

# MINUTES OF CROSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Held at the Church Rooms, Church Street

on

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2024, at 7:00 pm

**Present:** Cllrs A Ford, A Hargraves (Chair), C Jackson

**Attending:** Cllr M Lovell (Somerset Council); J McGhee (Parish Clerk) ); two members of the public

## 1. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 2. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no remarks at this point from members of the public.

## 3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE; ABSENCES

Cllr B Gudzelak; Cllr M Starnes (the Clerk advised that Cllr Starnes had resigned from the council.)

## 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e).

(NB - this does not preclude any later declarations).

None.

## 5. COUNCILLOR COOPTION

See -

- i. Appendix 1 – Paul Hodge Application Form
- ii. Appendix 2 – John Owen Application Form
- iii. Appendix 3 – Louise Tully Application Form

The cooption process proceeded according to the Council's Co-option Policy Procedure.

Paul Hodge and Louise Tully spoke briefly in support of their respective applications. John Owen was unable to attend the meeting, but his application was included.

Council proceeded to vote on by a show of hands on the first of the two councillor vacancies. Louise Tully was elected unanimously. She signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and joined the meeting as a councillor

Council voted on the second vacancy. Paul Hodge was elected by a majority. He signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and joined the meeting as a councillor.

The Clerk will write to John Owen advising him of the result and thanking him for his application.

11/24-25

**6. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR**

The election of a vice-chair was deferred until the council meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> July.

**7. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

- i. To confirm and sign minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 (Appendix 4).

**RESOLVED.** Approved.

- ii. To confirm and sign minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 (Appendix 5).

**RESOLVED.** Approved.

**8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

None.

**9. FINANCE**

- i. To approve (or not) bank account reconciliation at 07 Jun 24 (Appendix 6).

**RESOLVED.** Approved.

- ii. To approve (or not) receipts and payments identified in cashflow from 01 May 24 to 07 Jun 24 (Appendix 7).

**RESOLVED.** Approved.

The Clerk will deal with Unity Trust Bank to clarify the process in future for raising and approving payments, given the changes in composition of the Council.

**10. CLERK'S REPORT**

- i. To note Clerk's Report (Appendix 8).

**RESOLVED.** Noted.

**11. LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORT**

- i. To note report from Cllr Lovell of Somerset Council (Appendix 9).

**RESOLVED.** Noted.

**12. UPDATE ON RECRUITMENT OF NEW CLERK**

The Clerk gave a verbal report on the production and placement of the advert for a new clerk. He also indicated he may reconsider his resignation and would advise the Council if so, so that they could consider the course they wished to take.

**13. ORCHARD GROUP**

- i. Council representation on Orchard Group

Cllr Tully volunteered to be the second Council representative on the Orchard Group (Cllr Hargraves having volunteered at the previous Council meeting).

- ii. Update from meeting (Clerk)

The Clerk provided an update on the Orchard Group meeting he had recently attended and points raised/discussed. These included event risk assessments, handling of finances including donations, applications for commemorative plaques, expansion of the number of trees, possibility of incorporating

the orchard/field in a wildlife/biodiversity initiative. These items will be further discussed and processes agreed.

12/24-25

**14. TRAFFIC CALMING**

The Clerk provided a review of approaches to/from Somerset Council Highways in the past on traffic calming including extending the 20mph limit in the village. These weren't progressed because the costs would have fallen entirely on the Parish Council and would have been prohibitive. Council will revisit the possibility of some form of traffic calming/control, possibly including a speedwatch scheme. Cllr Hargraves will lead the investigations/discussions.

**15. IDEAS FOR THE COMING YEAR**

Cllr Hargraves asked councillors to consider ideas for improvements or initiatives the Council could drive in the coming year and send details to him. He will coordinate and lead a discussion on them.

**16. FLOOD GROUP**

- i. Approval of modified Terms of Reference (Appendix 10)

Approval of modified Terms of Reference, changing the group name and concentrating its activities on flood matters exclusively rather than incorporating environment/biodiversity, was deferred to a wider review of terms of reference at the next meeting.

Cllr Hodge provided a general update on the work of the Flood Group.

**17. UPDATES ON ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING**

- i. Review of condition of Elderwell Lane – Cllr Jackson.

Deferred until the next meeting.

**18. MATTERS OF REPORT – ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

None.

**Date of next meeting – Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2024, at 7:00pm in the Church Rooms.**

**CLOSE Meeting closed at 20:25**