

**Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23rd January 2018
in the Bruton Community Hall at 7.30 pm**

Present: Councillors: Anderton, Karen Baker, Brownlow, Crawford, Hall, Haselgrove,
Hood, Jones, Marsh, Pickering and Robinson
In the Chair: Councillor Hall
In attendance: The Clerk
Nine members of the public

- 17/163 Welcome and Apologies for Absence**
Apologies were received from Councillors Abi Baker and Sida.
- 17/164 Declarations of Interests**
Councillors Karen Baker, Crawford and Hood declared a personal interest in grant applications as members of the Choral Society.
- 17/165 Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting held on 19th December 2017**
It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 19th December 2017 be adopted as a true and accurate record.
Resolved 11-0-0
- 17/166 Public Question Time**
A member of the public expressed their concerns with the quality of the MUGA surface and questioned the workmanship involved. Councillor Marsh answered that the specification was agreed by SSDC and he is confident that the works were properly undertaken. It was stated that all concerns should be sent through the Clerk who will deal with the complaint through the proper channels.
- 17/167 Action Points from Previous Meeting**
There were no actions from the extraordinary meeting.
- 17/168 Reports from County and District Councillor**
There was no report this time.
- 17/169 Reports from Committees**
a) Planning Committee
i) Planning Committee Meeting 2nd January 2018
Councillor Hall reported and the recommendations of the Planning Committee were noted.
ii) Planning Application No. 17/04685/FUL – Brick Hill Farm
The three applicants and four neighbours were in attendance. A site meeting had taken place on 16th January 2018. Councillor Hall gave a brief background report. An original application in 2013 for 2 barns for 1000 pigs had been refused but a revised application for 1 barn for 500 pigs had subsequently been approved. The current application is for the additional barn for 500 pigs. The neighbours expressed concerns about the doubling of both noise and odour, their houses being only 200 metres

from the farm and in an elevated position. The neighbours felt that proposals for fans in the barns to raise the air higher and extract the dust will make matters worse. The noise from the pigs fighting is currently very distressing and it was felt that all issues will be exaggerated with the additional barn.

The applicant responded that the fans have been advised by odour experts and having a second barn will separate the male and female pigs, which should help with the noise. The fans in the barn will make the living conditions more comfortable for the pigs thereby preventing them from wallowing in the bedding, which should prevent excessive smell.

Currently there is a quiet time during the cycle of pig rearing and this will remain as it is planned that all pigs will still be brought into the farm at the same time.

Councillor Robinson asked how often the vents would be used and what methodology had been used to calculate the odour levels. The applicant was unsure as the use of vents and the odour levels were often dependent on weather conditions. The applicants stated that in order to comply with the supermarkets welfare scheme, they will need to increase the space available to the pigs. There will be an increase in lorry movements when the pigs leave but it is expected to not be more than 4.

Councillor Robinson was concerned about the loss of residential amenity. Councillor Hall stated that since the first barn had been installed, no complaints had been received from neighbours. However complaints had not been made due to the desire to keep neighbour relations good.

After consideration it was proposed and seconded the application be recommended for approval.

Resolved 9-0-2

It was then proposed and seconded that a recommendation be made to SSDC that the application be considered at its area meeting before a final decision is made.

Resolved 6-2-3

At this point all members of the public left the meeting.

b) Services and Amenities Committee

i) Jubilee Park Play Equipment Update

The Clerk reported that the equipment had not yet been delivered although a date had been given for 15th January 2018. The Clerk has attempted to contact the manufacturers but has yet to receive a reply.

ii) MUGA Update

Councillor Marsh reported.

i) Remedial Work Update

After initial problems the tarmac remedial work is now completed. The line marking needs to be redone and it is hoped to be finished before the weekend, although the work is weather dependent. The path erosion by the road entrance will be repaired in the next few weeks and surface improvements will direct rainwater into the roadside drains. Donation money raised has still to be received. Two litter bins are to be purchased for the area.

ii) Closing report

A draft project closing report was presented. Any further input is needed by 2nd February 2018. The report formally closes the MUGA as a project. Follow-on actions and maintenance are as follows:

Action	Responsible	Completed by
Commission SSDC to conduct a post-installation inspection	Clerk	31 Mar 18
Inspect pitch at the end of the football season and task Play UK to make good as required	Cllr Marsh	31 May 18
Insert BUFC and Netball Club timings into notice board	Clerk	31 Jan 18
Purchase and install a litter bin at the MUGA entrance	Clerk	28 Feb 18
Instruct ground maintenance contractor to always remove grass cuttings from court after grass cutting	Clerk	Ongoing
Ensure floodlight timings are adjusted in accordance with the planning conditions as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 pm in Apr, Sep and Oct; • 9 pm in May and Aug; • 9.30 pm in Jan, Feb, Mar, Jun, Jul, Nov and Dec. 	Clerk	Ongoing
Ensure that any club wishing the floodlights to operate at full lux is charged for electricity usage on a pro-rata basis	Clerk	Ongoing

The Town Plan has justified the need for the MUGA and Councillor Marsh suggested that a new survey be carried out every 5 years.

iii) MUGA Information

A hard copy file of MUGA information, to be kept in the office, will be prepared for approval at the next full Council meeting.

iii) Jubilee Park Lease Extension

Councillor Marsh reported. An informal meeting with Simon Bate about a possible lease extension had taken place and a draft letter of response had been previously distributed to all Councillors. The Brue Bowl is currently drafting a project brief for the skatepark. The JP Development Programme mandate is to be updated for the Autumn.

MOTION: Council resolves to enter into negotiations with the Visitors of Hugh Sexey's Hospital with a view to extending the duration of the lease at Jubilee Park. Council further resolves to give delegated authority to the Clerk to progress the negotiation phase as deemed necessary, in consultation with Councillors Hall, Jones, Marsh and Robinson. Whilst oversight of the project is delegated to the Land and Property Committee, any future re-negotiated lease will be brought to full Council for determination.

Resolved 11-0-0

c) Finance Committee

i) Precept 2018/2019

Councillors Jones and Robinson reported. It was emphasised that approval of the budget at this stage in no way implies approval of any potential projects listed within. Any cash balance at the end of the current financial year can be used to top up the funding for Jubilee Park. The percentage increase this year is higher than surrounding parishes although the band D figure is comparable to other similar sized towns.

After consideration it was proposed and seconded to set the precept for 2018/2019 at £108,021. This represents a Band D increase of 34.16% on last year and will mean a Band D equivalent of £116.36, an increase of £29.63.

Resolved 11-0-0

ii) F&GP Committee Meeting 16th January 2018

Councillor Jones reported. In particular it was reported that Committee agreed to pay £819.50 + VAT for a topographical survey for the Library Junction Feasibility Study.

It was proposed and seconded that all other recommendations of the Finance and General Purposes Committee be adopted.

Resolved 11-0-0

d) Transport Committee

i) Transport Committee Meeting 5th December 2017

Councillor Brownlow reported that he is stepping down as Chairman. A new Chair will be elected at the next Transport Committee Meeting. Nick Scott from the Friends of Bruton Railway Station has prepared a consultation document which Councillor Brownlow will distribute to all Councillors. The minutes of the Transport Committee Meeting held on 5th December 2017 were noted.

e) HR Committee

It was reported that the Assistant Town Clerk is to start on Thursday 1st February 2018.

f) Committee Membership

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Hannah Sida be elected onto the Land and Properties Committee.

Resolved 11-0-0

17/170

Felling of Beech Tree at Jubilee Park

Councillor Hall reported that the tree was taken down before Christmas. The contractor did a very good job. The wood was offered free for collection by residents although there was some anger about how some individuals took more than their share. Councillor Hall will write a letter of thanks to Emma Donovan for her help in this matter.

17/171

Bee Friendly Policy

Councillor Brownlow has contacted Emma Donovan about this project and is awaiting a reply.

17/172

Meeting with SSDC re Tourist Information Centre

The Clerk reported that a meeting with the SSDC representative had been postponed until next Tuesday. A replacement notice board for the window is to be purchased at a cost of £82.00.

17/173

Reports:

Town Councillors - Councillor Karen Baker reported that she and Councillor Crawford recently attended a play area inspection workshop which was very useful. One thing highlighted was that e-mail confirmations of inspections were not enough and a written form needs to be completed.

Councillor Hood reported that he had attended a couple of meetings of the BCP and one of the questions asked was whether the Community Office is also a Tourist Office. Councillor Hood had also spoken to John Bishton about the Bruton Trust's submission to the SSDC Local Plan consultation.

Councillor Brownlow stated that he enjoyed the recent tour of Kings School's music centre.

Councillor Haselgrove questioned whether the facilities in the town's toilet scheme are being used.

Councillor Crawford visited the Cuckoo Hill playarea and reported that the sand pit was clear of animal waste.

Councillor Anderton reported that a complaint had been received about excessive light pollution from Kings School. Another volunteer has come forward to help with the website and a meeting will be set up once the new Assistant Clerk starts at the beginning of February. Councillor Anderton also reported that the company used for the town website appears to have gone out of business but hopes that this will not impact too much financially. The new computers for the office have been ordered.

Councillor Jones reported that there will be a Land and Properties Committee Meeting next Tuesday 30th January 2018.

Councillor Robinson will convene a library working group to discuss the library consultation which ends on 22nd April 2018. Councillor Robinson also reminded Council that new data laws will come into effect in May 2018.

Chairman – a letter of thanks had been received from Roger Burt regarding the Christmas event. Concern was expressed over the condition of the Churchyard wall. The Jubilee Park wall is also under observation and a reserve fund must be set up for future maintenance. Thanks had been received regarding the cones placed in Silver Street which have temporarily solved the problem of badly parked cars. Thanks were given to Councillor Crawford who will be representing the Council at a forthcoming Guides event.

17/174

Items for next agenda

Approval of MUGA Information File. Councillors are asked to forward items for the next agenda to the Clerk by Monday 19th February 2018.

17/175

Accounts for Payment

1	Streets Reimagined	Ideation Phase – Library Junction	£1978.00
2	J.A. Stewart	Fell beech tree – JP	£2350.00
3	Local World Ltd.	Ad for Assistant Clerk	£183.60
4	D. Newton	Office window cleaning	£10.00
5	K F McCarthy	Salary – January 2018	£1490.96
6	HMRC	Tax/Ni – January 2018	£445.66
7	Pension Trust	Employer pension contrib-Nov17	£63.40
8	Pension Trust	Employer pension contrib-Dec17	£63.40
9	Pension Trust	Employer pension contrib-Jan 18	£73.97
10	K F McCarthy	Expenses–visitors book/3xdiaries	£13.29
11	Ilminster Town Council	Councillor play inspection training	£252.00
12	William Bonner	Maintenance–remove graffiti/fix bin	£48.00
13	Vodafone	Phone bill to 31/12/17	£17.45
14	SLR Outdoor Maintenance	Clear churchyard/refit bench	£180.00
15	Water2business	Water bill for cemetery	£110.89
16	Opus Energy	Electric bill 20/11-20/12/17	£60.86

17	Hugh Sexeys Hospital	Peppercorn rent - JP	£1.00
18	JPP Trust	MUGA Electricity bill – Dec 17	£141.76
19	Slade Parry	MUGA Project Management fees	£547.97
20	Opus Energy	Electricity bill to 20/01/18	£60.48
21	Phil Simpson	Website maintenance Dec 17	£75.00
22	Cat's Café	3rd & 4th quarter toilet lease	£332.50
23	The Bruton Castle	3rd & 4th quarter toilet lease	£332.50
24	At the Chapel	3rd & 4th quarter toilet lease	£332.50
25	Streets Reimagined	Topographical survey	£983.00

Resolved 11-0-0

17/176

Correspondence

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| 1. | NALC | LCR Magazine – Winter 2017 |
| 2. | Clerk & Councils Direct | Magazine – January 2018 |
| 3. | SLCC | The Clerk Magazine – January 2018 |
| 4. | Local Gov Boundary Comm | Electoral review of South Somerset |
| 5. | Grassroots Planning Ltd. | Garden settlement north of Yeovilton |

17/177

Confidential Business – Motion to exclude the public

There were no members of the public present at this time.

17/178

Station Road Car Park Lease

Councillor Pickering reported that she had attended a meeting with Councillors Hall, Jones and Robinson together with Tim Cook to discuss the lease for the Station Road car park, which expires in September 2018. A meeting was then held with the owner of the land which was considered quite positive. SSDC may be able to help with a grant for the car park surface but this will be dependent on the length of any new lease. Various ideas were put forward and this item will be discussed again at the next Land and Property Committee meeting.

17/179

Land Holdings in Dropping Lane

A meeting will take place this Friday between councillors, the Bursar of Kings School and representatives from Bruton Trust and BCP. This item will be discussed further at the next Land and Property Committee meeting

Members of the Council considered these matters in the exercise of their functions: Equal opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability): Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights.

Action Points

1. Chase delivery of JP play equipment – Clerk
2. Purchase 2 litter bins for MUGA – Clerk
3. Complete MUGA closing report – JM
4. Send letter to Sexey's re JP lease – Clerk
5. Computers to be installed in office – SA
6. Convene library working group - JR