



Portishead Town Council

The Folk Hall, 95, High Street, Portishead, BS20 6PR

www.portishead.gov.uk

Thursday 28th July 2022 7.30pm The Folk Hall

Minutes of a meeting of the Community Matters Committee

This was a Hybrid meeting to enable community participation.

Members Present:

Cllr Aldridge (Chair), Cllr Churchill, Cllr Davey, Cllr Sterndale, Cllr Cartwright, Cllr Mason, Cllr Snaden and Cllr Slater.

Officers Present: I Jeffrey and R Spurs, Locum Clerk.

Welcome by the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed Councillors and public participants to the meeting.

CM2366 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Gardiner

CM2367 Declarations of interests and requests for dispensation (Chairman)

Members declare any disclosable pecuniary (financial) and other interests regarding items on the Agenda as required by the Council's Code of Conduct, Standing Orders and Localism Act 2011.

CM2368 To Consider and Approve the Minutes of the last meeting (Chairman)

Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June 2022 were agreed by Councillors and signed by the Chairman.

The Committee Resolved to Approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June 2022.

Proposed by Cllr Aldridge and seconded by Cllr Churchill.

CM2369 Grants – The Brightwell (West of England MS Therapy Centre)



The Committee were asked to Resolve to Approve the recommendation received from the Grants Working Party to award and pay £1,000 (one thousand pounds) to The Brightwell (West of England MS Therapy Centre) by bank transfer.

The Committee Resolved to Approve the recommendation of the Grants Working Party.

Proposed by Cllr Slatter and seconded by Cllr Sterndale.

CM2370 Dog and Litter Bins - increase in costs proposal.

The Committee considered the proposal outlined in the Agenda and Resolved to approve the increase in costs and payment to the existing dog and litter bin contractor by 10% from £4.50 to £4.95 per bin per empty with effect from 1st August 2022.

Proposed by Cllr Aldridge and seconded by Cllr Snaden.

CM2371 Memorial Bench – Policy.

Cllr Aldridge, (Chair), outlined the current issues regarding memorial benches located in Portishead. The Agenda states that; “At present North Somerset Council is not considering any requests for memorial benches and residents are turning to the Town Council for sites where a memorial bench could be given pride of home to commemorate a loved one. Portishead Town Council has very little open space land on which to grant permission for memorial benches. It should consider the use and identify areas of Town Council land to accommodate memorial benches and if agreed to formulate a policy to apply to deal with memorial bench requests.”

North Somerset is not considering providing any new benches and a new policy is needed. The majority of the land in question is owned by North Somerset.

Cllr Slatter explained the difficulties regarding a particular bench and Cllr Aldridge agreed to speak to the Deputy Town Clerk regarding this.

Cllr Mason stated that North Somerset Council had received complaints from members of the public who did not wish to sit on benches with memorial plaques attached to them as they felt they were intruding.

Cllr Aldridge stated that the cost of the benches if bought by the Council were considerably lower than the prices quoted by North Somerset Council.

The Committee Resolved to Approve the commissioning of a policy relating to Memorial benches.

Proposed by Cllr Slatter and seconded by Cllr Sterndale.



CM2372 North Somerset Council – Cycle Forum

The Committee was asked to consider whether there are any items that they wish to be included on the Agenda Forum for discussion and delegate a representative from the Town Council to attend the forum.

Cllr Davey stated that there should be no cycle lanes in the middle of the High Street.

Cllr Aldridge stated that the route should be changed and the current plan was ridiculous.

The key question is what are the considerations for advancing cycle routes in Portishead.

It was proposed by Cllr Slatter and seconded by Cllr Davey that Cllr Aldridge should attend the Cycle Forum on behalf of the Council.

CM2373 Lorymer's Park

The background to the item is that the Committee is asked to consider the longevity maintenance of Lorymers Park, a pedestrian reserve off Nore road at the top of Beach Hill. The site is believed to be owned by North Somerset Council, who have given permission to the Gordano Civic Society to make improvements to the site. Gordano Civic Society has received news that it has been allocated a grant from the National Grid Community Grant Programme Application to the value of £8,700 (eight thousand seven hundred pounds). This grant is subject to Portishead Town Council giving written assurances that the Civic Society will not be held liable for the ongoing maintenance of the site beyond this project. Insufficient time has been available to obtain quotes for maintenance and a survey of the site. Whilst routine weeding has and can be achieved via the Town Orderly services available to the Town Council, the following costs are expected: £1,000 (one thousand pounds) per year for maintenance of the site and £1,000 (one thousand pounds) for a survey of the site.

The Town Council has the power to maintain land as part of the Open Spaces Act 1906 section 9 that states that a local Authority may, subject to the provisions of this Act – (b) undertake the entire or partial care, management, and control of any such open space or burial ground, whether any interest in the soil is transferred to the local authority or not.

The Officer's Recommendation is that:

- The Town Council adopts the ongoing maintenance and associated costs of Lorymers Park, following the improvements made by Gordano Civic Society in the National Grid Community Grant scheme and writes to National Grid to confirm its undertaking;



- Approves earmarking £1,000 (one thousand pounds) from its 2022/2023 budget and £1,000 from each yearly budget;
- Approves spending up to £1,000 (one thousand pounds) and authorises the Interim Clerk to arrange for a survey of the site, for budgetary purposes.

Councillors emphasised that planting on the site should reflect local plants and bushes native to North Somerset.

The CCTV coverage of the park should be made permanent rather than temporary. The Committee Resolved to Approve the Officer's recommendation.

It was noted that North Somerset Council owns the perimeter walls but not the internal walls on the site.

The Committee Resolved to Approve the Officer's Recommendations.

Proposed by Cllr Aldridge and seconded by Cllr Sneddon.

CM2374

Granting of Access License – Bristol Road playing fields

The Committee was asked to Approve the granting of a license up to 31st May 2025 to the applicant to access the Bristol Road Playing Field from the rear of his property and to authorise the Interim Clerk to sign as the Licensee on the license on behalf of the Town Council.

Cllr Mason asked that the Deputy Clerk examines all similar licences to ensure they were standardised.

The Committee Resolved to Approve the granting of the licence up to 31st May 2025.

Proposed by Cllr Aldridge and seconded by Cllr Slatter.

CM2375

Annual Play Area inspection reports.

Noted.

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 25th August 2022 at 7.30pm.

Vice-Chairman Councillor Paul Churchill



DRAFT