

PAULTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 25th June 2019 at 7.00pm held in the meeting room, Village Hall, Paulton

PRESENT: Councillors T Bridgeman, M Colliver, G Dix, D Garlick, G Garlick (Chairman),
L Hardman, H Howson (Vice Chairman), A Lyons, P McSherry, A Meaton,
C Mitchard, L Quinn, B Stevens and H Warren.

IN ATTENDANCE: Jo Swift – Clerk

972. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were accepted from Councillor J Humphries.
Apologies were not accepted from Councillor Z Escott.
Councillor M Stevens had informed the Clerk that she would be arriving late but due to family commitments was unable to make the meeting.

973. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

974. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor B Stevens – agenda item 5. His employer is a competitor of Truespeed.

975. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st May 2019 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

976. TRUESPEED

A presentation was given, it was explained what TrueSpeed can provide for its customers. In brief, an ultra-fast broadband service. By getting enough local people to sign up for the service they are able to provide this service to the residents of Paulton. Once enough residents are signed up then a free connection can be provided to community buildings.

TrueSpeed are having a presentation in the Village Hall, Paulton at 10am on Saturday 3rd August. All welcome.

977. GRANTS CHANGE REQUEST

Resolved – to hold the £1,000 grant previously agreed until 31.03.20 and to be paid once a solid proposal has been received.

978. BUSINESS PLAN 2019-2023

It was requested that the previous Business Plan is emailed to Councillors.

Resolved – that the Clerk starts the process of producing a Business Plan.

979. CHRISTMAS 2019 – OFFICE HOURS

Resolved – that the Parish Council office will be closed at mid-day on Tuesday 24th and Tuesday 31st December and all day on Friday 27th December.

980. HUB WORKING PARTY UPDATE

The Clerk provided an update. B&NES have now approved the payment for the landlord's solicitors to release the paperwork and assignment documents. B&NES have provided all the additional information required by solicitors so that they can apply to register the lease with Land Registry. It is likely that it will take approximately 2 months for the documents to be registered with the Land Registry. The Parish Council cannot take on the Library/Hub until this and all the documentation has been finalised with the solicitors. There is no longer anything outstanding, it is now a matter of time waiting for this to all happen.

The following Councillors have offered their time to assist the volunteers at the library when required – Councillors G Garlick, A Lyons, A Meaton, L Quinn and H Howson as a back-up.

981. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT – NOVEMBER 2018 – MARCH 2019

Resolved – that the Internal Audit Report was received and noted.

982. FINANCES (MONTH 1 and 2 – APRIL AND MAY 2019)

Resolved - that the finances for month 1 and month 2 (April and May 2019) were approved.

983. ANNUAL RETURN 2018/19 – ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Resolved – that the Annual Governance Statement is approved and was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

984. ANNUAL RETURN 2018/19 – ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

Resolved – that the Accounting Statements are approved and was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

985. BANK SIGNATORIES

It was felt that having 5 signatories was too many in relation to the number of Councillors therefore it was agreed to have 4 signatories.

Resolved – that Councillor J Humphries is removed as a bank signatory from the Councils bank accounts and that Councillors G Garlick and H Howson are added to all the Councils bank accounts.

986. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Resolved – that all the recommended changes were approved.

987. COUNCILLOR SURGERIES

A lengthy discussion was had, and several suggestions and options were considered however it was generally felt that the present situation should continue.

Resolved – not to have a Parish Councillors surgery and that it is formally recognised that any Councillor present at the B&NES Councillor surgery is not there as an official representative of the Parish Council.

988. CHELWOOD BRIDGE ROTARY CLUB 2019 COMMUNITY AWARD

Resolved – that Kathleen Still, the Library Hub Volunteer Co-ordinator, is nominated for the Chelwood Bridge Rotary Club Silent Hero 2019 Community Award.

989. MARKING THE DEATH OF A SENIOR NATIONAL FIGURE POLICY

A correction to the Member of Parliament for NE Somerset needs to be made.

Resolved – that with the correction the policy was approved and adopted.

990. B&NES TRANSPORT GROUP

Resolved – that Councillor C Mitchard is appointed to represent the Council at the B&NES Transport Group.

991. PAULTON VILLAGE HALL QUARTERLY REPORT

Resolved – that the report was received and noted.

992. NEW CLERK AND RFO ROLES

Resolved – that the information supplied by the Chairman of the Staffing Committee was received and noted.

993. COMPLAINT 12.18 PPC

It was requested that the item be deferred as more investigations are going on between a Councillor and the Monitoring Officer at B&NES and she wanted a reply before proceeding with the agenda item. The Chairman asked if this was to be minuted and the answer was yes. The Chairman stated that the complaint was not to be discussed only the recommendations that the Parish Council had to consider therefore this would not have an impact on the Council considering the recommendations.

The Clerk confirmed that she had received an email from the Monitoring Officer requesting the anonymised 'Confirmation Notice' and 'Decision Notice' was to be shared with the rest of the Council.

Resolved – that the Staffing Committee consider the 4 recommendations and report back to a full Council meeting.

994. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled Annual Parish Council meeting is to be held on **Tuesday 23rd July 2019** 7.00pm.

Meeting ended at 8.20 pm.

Signed: Date:
(Chairman)