

With no further members of the public wishing to speak, the Chairman re-convened the meeting

- 137. TO RECEIVE A WARD COUNCILLOR & NSC PARISH LIAISON OFFICER UPDATE** (*Agenda item 9*)
Ward Cllr Haverson updated the meeting on NSC related matters. These included:
- Council tax increases for 2022/23 to accommodate large increases to Children's and Older People's Services
 - Local Plan – planning constraints for large areas of North Somerset restricted potential areas that could be considered to accommodate new housing numbers as dictated by Government.
 - A combination of home/office working was preferred by the majority of NSC staff and because of this it was likely that one of the two NSC offices would be closed
 - It was acknowledged that little time had been given to enable Parish Councils to engage in meaningful discussion regarding finance & future of the Churchill Sports Centre. Final decision on this would now be delayed for a further year.
- Cllr Haverson was questioned regarding a decision on the Churchill Academy 'home to school' transport. It was disappointing to note that a final decision had yet to be made by NSC despite it previously being reported that the service would be withdrawn Easter 2022. In response it was advised that discussions were taking place between the School Transport and Banwell Bypass Teams and these would assess implications for additional traffic generated by the bypass. The transport service would not be withdrawn until NSC considered a safe route for walking was available.
- 138. TO AUTHORISE BILLS FOR PAYMENT. Annex 2** (*Agenda item 10*)
Direct payments, cheques, direct debits, and standing order payments as detailed totalling £33,194.09 (incl. vat) were authorised for payment.
Proposed: Cllr J Witcher Seconded: Cllr J Taviner All in favour
- 139. TO APPROVE A REQUEST FROM CHURCHES TOGETHER TO HOLD THEIR ANNUAL GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE ON THE VILLAGE GREEN ON 15TH APRIL AT 10.30AM** (*Agenda item 11*)
The Parish Council approved the request from the Churches Together to hold the annual Good Friday Service on the Village Green. As the village green was owned by the Woodborough Inn, and separate consent would also be sought by the group from them.
Proposed: Cllr T Nicholson Seconded: Cllr Z Aravantinos All in favour
- 140. SANDFORD PLAYING FIELD – AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSED LEASE FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL.** (*Agenda item 12*)
Considerable discussion took place on this item with it being noted that the main concern of the Parish Council regarding regular break-clauses in the lease had largely been addressed. A Sandford Cllr advised that parishioners approaching them would like to see this facility available to the community outside school hours and this would only be achievable if the Parish Council were to enter into a lease agreement with NSC. It was recognised that a formal agreement with the school would need to be in place regarding upkeep and maintenance of the shared space and road access for maintenance purposes should be clarified. Several anomalies in the draft lease document were highlighted that solicitors should be made aware of. Some members highlighted the need for a 'land condition report' prior to entering an agreement with NSC especially as the pitch was prone to ponding and was unusable during wet weather periods.
It was proposed that the lease agreement is accepted by the Parish Council, to incorporate regular 'break clauses' and amendment as discussed. This would be conditional on an acceptable maintenance agreement being reached with the school & confirmation from solicitors regarding the ability to 'charge for the use of/hire of the facility'
Proposed: Cllr K Joyce Seconded: Cllr J Witcher
6 in favour, 5 against
- 141. PLANS FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 11TH APRIL 2022 – IDEAS NEEDED** (*Agenda item 13*)
Whilst there was a legal requirement to hold an 'in person' Annual Assembly, members were asked to consider if this should be a small-scale event whilst covid still remained a prominent virus in the community? With restrictions having recently been lifted by Government, members offered a number of suggested speakers and were enthused about each committee or group providing a visual computer display of all areas of work that the Parish Council was involved with. Cheese and wine would also be offered to encourage attendance.

142. TO CONFIRM ACCEPTANCE OF INCREASED QUOTATION COSTS FOR WORKS AT ILEX LANE CEMETERY ENTRANCE (Agenda item 14)

Due to the significant increase in the cost of building materials, a quotation provided for building alterations to the cemetery entrance in September 2021 and approved by the Parish Council (min 83c. 25.10.2021) could no longer be delivered at the same cost. The Parish Council had specified, after receipt of the quotation that works should not be carried out before Spring 2022 due to ground disturbance at the cemetery entrance over the wet and muddy winter period.

Due to the difficulty encountered in originally obtaining quotations for the project, the previous record of the appointed contractor submitting favourable quotations, and a good track record of high-quality work, it was proposed that the increased costs of £1,300 were accepted and approved. Wall, pillar, and foundation works would increase from £7,900 plus vat to £9,200 plus vat and taken from cemetery ear-marked reserves.

**Proposed: Cllr L Van Haaren Seconded: Cllr E Buckland
9 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention**

143. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM A MEETING OF THE WAR MEMORIAL RECREATION GROUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 21ST FEBRUARY 2022; (Agenda item 15)

Concern was expressed regarding the small amount of information supplied to date by the 'Flags and Festivals Group' (independent group from the Parish Council) for the Jubilee event planned to take place on the Recreation Ground on 4th June 2022. The WMRG Chair and PC representative on the 'Flags and Festival Group' would pursue this matter. Delays in receiving requested information beyond mid-March could restrict 'higher risk' special attractions at the grounds due to insurance implications.

Section 106 funding from the Woodborough Grange development would become available in the foreseeable future. Funding had been secured for the grounds for the improvement of sports pitches and changing facilities, and a decision on how these monies would be spent would be made by the Parish Council.

The second phase of necessary drainage works on the entrance road to the Recreation Ground to prevent the road and gully system from total collapse had been completed in January 2022.

144. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION (Agenda item 16)

- **Sandford Village Hall.** AGM to take place on 16th March and new committee members would be welcomed
- **Bristol Harriers running club.** The usual annual ultramarathon of 50 or 56 miles would take place on 23rd April 2022 for the first time in three years, and due to the Hinkley works taking place at the usual road crossing point, a check point in Winscombe had been requested before the final finish in Rowberrow. The Railway Garden by the Woodborough Road public conveniences would be used for the marshals to replenish water and provide nutrition to participants. It would be requested that any debris/plastic water bottles would be cleared by event organisers.
Post meeting note: the event would be plastic free event with marshals refilling participants water hydration back-packs at the check points.
- **WinSpace** – planning approval for the new centre had been granted by NSC

With no further business, the meeting concluded at 8.55 pm

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date.....

Winscombe and Sandford Parish Council acknowledge the general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (age, race, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status, religion & belief, pregnancy & maternity, and disability) Crime and Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.