

PAULTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 17th July 2018 at 7.00pm held in the meeting room, Village Hall, Paulton

PRESENT: Councillors H Brady, T Bridgeman, G Dix, L Hardman, J Humphries (Vice Chairman), S Long, J Luxton, A Lyons (Chairman), P McSherry, C Mitchard, B Stevens, M Stevens and H Warren.

IN ATTENDANCE: Jo Swift – Clerk and J Bull (B&NES Councillor). 1 member of the public.

793. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To note apologies from Councillor H Howson.
J McMahon has tendered his resignation.

794. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public spoke about the proposed Management Committee for the Hub – it was felt that the suggested membership was for too many Councillors and more volunteers are needed on the committee.

795. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There was none.

796. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th June 2018 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

797. CHAIRMANS REPORT

It is lovely to see that the BMX track after a shaky start has finally been completed and being used by quite a few people, young and old either using, bikes or scooters. The council has received some very positive feedback from residents whose youngsters make use of this facility. I am sure that during the long school holiday we will see it being used on a daily basis – regardless of the weather!

Unfortunately due to the extreme heat and lack of water, the landscaping with grass seed will take some time to establish, so I'm afraid it is just a waiting game for it to look a nice rich green.

It has been suggested that we have an official opening with the young people taking centre stage, so we will facilitate this in the coming weeks/months – preferably when the grass has grown and it doesn't look so much like a dust field.

Since the last full council meeting there has been a Library/Hub presentation in the meeting room at the council office. Even though this was open from 10am until 8pm it wasn't attended by many residents. Voting was either using Survey Monkey or paper vote from inside the Paulton magazine. The votes were recorded by the Admin staff and then scrutinised by the Library working party to make sure that everything was in order – just like they do in elections. The actual details of the vote will be disclosed further on in the meeting at item (11) when Councillor Humphries will give a short report on behalf of the working party.

Councillor Hardman, Jo Swift our Clerk and myself have attended a couple of 'Youth' meetings where we are trying to establish a Cluster Group between Radstock, Westfield and ourselves to keep the youth service alive while trying to reduce cost,

while at the same time preserving the same level of service. It is looking promising both for the young people and the youth service providers who have had to step in as B&NES will no longer provide this service from 31st August, this year.

798. CLERKS REPORT

A claim has been made to the Councils insurance company and a settlement figure of £4,440 has been agreed for the repairs and cost of water loss at the Red Lion public toilets. Given the Parish Council's previous claim free record in the past 5 years and the fact there is little the Parish Council could have done to prevent this leak it is not expected that the insurers will apply any additional premium.

The Clerk recently attended a SLCC meeting (Society of Local Council Clerks), an update on GDPR was provided and the Clerk is happy that the Parish Council is compliant. A simple message was passed on – '*The less information you have, the less you have to protect*'.

The grant application, for Paulton Community Pool has recently been sent off to 'Sport England' the email acknowledgement stated that they hope to have a decision in approximately 8-10 weeks' time subject to the volume of applications received. The maximum that we could apply for is £150K.

'Fix My Street', previously reported, is now up and running but is in the earlier stages and is being given a soft launch because there are concerns of an overload of issues being reported which may overload the system. If anyone has any issues that need to be reported to B&NES Council, for now can they report them to the office and we will report via 'Fix My Street'.

799. CASUAL VACANCY

Resolved – that Linda Quinn is co-opted onto Paulton Parish Council.

800. WORKING PARTIES

The first phase of the work being done on the Property Portfolio will be completed by the end of the month. Communications working party – issues on the 'YourPaulton' website will continue to be worked on until resolved. In house training on the website to be done so that all work required for the website will be passed over to the office staff.

- (i) To note that Councillor T Bridgeman is no longer on the 'Property Portfolio' working party.
- (ii) **Resolved** – that the Communications working party is now dissolved.

801. CHRISTMAS 2018 – OFFICE HOURS

It was noted that the Parish Council is closed on Monday 24th December 2018 and staff that normally work on a Monday will take annual leave.

802. FINANCES (MONTH 3 - JUNE 2018)

Resolved - that the finances for month 3 (June 2018) were approved.

803. LIBRARY/HUB

The results of the consultation were provided:

Yes – 204

No – 48

Void – 45

Total number of votes - 297

Resolved –

- (i) that the Parish Council agree to proceed in taking over the Library/Hub, from April 2019;
- (ii) that a Hub Management Committee is set up with immediate effect to deal with the transition period and that the following Councillors are appointed to the committee – A Lyons, J Humphries, L Hardman, P McSherry, H Warren and J Luxton;
- (iii) that Kathleen Still (Library Volunteer Co-ordinator) is appointed to the committee as a non-Councillor;
- (iv) that the Terms of Reference (attached) are approved.

The Councillors not present at the meeting will be asked if they would like to join the Hub Management Committee.

804. ONE WAY SYSTEM – BLOOMFIELD LANE

Resolved – that the works are approved at a cost of no more than £473.42 and the money is to come from S106 monies.

805. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled Parish Council meeting is to be held on **Tuesday 21st August 2018** at 7.00pm.

805. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved – that pursuant to the provision of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business by reason of the confidential nature of business to be transacted – to consider staffing matters.

806. EMPLOYEE DRIVING LESSONS/TEST

Resolved – that up to £500.00 is to be loaned, for the purpose of driving lessons and test only, to be paid back at a minimum of £15 per month and that there is to be a review after 3 months.

807. EMPLOYEE PAY RISES

Resolved – that the Clerk is to find out about the 'Living Wage' and 'Real Living Wage' and this item is re-visited at the August Parish Council meeting.

Meeting ended at 8.20 pm

Signed: Date:
(Chairman)