Castle Cary Town Council
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MINUTES OF CASTLE CARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
held on Monday 16th June 2025 at 7.00pm

Present: Trevor Oats (Chair), Frances Alden, Margaret Bebbington, Philippa Biddlecombe, David Gill, Pek Peppin, Angela Piggott, Tom Trouton

In attendance: Lisa Davis (Clerk)
Cllr. Henry Hobhouse
Cllr. Kevin Messenger
2 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.

Open session

A member of the public gave an update about a request to The Newt to provide accessible walking routes on Lodge Hill. They also raised concerns about spraying in that area and the associated health concerns.

Another member of the public spoke about the impoverishment of Somerset Council and the role that elected members and the local MP had to play in this.

The meeting started at 19:13

2025

TC22 Apologies for absence

Linda Ball, Gavin Crisp and Judi Morison had sent their apologies.

TC23 Declarations of personal or pecuniary interests

None

TC24 To approve the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 12th May and the Extraordinary Full Council Meeting held on 9th June to be signed by the Chair and to be signed by the Chair at a later time.

RESOLVED: it was proposed and agreed (7 – for, 1 – abstained, 0 – against) to approve the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 12th May.

RESOLVED: it was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council meeting on 9th June.

TC25 Community Safety and Security update

a) **Crime report from Avon and Somerset Police** No report had been received. It was agreed to request a meeting with the PCSO's after 4 July.

Action: 251606/1: Town Clerk

TC26 To receive reports, updates and correspondence:

a) **Henry Hobhouse and Kevin Messenger (Somerset Councillors)** Henry Hobhouse reported that works on Station Road should be completed in August / September and will involve a road closure. He has arranged to meet with the Neighbourhood Police Seargeant next week to discuss local issues. Kevin Messenger reported that he had received a phone call regarding people trying to ram the gate to get onto Lodge Hill.

b) **To receive a report from the Town Council representative for Caryford Hall (DG)** There was no update

c) **To receive a report from the Town Council representative for Castle Cary Museum (PP)** Pek Peppin reported that the Heritage Lottery Fund are indicating that the Museum should be incorporated into the project.

d) **To receive an update on Local Community Network (LCN) (JM)** A report had been circulated in advance of the meeting

e) **To receive an update on youth provision (JM)** A report had been circulated in advance of the meeting

f) **Update on Key Objectives/Projects** There were no updates

g) **To review action points from previous meetings** It was noted that no update had been received from the Traffic Working Group

TC27 Chairs' Report

Trevor Oats reported that he had written an update for the newsletter.

Committee Reports, Recommendations & Progress on Major Projects

TC28 Planning Committee & Neighbourhood Plan

a) Planning Committee update report the Committee received a report.

b) To discuss proposed street names for new Persimmon's development off Torbay Road it was agreed to discuss this at the next Properties and Infrastructure meeting so that more information could be obtained.

TC29 Properties and Infrastructure Committee

a) **Properties and Infrastructure Committee update report** there was no update report.

b) Update on Market House project (PP) Pek Peppin reported that a meeting with the Heritage Lottery Fund was planned for 18th June.
RESOLVED: it was proposed and unanimously agreed that improvements to the Museum areas would be included in the funding application

c) To consider all quotes for works to the Billiard Room Philippa Biddlecombe reported that the first fix of electrics and plumbing had been completed. Three quotes for the decoration of the kitchen area had been received and one quote for the windows in the Billiard Room.
RESOLVED: it was proposed and agreed (7 – for, 1 – abstained, 0 – against) to accept the quote for decoration of the kitchen area from N Gorry
RESOLVED: it was proposed and unanimously agreed to accept the quote for the windows from Ed Humphris

d) Update on Pavilion Project (PB) Philippa Biddlecombe reported that a Project Group meeting was planned for 23rd June.

e) Traffic Working Group

i. **update (RB)** There was no update

ii. **To agree CCTC membership of the Traffic Working Group**
RESOLVED: it was proposed and unanimously agreed to disband the Traffic Working group

TC30 Marketing and Communications

a) **Marketing and Communications Committee update report** the Committee received a report

b) **To agree recommendation from Marketing and Communications Committee regarding charges for the Fun Fair to be held at Fairfield in October 2025**
RESOLVED: it was proposed and unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation from the Marketing and Communications Committee regarding charges for the Fun Fair to be held at Fairfield in October 2025

c) **To agree recommendation from Marketing and Communications Committee regarding increased costs for typesetting of the newsletter**
RESOLVED: it was proposed and unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation from the Marketing and Communications Committee regarding increased costs for typesetting of the newsletter

d) **To discuss cost of additional hanging baskets in town centre** It was agreed that CCTC would not fund additional baskets. Trevor Oats agreed to speak to The White Hart.

Action 251606/2: Trevor Oats

TC31 Finance and Management

a) **Budget year to date summary** – the Budget Year to Date summary was not available

b) **Adverse Weather Policy – to agree recommendation from Finance and Management Committee to re-adopt the Adverse Weather Policy**
RESOLVED: it was proposed and unanimously agreed to re-adopt the Adverse Weather Policy.

c) **To approve section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return**
RESOLVED: it was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return

d) **To approve section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return**
RESOLVED: it was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return

e) **Payments - to approve the June 2025 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 June 2025 payment schedule for the Town Council be approved.
RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the June 2025 payment schedule for the Donald Pither Trust be approved.
It was agreed that Angela Piggott would check the invoices against the payments and that Philippa Biddlecombe would execute the payments.

TC32 Somerset Council's Chair Awards

a) **To consider making a nomination for Somerset Council's Chair Awards**
Three names were put forward for consideration. More information about each

would be circulated to Town Councillors before a nomination is agreed and submitted.
Action 251606/3: Judi Morison/Philippa Biddlecombe

The meeting concluded at 20:23 hours.

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Monday 21st July 2024 at 7:00pm. Any items for inclusion on the agenda should be forwarded to the Town Clerk by Thursday 10th July 2024.