



## **Minutes of the Meeting of Dulverton Town Council**

Held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7.15pm, in the Town Hall,  
Fore Street, Dulverton TA22.

**Present:** Chairman/Mayor: Mrs Christine Dubery. Councillors: Mr Nick Thwaites, (also representing Somerset West & Taunton (S.W.T.)); Mr Alan Ottey; Mr Bill Gash; Mrs Louise Parrish; Mr John Preston; Mrs Ann Van Praag; Mrs Margaret Rawle; Mrs Allison Crisp; and Mrs Frances Nicholson, (Somerset County Council(S.C.C.)), who left at 7.50pm.

**Deferment of Business for Comment by the Public:** None

**Apologies for absence and acceptance of any reasons offered if agreed:**

Mr Steven Pugsley Somerset County Council (S.C.C.).

**Declarations of Interest:**

None not already declared.

**Chairman's Comments & Meeting Management:**

The Chairman wished members a happy New Year and thanked them for all their time and effort last year.

**Questions for County and District Councillors:**

Cllr. Mr Nick Thwaites - S.W.T.:

S.W.T. Scrutiny Meeting: Cllr. Mr Thwaites reported the following from the meeting:

- 1) That a suggestion was made that the parishes increase their precepts by 10% to cover anticipated costs. This proposal was robustly rejected.
- 2) A proposal has been submitted to consider producing a Local Plan to cover all of the District Councils and the E.N.P.A.
- 3) The regime is likely to change in the near future.

SWT Shoppers Car Park Permits: Following receipt of the response from SWT members agreed that the situation should be closely monitored and efforts continue ensure the continued use of cardboard clocks.

Cllrs. Mrs Frances Nicholson S.C.C.

B396 The Black Cat Junction - Potholes: Members reported that the depth and number of potholes particularly in this location are seriously damaging vehicles. The problem has been reported to Devon County Council, however members of the public are urged to continue reporting the issue until it is resolved.

Exmoor Panel Meeting – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022: Cllr. Mr Nick Thwaites agreed to attend the meeting. Details concerning the future salting of 'green routes' will be available.

New Somerset Council: Members were informed that the appointment of staff at the 'tier two' level is virtually complete, however at the senior level, where there exists structural change, positions are still to be filled.

LCN Project: It is not anticipated that the final arrangements will be functioning by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 as hoped. However, the budget has been approved enabling the pilot to continue for a further year.

The new Highways Steward has been appointed and commencing work today, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

**Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 as circulated:** were approved and signed. Proposed by Mr Preston, seconded by Mr Thwaites and carried.

**6882 Update of action points resulting from the last meeting:** None

**6883 Accounts:**

Financial Statement – December 2022: See Appendix A

RESOLVED: That the Financial Statement as per Appendix A is approved. Proposed by Mrs Rawle, seconded by Mr Gash and carried.

Payments for approval – December 2022: See Appendix B

RESOLVED: That the payments as per Appendix B are approved. Proposed by Mrs Crisp, seconded Mrs Parrish and carried.

**6884 Committees:**

Minutes to be approved by the relative Committee members and be adopted as part of this meeting:

a) Dulverton Partnership Group – 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022

RESOLVED: To adopt as part of this meeting the minutes of the Dulverton Partnership Group Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Proposed by Mr Thwaites, seconded by Mrs Dubery and carried.

b) Planning Committee – 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

RESOLVED: To adopt as part of this meeting the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023. Proposed by Mr Thwaites, seconded by Mrs Dubery and carried.

**6885 SLCC & Affiliated Membership:**

RESOLVED: To renew annual membership at a cost of £187.00. Proposed by Mr Preston, seconded by Mrs Parrish and carried.

**6886 SPFA Affiliation:**

RESOLVED: To renew annual membership and donate £20.00. Proposed by Mr Preston, seconded by Mr Gash and carried.

**6887 Late Correspondence:**

Correspondence noted by members.

S.A.L.C. Councillor Training: The Chairman took the opportunity to remind members of the training available and encouraged them to use the facility.

**6888 Questions for Members who have attended additional meetings:**

None

**6889 Issues to be raised with permission of the Chairman:**

Abbots Way: Two of the bollard lights are not working and have been reported to S.C.C.

Abbotts Way Pond: Unfortunately, due to a member of the public placing oxygenating weed into the pond, all three of the grounds men spent a full day clearing it out. The pond will probably require further clearance.

Coronation – 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023: Suggestions concerning the event were made by members as follows:

- 1) Large banners acknowledging the event and congratulating the King to be placed at Kings Corner.
- 2) The hire of a large screen, televising the event as it happens, to be placed on Exmoor Lawns. Residents to be invited to picnic while watching the ceremony.
- 3) Decorate the Town centre with flags and bunting.

The issue is to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting, 13<sup>th</sup> February for further consideration.

**Chairman .....**

