

**DRAFT Minutes of an initial meeting of the Town Committee held at the
Community Hall on 15th March 2022**

Present: Councillors Jones, Buckland & Anderton

In the Chair: Councillor Anderton

In attendance: The Community Development Officer

1. Election of Chair:

As a new committee a Chair was required. Councillor Anderton was nominated and elected.

Members agreed 2-0-1 [for-against-abstain] to ask Councillor Anderton to chair this and future meetings of the Committee until the election.

Election of Vice Chair:

Postponed until after the election.

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies from Councillors Crawford, Day, Fradley, Pickering, Brownlow, Abi Baker, Grahame Baker, Robinson, Hood and Cullen

4. Methodist Church

A member of the public was present for the discussion.

The future of the Methodist Church has been discussed in previous confidential sessions and in preliminary discussions with the Methodist Circuit. Community Asset status has been applied for and pre app advice for possible changes to the building. Any future involving buying the Methodist Church would require a public loan. Public consultation would be required for this which cannot be done in the election period. The Circuit need to be kept informed.

Recommendations to Full Council:

That a surveyor should be appointed to value the property so that a sensible bid can be put in.

To check the status of the Community Asset application.

To consult with SALC about the process of getting a Public Works Loan.

To plan a consultation program (Officers to start preparatory work).

To present the consultation process at the Annual Town meeting.

Members agreed 3-0-0 [for-against-abstain]

- 5. Pollinators:**
2 members of One Planet Bruton were present.
One Planet Bruton would like to extend the planting at Packhorse Bridge and Jubilee Park.
Recommendation to Full Council to approve the extensions of the planting spaces.
Members agreed 3-0-0 [for-against-abstain]
- 6. Jubilee Park Working Group:**
Agenda being sent out for a meeting 21st March 2022.
- 7. Abbey Ponds Working Group:**
Recommendations to Full Council:
Not to ignore bird nesting season to enable scrub clearance.
Chair of Full Council to send letter of thanks to stepping down Chair of the APWG.
To relook at using hand tools and volunteers to clear the scrub.
- 8. South East Somerset Wellbeing pilot Local Community Network (LCN):**
Deferred until after the election.
- 9. Sponsored Run:**
The use of BTC land has been approved. Organisers need to credit the Visitors in publicity.
Members agreed 3-0-0 [for-against-abstain]
- 10. Date for next meeting – after the Annual Town Meeting.**

Eve Anderton
Community Development Officer