



**WESTON-SUPER- MARE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE MUSEUM ON
MONDAY 20TH MAY 2024**

Meeting Commenced: 7:00 pm

Meeting Concluded: 8.02 pm

PRESENT: Councillors James Clayton (Chair), Marc Aplin (S), Ray Armstrong, Joe Bambridge, Peter Crew, Robert Skeen and John Standfield.

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE: Sarah Pearse (Town Clerk), Fay Powell (Assistant Town Clerk Operational Services), Samantha Bishop (Committee & Office Manager) and Ali Waller (YMCA).

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

<p>9.</p>	<p>Election of Chair</p> <p>The Town Clerk invited nominations for the position of Chair.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Robert Skeen SECONDED BY: Councillor Marc Aplin</p> <p>A vote was taken and accordingly it was carried.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Councillor James Clayton be elected Chair of the Community Services Committee.</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutions</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Roger Bailey who was substituted by Marc Aplin and Caroline Reynolds with no substitution.</p> <p>Councillor John Carson was absent from the meeting.</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Election of Vice Chair</p> <p>The Chair invited nominations for the position of Vice Chair.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Ray Armstrong SECONDED BY: Councillor Robert Skeen</p> <p>A vote was taken and accordingly it was carried.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Councillor Bambridge be elected Vice Chair of the Community Services Committee.</p>

12.	<p>To note the Committee Terms of Reference</p> <p>The Community Services Committee Terms of Reference had been previously circulated.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Noted.</p>
13.	<p>To receive Declarations of Interest</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest received.</p>
14.	<p>To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the Community Service Committee meeting held on 11th March 2024</p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting had been previously circulated at the meeting.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Ray Armstrong SECONDED BY: Councillor Robert Skeen</p> <p>A vote was taken and accordingly it was carried.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting.</p>
15.	<p>References from other Committees:</p> <p>There were none received.</p>
16.	<p>North Somerset Council CCTV Reports</p> <p>Regular CCTV reports had been previously circulated.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the CCTV reports be noted.</p>
17.	<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 Community Response Officers had sent their apologies as were unable to attend the meeting and so any questions would be directed to the Assistant town Clerk.</p> <p>The report referred to PCSO's being assaulted on the Queensway estate and the assault classification was queried. The Assistant Town Clerk would inform committee members via email.</p> <p>It was noted that the general use and upgrading of CCTV was positive.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
18.	<p>Service Area reports:</p> <p>.1 Youth Services</p> <p>The report of the Operations Manager – YMCA had been previously circulated.</p>

The Operations Manager reported that new services had started in town. It was slow starting and would need time to imbed.

The Bournville seniors' group was now flying with 35 on books who were currently visiting the Knife Angel. Impact assessments with the young people were undertaken focusing on making sure they were engaging with education. The Mayor came and played football which was really well received by the group making them felt like they mattered.

The Youth Council was going from strength to strength and members had attended both the Annual Town Meeting and MayorMaking which they thoroughly enjoyed.

In response to some questions, The Operations Manager explained the challenges with starting and establishing a new service. These were building relationships with schools and fear of anti-social behavior which was stopping younger people from engaging.

Resources were a factor with outreach, however they were working with the college on pop ups and could look into pop up signs for the Campus. They were also working with the council through its service level agreement to try and target areas in Worle again.

Members were interested in what the youth clubs offered to try and engage with the groups of people displaying antisocial behavior and encourage them to join in. Ali explained that this was done by slowly building relationships outside of the service and allowing them the chance to take ownership of their youth club.

The Operations Manager left at 7.23 pm.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

.2 Grounds Management Report

In the absence of the Grounds Manager, the Assistant Town Clerk Operational Services reported that:

There were no great changes and the team were working to the programme. Recent good weather has helped with the maintenance of play areas and the cemetery continues to be a priority.

Meetings with the Allotment Club had been held and there were areas to address.

All toilets were open apart from Grove Park and the Assistant Town Clerk was pushing for an update on when the new toilets works would take place.

It was reported that the sign at Locking Road toilets had come off to which would be reported to Martin O'Neil at North Somerset Councils property team as they were no longer the town council's responsibility.

RESOLVED: That the verbal report be noted.

	<p>.3 Community Events</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p> <p>.4 Community Resilience Update</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>
19.	<p>To approve adoption of North Somerset Council Noticeboards</p> <p>The report of the Assistant Town Clerk had been previously circulated which informed that North Somerset Council (NSC) had approached Weston-super-Mare Town Council offering to hand over the majority of NSC's noticeboards across the town. The locations of these boards were outlined within the report.</p> <p>Assistant Town Clerk advised that this would be income generating for the council and would be managed in conjunction with the Tourism Manager via volunteers, cutting down the councils advertising costs. A maintenance budget would need to be established for this.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peter Crew SECONDED BY: Councillor Robert Skeen</p> <p>A vote was taken and accordingly it was carried.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To agree in principle the adoption of the reported noticeboards from North Somerset Council for marketing and advertising purposes across Weston.</p>
20.	<p>Ellenborough Park West</p> <p>The report of the Assistant Town Clerk had been previously circulated.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Ray Armstrong SECONDED BY: Councillor Joe Bambridge</p> <p>A vote was taken and accordingly it was carried.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To agree exploring the proposal from Clifton Diocese that WSMTC take on the long-term management of Ellenborough Park West, to be included in the council's asset portfolio.</p>
21.	<p>Cleaner Streets</p> <p>The report of the Assistant Town Clerk had been previously circulated.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk working with the town council's Communication Officer and Councillor Skeen had arranged an informal meeting on Wednesday 12th June at 6pm for groups/individuals who volunteered across Weston-super-Mare to litter pick their local areas and improve the overall appearance of the town.</p> <p>An invite has gone out across the town council's already established community networks, inviting those involved to share the projects they are working on, what they would like to see improved in the town and what resources they need as groups. This would enable the town</p>

	<p>council to understand the need and utilise the budget allocated to 'Cleaner Streets' for 2024/2025.</p> <p>An update will be sent out to the Community Services Committee with the outcomes from the meeting.</p> <p>The invitation had been well received and it was impressive to learn with the amount of volunteer time that was given in the town.</p> <p>All members were welcome to attend.</p> <p>A vote was taken and accordingly it was carried.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To note that a meeting to progress the utilising of the Cleaner Streets budget to be held at Weston Museum on Wednesday 12th June at 6pm.</p>
<p>22.</p>	<p>Grant applications</p> <p>The reports of the Finance Officer had been previously circulated with the agenda. The annual budget for small and voluntary grants is £12,500 with £0 already being approved in 24/25 with a £12,000 balance remaining.</p> <p>The annual budget for Community Event Grants is £60,000 with £27,000 already being approved in 24/25 with a £33,000 balance remaining.</p> <p>The annual budget for Youth Grants is £3,000 with £0 already being approved in 24/25 with a £3,000 balance remaining.</p> <p>.1 Aishah's Food Charity Grant Applied for £10000 Under power: Local Government Act 1972 section 137</p> <p>Aishah's Food Charity was a local hot meal food bank support local people in Weston-super-Mare who were seeking financial assistance of £1000 to help with the purchase of raw materials and ingredients as well as packaging. The purpose of the charity was to help prevent and relieve poverty.</p> <p>It was noted that the charity would help 95 people per week.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Robert Skeen SECONDED BY: Councillor Ray Armstrong</p> <p>A vote was taken and was carried: with one abstention recorded.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That a £1000 grant be awarded from the small and voluntary grants budget.</p> <p>.2 The Brightwell Grant Applied for £650 Under power: Local Government Act 1972 section 137</p> <p>The Brightwell were seeking financial assistance of £650 to help expand their opening hours for two evenings and a Saturday morning in order to cope with the demand of their services.</p>

The Brightwell support people who suffer from conditions such as Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's, Fibromyalgia, stroke recovery and other neurological conditions by providing treatments and therapies to those in need.

It was noted that the cash at bank balance was considerable, the organisation was linked to a limited company, the bank statements had been redacted and the organisation was based outside of North Somerset.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peter Crew

SECONDED BY: Councillor John Standfield

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

RESOLVED: That based on the lack of financial information provided, the application be refused.

.3 Create Together CIC

Grant Applied for £950

Under power: Local Government Act 1972 section 137

Create Together was a community-based arts and health organisation who facilitate creative activities in Weston-super-Mare and its surrounding areas. They were seeking financial assistance of £950 for an artist to paint a mural on the old electrical substation building on Loxton Road, Coronation Estate. Permission has been granted for this to happen from the owners - National Grid.

It was noted that the ward councillor had been working closely with the group to improve the area.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Robert Skeen

SECONDED BY: Councillor John Standfield.

A vote was taken and was **carried:**

RESOLVED: That a £950.00 grant be awarded from the small and voluntary grants budget.

.4 Milton Priory Girlguiding District

Grant Applied for £10000

Under power: Local Government Act 1972 section 137

Milton Priory Girlguiding District were seeking financial assistance of £1000 to replace tents and camping equipment which have been damaged due to a leaking roof. This was so members were able to have the correct equipment to go on the planned activity in June 2024.

Members questioned why the damage was not covered under insurance or able to be replaced by Girlguiding funds.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peter Crew

SECONDED BY: Councillor Marc Aplin

A vote was taken and was **carried:**

	<p>RESOLVED: To go back to the applicants questioning why the damage was not covered under insurance or able to be replaced by Girlguiding funds.</p> <p>.5 Wellspring Counselling Evaluation Report</p> <p>Members noted the Wellspring Counselling evaluation report previously circulated.</p>
	<p>There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.02 pm.</p> <p>Signed: Dated:</p> <p>Chair of the Community Services Committee</p>