

**WESTON-SUPER- MARE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE MUSEUM ON
MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024**

Meeting Commenced: 7:00 pm

Meeting Concluded: 8.33 pm

PRESENT: Councillors James Clayton (Chair), Ray Armstrong, Roger Bailey, John Carson, Owen James, Caroline Reynolds, Robert Skeen and John Standfield.

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE: Fay Powell (Assistant Town Clerk Operational Services), Samantha Bishop (Committee & Office Manager), Molly Maher (Senior Development Officer), Wayne Hughes & Chrissie Simpson (CR) and Ali Waller (YMCA).

The Chair invited members of the public to address the committee.

361	Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutions Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Justyna Pecak-Michalowicz and Joe Bambridge with no substitutes.
362	To receive Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest received.
363	To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the Community Service Committee meeting held on 15th January 2024 The minutes of the last meeting had been previously circulated at the meeting. PROPOSED BY: Councillor Caroline Reynolds SECONDED BY: Councillor Owen James A vote was taken and accordingly it was carried . RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting.
364	References from other Committees: There were none received.
365	North Somerset Council CCTV Reports Regular CCTV reports had been previously circulated. RESOLVED: That CCTV the reports be noted.

<p>366</p>	<p>To receive of the report from the Community Response Officers</p> <p>The report of the Community Response Officers had been previously circulated.</p> <p>The Chair queried the figures reported for the Bournville to which Chrissie advised that figures had been received from the beat teams for both the Bourneville and Worle areas and the Chair suggested it would be beneficial to compare figures from previous years to show trends.</p> <p>Wayne informed that he had changed the format of the report, to utilise NSC CCTV statistics, as this was more representative than Police reports alone.</p> <p>It was noted that the Water Park had suffered a break and entry the previous night.</p> <p>Wayne reported that residents had suggested if the gate on north side of Ellenborough Park West could be locked at night, as this may help tackle the tents pitching up and associated ASB issues experienced in Elleborough Park West.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk advised that practically this could not be achieved due to staff resource, however work on hedge cutting to improve the line of sight was scheduled which may help the situation. It was confirmed that yellow parking lines were also planned.</p> <p>In response to a question regarding off road motorbikes late at night, Wayne advised reporting this through 101 and explained the difficulties for the Police in tackling this issue.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Wayne and Chrissie for their report and asked them what impact did Somewhere To Go have on the town center and their roles. Wayne informed that the town would not function as well without the facility and gave the street community a base with provision of hot food a safe place.</p> <p><i>The Community Response Officers left at 7.24 pm</i></p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
<p>367</p>	<p>Service Area reports:</p> <p>.1 Youth Services</p> <p>The report of the Operations Manager – YMCA had been previously circulated.</p> <p>The Operations Manager summarised that they had had a brilliant start and success to the year and elaborated on the different areas of work undertaken.</p> <p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job roles for Youth Workers had been redefined which had attracted candidates for interviews. • The service was trying to combat the increases in vape use with understanding the effects on bodies. • There was an ever increase in Mental Health issues.

- Introduction of carpentry and welding workshops – making elements of the Glow Festival – film to be viewed on the link within the report.
- Older youths cooking meals for younger youths
- Youth Council – 12 members, very enthusiastic, videos made and funding the Youth exchange meals agreed.

The Chair asked if the service had seen evidence of bullying via social media, specifically snap chat, as he had been notified of some extremely bad cases of this. The Operations Manager informed that she was aware of 3 particularly bad cases which were reported to the Police and that the service encouraged young people to keep messages as evidence. Openness was the tool to combat this and SWAN helped with the awareness of this.

The Operations Manager confirmed that the youth café was open 2 nights per week with a view to extend, once staff were in place.

Members offered words of appreciation and gratitude for the invaluable service provided by the YMCA staff.

It was noted that the meeting date for the YMCA working group, to review the SLA was scheduled for 25th March, 11am @ Weston Museum. Councillors James Clayton, Owen James and John Standfield confirmed their attendance.

The Operations Manager left at 7.44 pm

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

.2 Grounds Management Report

The report of the Grounds Manager had been previously circulated.

It was noted that Allotments would be discussed by the Expenditure & Governance Working Party later in the month.

A member highlighted during the Glow event that the steps in Grove Park were not visible in the dark and therefore difficult to navigate. The Assistant Town Clerk informed that this had been picked up through other feedback on the event and that she would report this to Super Culture for future event planning.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

.3 Community Events

Nothing to report.

.4 Community Resilience Update

Nothing to report.

<p>368</p>	<p>Christmas Lights Switch on Date and Procurement Timetable</p> <p>The Town Clerk’s report had been previously circulated with the agenda which requested members consideration and action with regard to the forthcoming procurement and the need to appoint a contractor for early summer to coincide with the Community Services committee meeting dates.</p> <p>The Senior Development Officer as per the report’s recommendations encouraged members attendance in the tender opening and interview process and informed that the tender specifications, would be written by the council’s consultant. This would take into consideration members queries regarding the provision of a Christmas Tree and Social Value.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Roger Bailey SECONDED BY: Councillor Caroline Reynolds</p> <p>A vote was taken and accordingly it was carried.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Councillors Owen James, Roger Bailey and Caroline Reynolds be appointed for the: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Tender opening submission on the 14.06.24 as detailed in 2.1 of the report b) Contractor Interviews w/c 17.06.24 as detailed in 2.2 of the report 2. To agree the date of 23rd November for the Christmas lights switch on 2024 (noting this will form part of the tender specification which contractors must be able to adhere to).
<p>369</p>	<p>To Note Street Naming</p> <p>For NN4981 Allocation of Addresses to 36 New Dwellings at Part 1 of Phase H16 at the Former Weston-super-Mare Airfield as previously circulated.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Noted.</p>
<p>370</p>	<p>Somewhere To Go</p> <p>The covering report of the Town Clerk and Quarterly Interim Report had been previously circulated.</p> <p>A further report detailing key performance indicators was previously circulated to members.</p> <p>The Chair informed that he and the Town Clerk had been in communications with the Chair of STG and a meeting would be set up to review and formalise the SLA.</p> <p>It was noted that some of the council’s SLA’s seemed to have rolled and adapted due to the effects of COVID.</p> <p>Members agreed that the information before them was substantial enough to approve the release of the 2nd installment of funding.</p> <p>The Chair stressed the need for the council to effectively manage it’s SLA’s to avoid disruptions to services.</p>

	<p>Members were reminded of the recommendation to Town Council to form a Grants Sub Committee which would oversee the council's SLA's.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Roger Bailey SECONDED BY: Councillor Caroline Reynolds</p> <p>A vote was taken and accordingly it was carried.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To receive the Interim report from Somewhere To Go and to approve the release of the final payment of £25,000 for the year 2023/2024.</p>
<p>371</p>	<p>Cleaner Streets Item at the request of a member</p> <p>Councillor Robert Skeen presented a proposal of a bicycle litter picker on for use by community groups/volunteers already in operation, to utilise the £10,000 allocated to tackle cleaner streets.</p> <p>Discussion ensued. Members were in favor of the concept and wanted to see some recycling options included. However, concern was raised regarding insurance implications that the discussions would be better had by the community groups/volunteers themselves, for them to recommend practical options. It was noted that this would be a be great opportunity for the council to recognise the work of these people.</p> <p>It was advised that whatever plans were agreed, needed to be coordinated correctly with the council's grounds team in terms of waste disposal and it was noted that the council had experience with bike/vehicle insurance.</p> <p>It was suggested that these groups could be contacted via the council's Comms team and invited to discuss the concept further, noting this was an opportunity for fresh air, good for health and wellbeing and to form friendships.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Robert Skeen SECONDED BY: Councillor Owen James</p> <p>A vote was taken and accordingly it was carried.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To explore the use of the Cleaner Streets budget (£10,000) via community engagement, noting that this would be from the 1st April 2024/25 budget. For a progress report to be submitted at the next meeting on 20th May 2024.</p>
<p>372</p>	<p>Grant applications</p> <p>The reports of the Finance Officer had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>The annual budget for small and voluntary grants is £12,500 with £4,500 already being approved in 23/24 with a £8,000 balance remaining.</p> <p>The annual budget for Community Event Grants is £60,000 with £54,000 already being approved in 23/24 with a £6,000 balance remaining.</p> <p>The annual budget for Youth Grants is £3,000 with £0 already being approved in 23/24 with a £3,000 balance remaining</p>

.1 White Shades Media CIC
Grant Applied for £800.00
Under power: Local Government Act 1972 section 137

White Shades Media CIC were seeking financial assistance of £800 to help with the set-up costs of the Podcast "Straight Out of Weston" as well as some marketing material to help promote this. The aim of the podcast was to connect residents and visitors with the local scene of Weston-super-Mare and to help highlight and promote local businesses.

Discussion ensued and members agreed that grant applications that did not meet the grant criteria should not be considered and that Officers were to advise applicants to that effect.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor James Clayton

SECONDED BY: Councillor John Standfield

A vote was taken and was **carried:** with one abstention recorded.

RESOLVED: That grant applications that did not meet the grant criteria should not be considered and that Officers were to advise applicants to that effect.

It was therefore further

PROPOSED BY: Councillor John Standfield

SECONDED BY: Councillor Robert Skeen

RESOLVED: That the application be rejected on the grounds that it did not meet the council's grant criteria.

A point was raised regarding the formality of meetings and in particular , the address of external reports and meeting layout.

These points were noted and would be given further consideration by Officers.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.33 pm.

Signed: Dated:

Chair of the Community Services Committee