



MINUTES OF PROPERTY & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING

held on Monday 22nd January 2024 at 7.00pm

Councillors present: Philippa Biddlecombe (Chair), Frances Alden, Linda Ball, David Gill, Judi Morison, Trevor Oats, Pek Peppin, Angela Piggott and Tom Trouton

Clerk: Lisa Davis

In attendance: 2 members of the public

The meeting started at 19:00

2023

PI44 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Margaret Bebbington and Robert Brown

PI45 Declarations of personal or pecuniary interest (these must be declared BEFORE the agenda items concerned are discussed. Persons with a declared pecuniary interest must leave the meeting room when these are discussed).

There were no declarations of interest.

PI46 Approval of Minutes of Property & Infrastructure Committee meeting on 27th November 2023

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed (8 – for, 1 – abstained, 0- against) that the minutes of the meeting on 27th November 2023 be approved to be signed by the Chair at a later time.

PI47 Action points from previous meetings:

The works to the floors in the Assembly Room and The Shambles are due to be completed on 12/13 February.

Dave Gill and Philippa Biddlecombe would arrange a further discussion about health and safety.

PI48 Infrastructure:

a) Paviours Philippa Biddlecombe reported that Somerset Council would be undertaking works to the paviours between 18th to 22nd March. It was noted that these works are to repair small areas where the paving slabs are damaged or loose/rocking and not a replacement in its entirety.

b) Update on removal of phone box near the Horsepond The Town Clerk reported that BT have agreed to move the phone box.

PI49 Properties – Pavilion and Donald Pither Memorial Field

a) Update on Pavilion project There was no update. Judi Morison reminded Councillors that CCTC had not allocated any funds for this project in the 2024/25 budget and would be looking to fund the project through grants, fundraising, sponsorship and S106 monies.

- b) **Update on re-surfacing of basketball court** A response is awaited from GB Sport and Leisure regarding the re-surfacing of the basketball court.
- c) **To note play inspection reports** Noted.
- d) **To discuss four year plan for wildflower area at Catherines Close** The plan was discussed and it was agreed that Linda Ball would ask Spencer Sanderson to contact Tom Trouton to discuss the details further before commencing works.

Action 240122/1: Linda Ball / Tom Trouton

PI50 Market House

- a) **Update on Market House project** Pek Peppin reported that Somerset Council had advised that a further bat survey was required to be completed in May. Terms of Reference would be drafted for the Market House group to be agreed by Full Council.
- b) **Billiard Room – update on issues** Philippa Biddlecombe reported that the chimney is damp again. It was agreed that enquiries would be made regarding the use of a camera to investigate the issues further.
RESOLVED: it was proposed and unanimously agreed to apply for Listed Building Consent to remove the chimney so that the appropriate consents were in place should there be a need for the chimney to be removed.
- c) **Market House clock – to discuss repairs needed and possible volunteer help** It was agreed to defer this to the next meeting as further information was required from Robert Brown.
- d) **To discuss re-painting of area of wall in Museum**
RESOLVED: it was proposed and unanimously agreed to re-paint the area of wall in the Museum.
- e) **To discuss removal of gloss paint from the handrail and skirtings on the staircase** It was agreed to investigate this further.

PI51 Cemetery

- a) **To discuss issues with compost and litter bins at the Cemetery** Philippa Biddlecombe reported that the compost bins had recently been emptied and there was no compostable material in them. Concerns were raised about fly tipping and it was agreed to remove the compost bins.
- b) **To review criteria for reduced cemetery fees for local residents** it was agreed that the criteria should remain the same at the current time.

PI52 Traffic Working Group

- a) **To discuss progress to date and forward plan** An update on the proposed station footpath signage was circulated in advance of the meeting.

PI53 Speed Watch

- a) **Update on Ansford and Castle Cary Speed Watch** Philippa Biddlecombe reported that the Police are keen to have a Speedwatch day across the county in February. It was noted that the CCA28 social media post regarding the 20mph speed limit had initiated comments from the local community.

PI54 Health and Safety

- a) **To discuss possible purchase of PAT testing equipment as a community resource** Tim Earle-Marsh advised that the Repair Café were looking to purchase a PAT testing kit to be available as a community resource. A grant application had been submitted and a request was made to CCTC to consider funding the shortfall of around £300. It was agreed

to discuss further once the outcome of the grant application was known. Trevor Oats agreed to contact Ansford Academy to find out more about the equipment that they have.

Action 240122/2: Trevor Oats

PI55 Jubilee bench

- a) **To discuss possible change of location for the jubilee bench** Tom Trouton suggested that there may be a better location for the jubilee bench. It was agreed that a site visit would be arranged and this would be discussed further at the next Properties and Infrastructure Committee meeting.

PI56 Community Resilience

- a) **Update on Ansford and Castle Cary Community Resilience group** Judi Morison reported that the group included key stakeholders and two meetings had been held to date.

PI57 Policies

- a) **Environmental policy – to review Environmental policy**
RESOLVED: it was proposed and unanimously agreed to re-adopt the Environmental Policy subject to one minor amendment.

The meeting ended at 21:00

The next meeting of the Properties and Infrastructures Committee will be held on Monday 25th March 2024 at 7.00pm. Any items for inclusion on the agenda should be forwarded to the Town Clerk by Thursday 14th March 2024.