

**Minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee 'FUTURE BRUTON', Tuesday 16th July
2024 7.30 pm, at the Community Hall,**

Present: Cllrs Anderton, Coulter, Fradley, Hood, and Mr B Mullis.

In the Chair: Cllr Coulter.

Officers present: Town Clerk.

Members of the public: 0

Public session was not required.

Meeting opened: 7.30pm

MINUTES

SP24/01: Election of Chair for this committee.

Cllr Coulter was proposed as chair, and accepted the nomination.

It was RESOLVED [5-0-0] [for-against-abstain] to elect Cllr Coulter as chair of this committee for the following year.

SP24/02: Election of Vice Chair for this committee.

It was discussed and agreed that a vice chair is not required for this committee.

SP24/03: Apologies for absence (LGA 1972 s85(1)).

Apologies were received from Cllr Jones.

It was RESOLVED [5-0-0] to accept and approve the apologies submitted.

SP04/04: Declarations of interest

Declarations of Interests Members to declare any interests, including disclosable pecuniary interests (DPI) they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any written requests from members for dispensations that accord with the Localism Act 2011 s33 (b-e) (This does not preclude any later declaration).

None.

SP24/05: Minutes from the last meeting.

To agree the [minutes from the last meeting](#) on 23rd April 2024 as a true and accurate record.

It was RESOLVED [5-0-0] to agree the minutes from the meeting of 23rd April 2024 as a true and accurate record.

Cllr Coulter signed the minutes.

SP24/06: Strategic plan.

a. Appearance of the Town.

To discuss any update following the last meeting of this committee, and the proposed quarterly audit of streets and public places.

- The proposed quarterly audit was discussed at length at the last Town Committee meeting, with a number of different questions raised. Due to a low attendance to the committee meeting, further discussion about the audit was deferred to the next Town Committee meeting (July 2024).
- Web based solution for individuals to enter information for consideration. If this is completed at a small scale by a council group, it would be helpful to target the type of information, for instance by a defined area .
- The monthly hoe-downs are very successful, and are making a difference, thank you to the volunteer group.

b. Bruton Play Areas Working Group

To receive an update from Bruton Play Area Working Group, which met at the end of May.

Cllr Fradley gave a short verbal report:

- Two meetings of the working group have taken place (22 May and 5 June).
- A short survey was conducted at the Packhorse Fair, at the end of May, to show the sorts of equipment that could be considered and garner some feedback.
- The Terms of reference was agreed, (now agreed at full council). The Chair of the working group has not been elected as yet, as a wider attendance to the working group meetings is being encouraged.

- The decision was made to obtain quotes for the three most popular types of equipment indicated in the survey.
- Cllr Fradley, along with other members of the working group, with representatives from play equipment providers: HAGS, ESP, Sovereign and Kompan. Once the quotes have been received, local school children to be surveyed, to obtain feedback on the proposals.
- Funding to be considered, predominantly via grant applications. Members of the working group have experience at applying for funding, which is helpful. It was noted that the council borrowing would require consultation with residents, but there is possibly a way to spread the cost over multiple years with the contractor.
- It was noted that any decisions will need to be agreed at full council.
- Cllr Hood spoke about a charity 'Make Space for Girls', which is important to consider during this process, and consulting about this when obtaining feedback about equipment.

c. Safe and Active Travel (walking and cycling): County Fields

To receive an update on any progress with the safe and active travel aspirations at County Fields, and to discuss any next steps.

There has been no further contact from Somerset Council, to date, regarding the proposed lease for the County Fields area in Bruton. The Town Clerk is to contact the Lead Member for Transport and Digital at Somerset Council, who visited the area in May, for some feedback, as there has been no response from the Somerset Council department.

SP24/07: Resilience/Flood Emergency Plan.

To receive an update and discuss any next steps.

This item is to be deferred to the next meeting,

SP24/08: Date of next meeting. Tuesday 15th October 2024, 7.30pm, to be held in the Community Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.01 pm.

END OF MINUTES