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Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Dulverton Town Council

Held on Tuesday 2nd March 2023 at 2.00pm, in Exchange Cottage, Lady Street, Dulverton TA22

<u>Present:</u> Chairman/Mayor: Mrs Christine Dubery. Councillors: Mr Nick Thwaites; Mr Alan Ottey; Mr Bill Gash; Mrs Louise Parrish; Mrs Margaret Rawle; and Mrs Ann Van Praag; and Mrs Alison Crisp.

Deferment of Business for Comment by the Public: None

<u>Apologies for absence and acceptance of any reasons offered if agreed:</u> Cllr. Mr John Preston who has work commitments.

Declarations of Interests:

Cllr. Mr Bill Gash who is a member of the P.C.C.

Chairman's Comments & Meeting Management:

Members retired to Exchanged Cottage from the Council Office due to concerns about the ability to socially distance.

6902: All Saints Church - School House Retaining Wall:

The Chairman provided members with details of the issues of concern and the work undertaken to date.

Due to the recent heavy rain 2-3 meters of the newly constructed wall has collapsed.

Members expressed their disappointment that that the wall collapsed relatively quickly following construction.

It has been suggested that the wall has further structural requirements and the erection of a gabion basket has been proposed to achieve this. It will be built on top the surface of the ground at a height of 1.5m, 24m long and be filled with limestone. The anticipated cost amounting to £34,512,80 plus VAT.

Members discussed at length the funding of this project and determined that in this unstable economic environment, to meet the costs from reserves would leave the Council financially vulnerable. Fund raising opportunities were discussed and are to be investigated further.

It was agreed that:

1) Ware Construction is asked to proceed with the work agreed to be undertaken on the School House side of the wall which should alleviate the

pressure on the retaining wall.

- 2) To request that the site is tidied and cleared of debris.
- 3) To enquire whether further scaffolding is required to stabilize the existing wall as well as the erection of temporary fencing.

In the event that members resolve to proceed with the proposal to erect gabion baskets, tenders will be sought as required by the Financial Regulations.

A meeting is to be arranged between representatives from the P.C.C. and the Town Council in order to inform them of progress to date and to discuss the way forward.

6903 Issues to be raised with permission of the Chairman: None

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<u>Chairman</u>	