

**WESTON-SUPER- MARE TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE  
HELD AT THE MUSEUM ON  
MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023**

**Meeting Commenced:** 7:00 pm

**Meeting Concluded:** 8:22 pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors James Clayton (Chairman), Roger Bailey, John Crockford-Hawley, Peter Fox, Pete McAleer, Helen Thornton and Roz Willis.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Sarah Pearse (Deputy Town Clerk ), Fay Powell (Assistant Town Clerk Operational Services), Samantha Bishop (Committee Officer), Becky Walsh (Communications Officer) and Zoe Scott (Grounds Coordinator).

<b>248</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutions</b>  Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sarah Codling with no substitution.  Councillors Gill Carpenter and Clare Morris was absent from the meeting.
<b>249</b>	<b>To receive Declarations of Interest</b>  There were none received.
<b>250</b>	<b>To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the Community Service Committee meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022</b>  The minutes of the last meeting had been previously circulated with the agenda.  Members were advised that the position of Grounds Manager was still being advertised with a closing date of 22 <sup>nd</sup> January.  An update regarding CCTV at Grove Park toilets was requested, to which members were informed that a site meeting with NSC was held and it had been determined upon examination that it would not be possible to link in to their system . This was because it could not see another camera and was not a clear line of site. NSC were in touch with Spansec, the town council's CCTV provider to see if anything could be done, but this was a simpler system with only 2 weeks memory storage. Any options would be brought back to committee for consideration.  The Chairman asked if the council 's system could be upgraded in order to be compatible to which he was informed that officers would enquire further and advised that this would be at extra cost.  <b>PROPOSED BY:</b> Councillor Roger Bailey <b>SECONDED BY:</b> Councillor Helen Thornton  A vote was taken and accordingly it was <b>carried</b> .  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

**251 References from other Committees:**

Expenditure & Governance Working Party – 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Weston In Bloom Grants Scheme - Supporting Communities

To consider proposed Grant Criteria and Grant Application which had been previously circulated with the agenda.

Members were advised that the proposed grant criteria were based on the similar model for the small and voluntary grants and tailored to be fit for purpose. It was noted that the council could not pay individuals for obvious reasons and applicants needed to demonstrate that they were a community group or similar organisation.

Based on the fact that the WIB budget was £14,000, which was also for the council to utilise for purchasing plants, a £500.00 maximum was deemed the absolute maximum for an exceptional project with a suggestion on the application form that grants sought should ideally be around the £250 pound or less as a guide, and any grant applications exceeding £500 should be referred to committee for approval. It was further noted that the WIB budget was limited so grants should be contained within a set value of a suggested £1,000

It was agreed to add into the application form that if an organisation was in the first year of trading it should provide bank details and evidence of set up in the same manner as the Small and voluntary grant scheme works.

It was advised that plants could not be given away instead of funding as the council only ordered plants twice per year and it would be difficult to manage expectations.

The Grounds Coordinator informed that she had enquired through the Royal Horticultural Society and they offered support and advice for groups wanting to become established, in order to access funding.

It was reported that the council had employed the former Grounds Manager on a consultancy basis to look at sustainable planting. He had created a 'look book' which could be utilised by groups.

It was confirmed that grants could not be sought to cover salaries.

It was suggested that the word 'evaluation' be reviewed on page 3 as was more reflective of how the grants were received. The Grounds Coordinator explained evaluation meant organisations providing information on how their project has benefited the community in whichever format they have available. This could be quotes from the public, number of people who have taken part in the project etc.

Discussion ensued regarding publicity and communication of the scheme and it was agreed to plan a launch event between now and April.

The Grounds Coordinator advised that she would bring a full report of WIB activities to a future meeting when work plans and timelines had been finalised.

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Roger Bailey

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Roz Willis

A vote was taken and was **carried**

**RESOLVED:** To approve the Weston in Bloom Grants Scheme - Supporting Communities

	and proposed Grant Criteria, with the above amendments.
<b>252</b>	<p><b>To receive the North Somerset Council CCTV Reports</b></p> <p>The CCTV reports for the period of November had been previously circulated.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the CCTV reports for November be received and that for future meetings, the reports be presented on screen for members to consider and assess trends.</p>
<b>253</b>	<p><b>To receive the report from the Community Response Officers</b></p> <p>It was noted that a report from the Community Response team had not been submitted due to staffing shortages and sickness.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk – Operational Services had obtained a brief overview and reported as follows:</p> <p>That antisocial behaviour in the town centre was a big issue, identified and carried out by 3x groups of teenagers. Police and Response Officers were trying hard to tackle and identify ringleaders. This was affecting many businesses and there was a real sense of angst being experienced.</p> <p>There were still rough sleepers at Grove House and antisocial behaviour in Grove Park.</p> <p>Discussion ensued regarding the challenges of antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>The Chairman reported, as a Trustee of Somewhere to Go that they had employed 2x members of staff and extended opening hours to 9-4, 7days a week with fitted lockers to store sleeping equipment and belongings. Somewhere to Go was an alcohol and drug free facility but was not able to provide a night assessment centre due to funding and requirements now being separate rooms where needed, to allow people to stay the night, not just bays which was the current set up.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the challenges of antisocial behaviour be noted.</p>
<b>254</b>	<p><b>Community Resilience Update</b></p> <p>The report of the Community Wellbeing Officer &amp; Development Officers had been previously circulated.</p> <p>In response to a suggestion regarding linking up with the allotment sites for food initiatives, the Deputy Town Clerk reported that there was a meeting regarding wellbeing and food initiatives the following day to be able to pursue this with the food initiatives the council were working with the community on.</p> <p>The Communications Officer advised that promotion of the Holocaust Memorial Day would feature on the Museum’s website.</p>

	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the report be noted.</p>
<p>255</p>	<p><b>Street Art Trail 2023 ‘Weston Walls’</b></p> <p>The report of the Deputy Town Clerk had been previously circulated.</p> <p>Weston Walls were eager to return to Weston and had started work with Culture Weston, applying for an arts Council England Support Grant.</p> <p>Members needed to agree the intention for the project, subject to inclusion within the final budget at Town Council.</p> <p>It was noted for clarity, that the report should reflect that the 2022 Whirligig event had been cancelled due to the Queens passing and not bad weather.</p> <p>Members generally agreed it was a good project and was good for the town.</p> <p>A vote was taken (5 for; 1 against; 1 abstention) and was <b>carried</b>.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> To note the intended allocation of £20k from the Community Event Grants budget for the Weston Wallz Street Art trail 2023 / 2024 (subject to inclusion of the £60 k Community Events allocation in the final budget – Town Council 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023).</p>
<p>256</p>	<p><b>Grant applications</b></p> <p>The reports of the Finance Officer had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>The remaining budget for small and voluntary grants was £7,050.</p> <p><b>.1 HMD North Somerset Grant applied for £1,424 Under power: Local Government Act 1972 section 137</b></p> <p>One of the main aims of HMD North Somerset was to increase knowledge of the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides, illustrated by the people who were persecuted. HMD North Somerset plan ned to host Holocaust Memorial Day events in different towns across North Somerset over the next five years and were currently planning a Memorial event to mark Holocaust Memorial Day 2023. The Memorial Event will take place at the Weston Super Mare Museum on Saturday 28th January 2023 at 7.30pm.</p> <p>Members were advised that if they wished to grant the full amount applied for, this would need to be recommended to the Policy &amp; Finance Committee. It was noted that the event for which the grant was sought was supported through the council’s Anti-Racism Group and the charges for hire for the Museum and exhibition boards had been waived.</p> <p>It was queried if the grant was an initial set up cost to run events over 5yrs as stated, to which this was deemed not clear in the application.</p> <p>It was agreed that more information was ideally needed, however the principle was very much supported.</p> <p>It was noted that there were Russian backed genocide groups active in Ukraine which</p>

was a current issue.

It was then

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Pete Fox

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Pete Mc Aleer

That £1,000 be awarded.

A vote was taken and was **tied** (4 for; 3 against) with the Chairman exercising his casting vote against the motion.

A counter proposal was then made

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Helen Thornton

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Pete Fox

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

**RESOLVED:** That £800.00 be granted from the 2022/2023 small and voluntary grants budget.

## **.2 The Food Bank**

**Grant applied for £800**

**Under power: Local Government Act 1972 section 137**

Weston Foodbank were seeking financial assistance of £800 to help equip the Warm Space that was already in the process of being set up from the £750 grant given from Weston Town Council. The shortfall was to help provide computer and Wi-Fi set up, furniture and activities.

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Helen Thornton

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Roz Willis

A vote was taken and was **carried.**

**RESOLVED:** That £ 800 be granted from the 2022/2023 small and voluntary grants budget.

## **257 North Somerset Council Citizens Advice Bureau - request for 2022/23 funding**

The Annual Report and financial statements of the NSC CANS had been previously circulated.

CANS were requesting release of the £25,000 grant the Town Council had allocated within their 2022/23 budget to support Citizens Advice services.

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor John Crockford-Hawley

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Roger Bailey

A vote was taken and was **carried**

	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> To authorise the £25,000 grant the Town Council had allocated within their 2022/23 budget to support Citizens Advice services.</p>
<p><b>258</b></p>	<p><b>Street Naming - SNN3818</b></p> <p>Members were requested to note the Street Name of ‘Apprentice Way’ for the North South Link Road which was indicated on a map and had been previously circulated.</p> <p>A vote was taken and was <b>carried</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> The name be noted.</p>
	<p>There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.22 pm.</p> <p>Signed: ..... Dated: .....</p> <p><b>Chairman of the Community Services Committee</b></p>