future.
Proposed: Cllr Shelbourn-Barrow, Seconded: Cllr Vagg: unanimous
- 086-22 **COMMUNITY OFFICE OPEN TO PUBLIC**
Following lifting of Covid-19 restrictions, Council considered re-opening the Community Office to the public and highlighted lone working and opening hours to be published on the Council website.
RESOLVED – that the Community Office be open to the public from 31 August 2021.
Proposed: Cllr Shelbourn-Barrow, Seconded: Cllr Tudgay: unanimous

087-22

SINGLE UNITARY COUNCIL

Council received an update on Somerset single unitary council following the Secretary of State announcement 21 July 2021, to implement, subject to Parliamentary approval, the proposal for a single unitary council for the whole of the existing administrative county of Somerset with a vesting date 1 April 2023; preparation of the Structural Change Order; autumn 2021 conference for local councils; establishing Local Community Networks; shadow unitary Elections May 2022; consultation on re-organising local council elections to May 2022; and NOT to transfer services/assets prior to April 2023;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposals-for-locally-led-reorganisation-of-local-government-in-cumbria-north-yorkshire-and-somerset>

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-statements/detail/2021-07-21/hcws234>

088-22

DOOR REPAIR AND PLINTH/LAMP INSURANCE CLAIM

Council received an update on the repair of the door to the Town Hall (insured) (scheduled to be done end September 2021) and insurance claim relating to the Market Place plinth/lamp (insurer needs two quotes; second is being obtained).

089-22

PAYPHONE AT CARRINGTON WAY

Council received an update on BT's removal of the payphone at Carrington Way; SSDC has asked to BT to put its removal on BT's schedule of works.

090-22

REGENERATION BOARD UPDATE

Council received an update on the Regeneration Board's considerations.

091-22

ALLOTMENT AGREEMENT, COSTS AND FEES

Following Open Spaces Committee 14 July 2021, information was provided comparing costs and charges. Agreement Item j (part) to be removed and change references to Sports Ground. There was some recognition that charges need to balance costs, the cost of pest control was queried (to be ascertained) and that any change to charges may be contentious. **RESOLVED – that Council approved the Agreement from October 2021 as amended including that the next Full Council (September 2021) should determine charges including cost of pest control.**

Proposed: Cllr Anderson, Seconded: Cllr Power: 9-0-1 (for-against-abstain)

092-22

APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

RESOLVED – that Council approved the appointment of Lightatouch for Internal Audit 2021/22 at £795.

Proposed: Cllr Ralph, Seconded: Cllr Shelbourn-Barrow: unanimous

092-22

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE, 3 AUGUST 2021

RESOLVED – that Council approved a) the Reserves Policy; b) movement of £14,493 (relating to the car park compensation scheme 2020/21) to the Earmarked Reserve; c) closing of Nat West bank accounts including that funds from Bank accounts to be closed be transferred to the Council Unity Trust account; and d) moved Finance & General Purposes Committee meetings to quarterly.

Proposed: Cllr Power, Seconded: Cllr Ralph: unanimous

093-22

FINANCES: JULY 2021 – MONTH 4

Council noted the finances for month 4:

- Payments
- Receipts
- Summary of receipts and payments against budget

094-22

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – that Council pursuant to the provision of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business by reason of the confidential nature of business to be transacted.

Proposed: Cllr Ralph, Seconded: Cllr Power: unanimous

Time: 20:40

095-22

WINCANTON RECREATION TRUST (WRT) (Sports Ground)

Following decision of Full Council 28 June 2021, Council considered the request for £9k Grant now due in one tranche for funding repairs to glass roof space, purchase of new vent covers, replacement windows and making good to prevent water ingress and decoration of main hall and facilities for functions, based on provision, by the WRT Management Committee and approved by the Trust, of a business & activities plan and activities that the Grant funding will purchase for 2021/22.

Cllr Old joined the meeting 20:51

Councillor Ellard declared a personal interest and abstained from the Vote.

RESOLVED – that Council approve the release of £9,000 in Grant 21/22 to the WRT.

Proposed: Cllr Anderson, Seconded: Cllr Ralph: 8-0-2 (for-against-abstain)

The meeting closed 20:53

Signed

Date