

Stoke Sub Hamdon Parish Council

MRS. SARAH MOORE, PARISH CLERK. 24 High Street, Stoke sub Hamdon, Somerset TA14 6PS

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MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD 7pm

ON WEDNESDAY 15th MARCH 2023 AT

THE LIGHTHOUSE, WEST STREET

23/057 APPOINTMENT OF PROPER OFFICER (CLERK)

Motion proposed by Chair to suspend Standing Orders SO 9(xiv)

RESOLVED: Suspension of Standing Order 14a to allow appointment of Proper Officer external to council.

Unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that Mr Neil Bloomfield be appointed Proper Officer (Clerk) for duration of this meeting only.

Unanimously agreed.

1905hrs Meeting suspended by chairman to allow members to attend site visit to HY&FC, West Street to assess ongoing works to the building.

1929hrs Meeting reopened.

23/058 APPOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllr G Middleton & Cllr R Holder

23/059 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Standing declarations apply

23/060 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the nature of the business to be transacted.

Unanimously agreed.

23/061 TO DISCUSS STOKE SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL ARRANGEMENTS RELATING TO THE HAMDON YOUTH & FAMILY CENTRE AND A WAY FORWARD.

Cllr M Phillips gave a presentation the HYFC project from inception and provided a financial update regards the councils financial commitment to the project. Concern raised over a substantial grant made from the HYFC Trust to the Parish Council. Charity Commission rules appear to preclude this with possible tax implications for the council.

RESOLVED to appoint an external auditor to review the last 3 years Parish Council accounts to verify compliance with legal requirements and councils policies and AGAR submissions.

Unanimously agreed.

Action Finance Committee

RESOLVED the Finance Committee be granted delegated authority to manage and monitor all aspects of the audit of the councils last 3 years accounts including the appointment of an appropriate auditor. Regular written updates to be provided to full council on a monthly basis as a minimum.

Unanimously agreed.

Action Finance Committee

RESOLVED to create a "Financial Investigation & Audit" budget line with a starting budget of £5k vired from the general reserve. Additional funds would require another council resolution.

Unanimously agreed.

Action Clerk

RESOLVED to seek clarification from the Charity Commission regards a grant to the Parish Council from HYFC. HMRC be advised of a potentially incorrect VAT claim.

Unanimously agreed.

Action Finance Committee

RESOLVED that a formal request be made to HY&FC Trust to provide the original Feb 2018 HYFC Trust and current constitution.

Unanimously agreed.

Action Clerk

Members were advised the original trust agreement allowed for 3 parish Cllrs to be appointed trustees. A decision to appoint trustees from Parish Council would not be made until the lease/constitutional arrangements were clarified.

RESOLVED to defer any trustee appointments to April 2023 meeting of full council.

Unanimously agreed.

Action Clerk

Meeting closed 9pm.

