



Castle Cary Town Council

The Market House

Market Place

Castle Cary

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MINUTES OF CASTLE CARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 9th December 2024 at 7.00pm

Present: Trevor Oats (Chair), Frances Alden, Margaret Bebbington, Philippa Biddlecombe, Robert Brown, David Gill, Tom Trouton

In attendance: Lisa Davis (Clerk)
Cllr. Henry Hobhouse
Nick Rickwood – Autonomy Group
Nic Faulkner-Elliott – Autonomy Group
Zoe Young – The Newt
14 members of the public

Before the meeting started, Trevor Oats reminded all Councillors of the Civility and Respect pledge that has been approved by CCTC.

19:00 Open session

A resident spoke about the funding provided to Caryford Hall.

One resident raised concerns about disturbance from Weavers Lodge.

A resident spoke about parking issues at Victoria Road and raised concerns about access for emergency vehicles.

The meeting started at 19:12

2024

TC96 Apologies for absence

Linda Ball, Andrew Lane, Judi Morison, Pek Peppin and Angela Piggott had sent their apologies.

TC97 Declarations of personal or pecuniary interests

None

TC98 To approve the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 18th November and to be signed by the Chair at a later time.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to defer this until the next meeting.

TC99 Community Safety and Security update

- a) **Crime report from Avon and Somerset Police** No report had been received
- b) **Update following meeting with Weavers Lodge** An update was given by Autonomy Care following a meeting with local residents. A further meeting would be held with residents in January.

TC100 To receive reports, updates and correspondence:

- a) **Somerset Councillors:** There was no update
- b) **Caryford Hall** An update report had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The next meeting would be held on 12th December.
- c) **Castle Cary Museum** There was no update
- d) **To receive a report from the Town Council representative for A371 Group (DG)** The next meeting would be held on 10th December. Robert Brown advised that he had written the pitch for submission to GWR for funding, this would be discussed at the next meeting of Ansford Parish Council.
- e) **Update on Key Objectives/Projects** There was no update.
- f) **To review action points from previous meetings** There was no update.

TC101 Chairs' Report

- a) **Local Community Network – update** There was no update.
- b) **Youth provision – update** An update report had been circulated.
- c) **Lord-Lieutenant's visit – to note visit to Castle Cary on 7th February 2025**
Noted

Committee Reports, Recommendations & Progress on Major Projects

TC102 Planning Committee & Neighbourhood Plan

- a) **Planning Committee update report** the Council received a report of the Planning Committee meeting of 2nd December. Robert Brown suggested that the Neighbourhood Development Plan should be re-adopted. Councillors were reminded of the response from Somerset Council received in November 2023 when this was raised previously.

TC103 Properties and Infrastructure Committee

- a) **Properties and Infrastructure Committee update report** – there was no update report.
- b) **Update on Market House project (PP)** there was no update.
- c) **Update on Pavilion Project** Philippa Biddlecombe reported that the Pavilion Group had met. It was noted that a community launch of the project would be held alongside a coffee morning on 1st February and a business launch would be held on 6th February.
- d) **Traffic Working Group update** Robert Brown reported that the Traffic Working Group were working with APC and that traffic and parking issues were getting worse in the town.
- e) **To consider the recommendation that Kier are instructed to empty gullies in Castle Cary as part of the Enhanced Highways Maintenance pilot up to the value of £8,000**
RESOLVED: it was proposed and agreed (5 – for, 0 – abstained, 2 – against)

TC104 Marketing and Communications

- a) **Marketing and Communications Committee update report** there was no update report.

TC105 Finance and Management

- a) **Budget year to date summary** – there was no update

- b) **To agree to progress tender process for planting, installation and watering of hanging baskets in 2025** It was agreed that Philippa Biddlecombe, Margaret Bebbington, Tom Trouton and Judi Morison would meet to agree the specification and tender documents for planting, installation and watering of hanging baskets.
- c) **To consider grant request from Cary Carers**
RESOLVED: it was proposed and agreed unanimously that a grant of £100 is awarded to Cary Carers
- d) **To consider grant request from Citizens Advice Somerset**
RESOLVED: it was proposed and agreed unanimously that a grant of £150 is awarded to Citizens Advice Somerset
- e) **Payments - to approve the November 2024 payment schedule for the Town Council and the Donald Pither Trust and to nominate Councillors to verify and authorise payments**
- a) **Payments - to approve the December 2024 payment schedule for the Town Council and the Donald Pither Trust and to nominate Councillors to verify and authorise payments.**
RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the December 2024 payment schedule for the Town Council be approved.
RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the December 2024 payment schedule for the Donald Pither Trust be approved.
It was agreed that Margaret Bebbington would check the invoices against the payments and that Philippa Biddlecombe would execute the payments.

The meeting concluded at 19:56 hours.

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Monday 20th January 2025 at 7:00pm. Any items for inclusion on the agenda should be forwarded to the Town Clerk by Thursday 9th January 2025.