

**DRAFT**

**BRYMPTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**The Parish Office, Abbey Community Centre, The Forum, YEOVIL, BA21 3TL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRYMPTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY,  
22<sup>nd</sup> JULY 2020 ONLINE AT ZOOM.US.**

**PRESENT:**

Mr K Weston (Chairman)  
Mr S Attrill  
Mr P Seib  
Mr Williams

Mr G Pritchard (Vice-Chairman)  
Miss O Darling-Finan  
Mrs J Snell  
Mr R Wood

Mrs E James (Clerk)

5 members of the public

**40/20 TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN FOR THE REMAINDER OF MUNICIPAL YEAR 2020/21**

It was RESOLVED to appoint Mr Keith Weston as Chairman for the remainder of the municipal year 2020/2021. Mr Weston signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**The meeting closed for the following two items:**

**OPEN SESSION FOR BRYMPTON PARISHIONERS**

No questions were raised.

**REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Mr Williams had provided a written update for the County Council, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. Mr Williams requested Council to consider forming a working party to discuss what, if any, services the Parish Council would wish to take on should a unitary Council come into being.

Mrs Snell gave a brief update on the recent South Somerset District Council meeting. At that meeting the County Council proposals for a unitary authority were discussed, but were not supported.

Discussion took place on the unitary proposals submitted by the County Council.

**The meeting re-opened.**

**41/20 TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Personal apologies for absence were received from Mr Burt and Mrs Wood.

**42/20 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Mr Seib, Mrs Snell and Mr Williams declared that their interests were as written in their Register of Interests.

**43/20 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2020**

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020, which were then signed by the Chairman.

**44/20 CRIME, DISORDER and COMMUNITY SAFETY**

The Clerk advised that she had met with Beat Manager Jackie Poole and PCSO Elaine Weeks. There had been three arson events in the parish. No further complaints regarding car enthusiasts at Houndstone had been received.

**45/20 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTED TO COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES AND OUTSIDE BODIES**

None.

**46/20 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

**47/20 PLANNING**

**(a) APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

None

**(b) PLANNING UPDATES**

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990, THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (TREE PRESERVATION) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012, THE SOUTH SOMERSET DISTRICT (BRYMPTON NO. 1) TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 2020 – for information only**

**(c) NOMINATIONS FOR THE PLANNING WORKING GROUP TO CONSIDER FORTHCOMING PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

It was AGREED that Mr Burt & Miss Darling-Finan would be members of the planning working party for the forthcoming month.

**48/20 HIGHWAYS**

**(a) Traffic Regulation Order** - Badger Heights/Bond Street/Blackmere and Woodhenge

Further to min. no. 26/20(a), it was NOTED that the Traffic Engineer had agreed to extend the length of the Order on Old Preston Road.

**(b) Lufton Way** – Further to min. no. 26/20(d) it was NOTED that a reminder had been sent as to whether the diseased trees could be replaced.

**(c) SID data** – it was NOTED that the latest readings for Larkhill Road and Stourton Way North had been circulated.

**(d) Parish Path Liaison Officer** – With regret, members NOTED the resignation of Mr French from the role of Parish Path Liaison Officer due to ill-health. It was AGREED to advertise the vacancy in the next edition of Newslink and social media.

**(e) Notice of road closure at Thorne** – notice a temporary road closure at Thorne, with work to replace a BT pole due to commence on 6<sup>th</sup> August, was NOTED. The road closure will be between the locked gate and Tintinhull Road.

**49/20 CORRESPONDENCE**

**(a)** Phased re-opening of Somerset Libraries with new order-and-collect service – NOTED.

**(b) Coronavirus Pandemic: future financial viability of the town and parish councils.**

It was AGREED that the Clerk would circulate a draft letter for members to approve, or otherwise, before the next meeting.

**(c) Somerset Wildlife Trust** – reversing the decline of insects - to be circulated.

**(d) Somerset Sports & Activities Fund** - the SASP Inequalities Funding. The Inequalities Funding aims to support targeted groups across Somerset – to be circulated.

**(e) SSDC Environment newsletter** – get SuSSed – Sustainable South Somerset Education – to be circulated.

#### **50/20 CLERK'S REPORT**

(a) **Grants** - emails of thanks had been received from members of Promiseworks.

**(b) Council vacancies** – no election having been called, co-option could take place at the next meeting.

**(c) Clerk's vacancy** - to be advertised from 3<sup>rd</sup> August.

**(d) Coffee mornings and quarterly oldies parties** – to restart in 2021.

#### **51/20 GRANTS**

(a) **Yeovil Rivers Trust** - further to min. no. 10/20(c) it was NOTED that the application form for a grant of £2,000 had been resubmitted by a member of the Trust. At present the current project cannot be finished so consideration to the request cannot be given at this time.

(b) After deduction of the grant of £200 for the Good Fellowship Club, it was NOTED that the sum of £2299.92 remained within the budget remaining for expenditure on grants. The following applications were considered:

(i) **The Friends of All Saints PTA** (Montacute) which is attended by children living within the parish) requested £200 towards an access project to the school forest/woodland area.

Using the Power of General Competence, it was RESOLVED to grant £200 to this organisation.

(ii) **Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre (Wessex) Ltd** requested between £300 - £500 towards their physiotherapy gym.

It was AGREED not to make a grant on this occasion.

#### **52/20. ENVIRONMENT**

(a) ACTION PLAN – it was AGREED to defer this item to the September meeting.

(b) Members NOTED the resignation of Mrs Wood from the environment working group.

#### **53/20 MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Local Government Association (LGA) has launched a consultation on a new model member code of conduct which had been circulated to all Councillors. It was AGREED to advise the Association that the Council do not think the changes are an improvement on the existing code and do not support the proposals.

#### **54/20 HIGHER REAM**

(a) Painting of equipment – members NOTED that the painting works have now been completed and inspected.

(b) Re-opening of play area – it was RESOLVED to delegate the Clerk, together with the Open Spaces Working Party, to agree a risk assessment for the opening of Higher Ream play area and for the play area to be opened as soon as practicable.

**Mr Pritchard declared a personal interest in the next item, being Chairman of the Governors of Kingfisher School.**

**55/20 COMMUNITY CENTRE AT KINGFISHER SCHOOL**

(a) Name of the Community Centre – To ensure that it is seen as a separate entity to the school, it was RESOLVED to change the name of the Community Centre to Lufton Community Centre.

(b) It was NOTED that the Working Party had met with representatives from the school to discuss the user agreement and progress has been made. It was RESOLVED that there should now be a Lufton Community Centre Committee, rather than a Working Party, to facilitate the work required to open the Centre. It was RESOLVED that the current members of the Working Party would become Committee members.

It was RESOLVED that the remit of the Committee would be:

On behalf of the Parish Council, members of the Committee will be delegated initially to complete the lease and user agreement between the school and Parish Council. Further instructions will be given to the Committee by the full Council.

(c) It was NOTED that, on completion of the lease and user agreement, a joint committee, comprising three representatives from the school and three representatives from the Parish Council, must be set up. It was AGREED that the formation of this committee would be agreed at the next Parish Council meeting (26<sup>th</sup> August).

**56/20 CHAIRMAN'S ALLOWANCE**

It was RESOLVED to approve the sum of £150 as the Chairman's allowance in pursuance of Section 15(5) of LGA 1972 for 2020-2021.

**56/20 INTERNET BANKING**

It was RESOLVED to open an account with the Unity Trust Bank, which would allow internet payments in accordance with Council's Financial Regulations. It was NOTED that there would be a service charge of £6 per month, charged quarterly, (total £72 p.a.), with a minimum opening deposit of £500. Members NOTED that no interest would be paid on this account. The current interest rate on the NatWest business reserve account is 0.01% gross. It was RESOLVED that there should be two signatories for the transactions made on this account.

**57/20 FINANCE**

**(a) Interest** - Members NOTED the receipt of interest on 30<sup>th</sup> June of £0.44 from NatWest and £3.39 from Nationwide Building Society

**(b) Bank Reconciliation Statement** – as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020. It was NOTED that, following this meeting, the bank reconciliation statement will be presented to a Councillor to inspect and approve.

**(c) Monitoring Statement** – Following a review, no areas of concern were raised.

**(d) Payments** – It was RESOLVED to approve the following schedule of payments:

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Reason for expenditure</b>
Plusnet	DD	£ 69.60	Telephone/Broadband
SALC	2389	£ 30.00	Chairmanship training
GB Sport & Leisure	2390	£ 100.68	Safety surface repair kit
Building Craftsmen (Yeovil) Ltd	2391	£1,638.00	Redecoration at Higher Ream
Mrs E James	2392	£ 57.20	Office expenses/Higher Ream
Democratic services	SO		Democratic services
ACA	SO	£ 108.33	Office rent

**58/20 QUESTIONS AND ITEMS ARISING AFTER THE PREPARATION OF THIS AGENDA, SUCH MATTERS ARE FOR NOTING OR DEFERRAL TO A FUTURE MEETING.**

It was NOTED that the Abbey Community Association is working towards a limited opening of the hall.

**59/20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was NOTED that the next meeting will be held at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> August 2020. Members NOTED that the Clerk will be unavailable for this meeting, but an adjacent Parish Clerk had agreed to act as locum clerk.

**It was RESOLVED to exclude the press and public from the remainder of the meeting, in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, by reason of financial confidentiality**

**60/20 KINGFISHER COMMUNITY CENTRE - APPOINTMENT OF SOLICITOR**

It was NOTED that three firms of solicitors had been asked to quote for acting on behalf of the Parish Council, to enable the completion of the lease and user agreement for the now renamed Lufton Community Centre. The remit requested had been amended so that the appointed firm ensured that the terms of the lease were compatible with the user agreement.

It was RESOLVED to appoint Battens Solicitors of Yeovil to act on behalf of the Parish Council.