

**WEST SOMERSET COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 August 2012 at 4.30 pm**

**in the Council Chamber, Williton**

**Present:**

Councillor D D Ross ..... Chairman  
Councillor G S Dowding ..... Vice-Chairman

Councillor M J Chilcott	Councillor H J W Davies
Councillor J Freeman	Councillor S Y Goss
Councillor P N Grierson	Councillor A P Hadley
Councillor B Heywood	Councillor A F Knight
Councillor K V Kravis	Councillor R P Lillis
Councillor E May	Councillor I R Melhuish
Councillor K M Mills	Councillor C Morgan
Councillor P H Murphy	Councillor S J Pugsley
Councillor K J Ross	Councillor D J Sanders
Councillor L W Smith	Councillor M A Smith
Councillor T Taylor	Councillor K H Turner
Councillor D J Westcott	

**Officers in Attendance:**

Chief Executive (A Dyer)  
Corporate Director (B Lang)  
Group Manager Resources (G Carne)  
Group Manager Housing and Economy (I Timms)  
Economic Regeneration & Tourism Manager (C Matthews)  
Climate Change & Community Liaison Manager (A Lamplough)  
Meeting Administrator (H Dobson)

**C29      Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M O A Dewdney and A Trollope-Bellew.

**C30      Minutes**

(Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 27 June 2012, circulated with the Agenda.)

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 27 June 2012, be confirmed as a correct record.

**C31      Declarations of Interest**

Members present at the meeting declared the following personal interests in their capacity as a Member of a County, Parish or Town Council:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Minute No.</b>	<b>Member of</b>	<b>Action Taken</b>
Cllr S Y Goss	All	Stogursey	Spoke and voted
Cllr P N Grierson	All	Minehead	Spoke and voted
Cllr C Morgan	All	Stogursey	Spoke and voted
Cllr P H Murphy	All	Watchet	Spoke and voted
Cllr K J Ross	All	Dulverton	Spoke and voted
Cllr L W Smith	All	Minehead	Spoke and voted
Cllr K H Turner	All	Brendon Hills	Spoke and voted
Cllr D J Westcott	All	Watchet	Spoke and voted

In addition, the following interests were declared:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Minute No.</b>	<b>Description of Interest</b>	<b>Personal or Prejudicial</b>	<b>Action Taken</b>
Cllr H Davies	C34	Member of Minehead Barbarians	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr I Melhuish	C34	Vice-President of Minehead Cricket Club	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr A Hadley	C37	Licence holder	Prejudicial	Left the Chamber
Cllr K Kravis	C37	Licence holder	Prejudicial	Left the Chamber

## **C32 Public Participation**

Members of the public spoke regarding the item 'Request for Allocation of Planning Obligations Monies' as follows:

David Lethaby, Chairman of Minehead Cricket Club spoke to the effect that due to the development of the new hospital and teaching buildings, the pitches had been rearranged on a smaller games field resulting in the Club not being able to use its pitch. This coincided with the 28 year lease expiring on the current pavilion. A new field and wicket had been provided by the college but without a pavilion the Club was at risk of closing. The Club provided the highest level of club cricket in the south west and with support had obtained a grant for a new pavilion, which would meet the new England and Wales Cricket Board Standards, and a 25 year licence for the pavilion and use of the pitch. Without the full allocation of £50,000 the target sum would not be achieved by the deadline at the end of August. The Club had already received requests from societies and other clubs to use the facilities, which were welcomed.

The Council was then addressed by two young people:

Graham Taylor spoke to the effect that he had been involved with the Cricket Club for several years and had a lot of friends who shared their

love of cricket from all over West Somerset. Every weekend and most evenings he attended, with friends, either the coaching seasons at the Club or helped out in whatever way he was able.

Angus Marsh spoke to the effect that the college had been lucky enough to have coaches from the club helping to organise training sessions during lessons and lunch-time. To have a new pavilion would provide more changing facilities for boys and girls and more games could be played. He played hockey in the winter and the pavilion could provide facilities and a base, which they didn't have at the moment. If this chance to get funding was lost, it would be really sad.

**C33**      **Chairman's Announcements**

4 July 2012	Attended the AGM of CLOWNS at Minehead Eye. Cllrs K Ross, E May & D Westcott also attended.
8 July 2012	Attended the Sea Service at Minehead Lifeboat Station
11 July 2012	Attended the AGM of Homestart. Cllrs E May and D Westcott also attended. He invited members to view the Homestart presentation on DVD which would be shown immediately after the close of the Council meeting.
12 July 2012	Attended 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lyn & Exmoor Museum.

The Vice Chair announced that he had visited HMS Somerset in dry dock in Devonport, Plymouth on 12 July 2012, and learnt about how Operation Kipion had dealt with piracy off Somalia. Also, that he had attended a presentation by The Rifles in Taunton on their tour in Afghanistan on 25 July 2012.

The Chairman advised of a Special Meeting of Full Council to be held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 4.30 pm, to discuss the implications of the new Council Tax Benefits regime.

The Chairman announced that this meeting was the final full council meeting to be attended by the Group Manager - Resources, Graham Carne. He praised the Group Manager for the huge improvements he had helped to implement in the three years that he had served with the Council. He would be missed greatly and was wished the very best in his new post at West Somerset Community College.

The Leader of Council wished to echo the words of the Chairman and commended the Group Manager for his progress with the Council. He believed that it would be difficult to replace him and wished him well for the future.

**C34**      **Request for Allocation of Planning Obligations Monies**

(Report No. WSC 100/12, circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was to make a proposal for the allocation of capital monies secured through planning obligations to provide a cricket pavilion in Minehead.

The Lead Member for Resources and Central Support presented the report. She highlighted the issues that had been resolved and recognised that the proposed allocation was a large sum. However, the monies were there for the area to make use of, and this proposal would benefit many groups other than the Cricket Club. Further, she recognised the concerns regarding consultation and that the process could be improved, notwithstanding this she did not want to see the proposal at risk and therefore proposed the recommendations which were seconded by Councillor C Morgan.

Members noted an error in the recommendation of the report and that it should read: "Council approve the recommendation of Cabinet..."

Support was expressed regarding the proposed development and it was noted that the proposal satisfied the criteria for releasing the monies and was needed to secure further funds from the England and Wales Cricket Board. Other groups such as CLOWNS, the Rotary Club and Minehead Running Club etc had all expressed an interest to use the premises.

Concerns were raised with regard to the need for further consultation and as to whether there would be sufficient funds for the remaining nine priorities indicated by Minehead Town Council.

Councillor P Grierson proposed an amendment "that the Council approve, in principle, a sum up to £50,000 of Section 106 monies". It was seconded by Councillor L Smith.

The amendment was debated and the main points included:

- Concern that a sum 'up' to £50,000 would not secure further funds from the Cricket Board and that they were time limited.
- The Minehead Cricket Club may not have time to raise extra money by the end of August.
- It was confirmed that some Section 106 monies relating to Bircham Road, and Silvermead and Seaward Way had been received with the potential for further monies at a future date. Thereby considerably increasing the monies available for other projects to help mitigate the developments.
- The consultation process needed to be more effective.

The Corporate Director advised that answers to the questions put forward on behalf of Minehead Town Council could be provided following the meeting.

On being put to the vote the amendment was LOST.

The original motion was then voted on and it was:

**RESOLVED** that the allocation of £50,000 for the provision of a cricket pavilion in Minehead for inclusion in the current year's capital programme, be approved.

**Note:** With the agreement of the Chairman this item was brought forward on the Agenda.

**C35**      **Purchase and Sale of Properties at Clanville Grange, Minehead**

(Report No WSC 72/12, circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was to advise Council of the Cabinet decision to request approval of a supplementary capital estimate for the purchase of a property at Clanville Grange, Minehead

The Lead Member for Resources and Central Support presented the report and advised that it would be necessary when setting the budget to consider ensuring that there was a capital allocation within the 2013/14 budget for future purchases to occur. The Lead Member proposed the recommendations, which were duly seconded by Councillor K Turner.

The Lead Member confirmed that the Council would be directed by its' Affordable Housing Ownership Policy with regard to the sale of the property and hence, it would be resold as Affordable Housing at 80% of the market value.

**RESOLVED** that a supplementary capital estimate for the sum of £92,500 to purchase a property at Clanville Grange, be approved.

**C36**      **Street Trading/Temporary Markets Policy**

(Report No. WSC 101/12, circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was present the amended Street Trading/Temporary Market Policy to Council for adoption.

The Lead Member for Housing, Environmental Health and Licensing outlined the details in the report and proposed the recommendations, which were seconded by Councillor D Westcott.

**RESOLVED (1)** that the West Somerset Street Trading Policy, attached as Appendix A to the minutes, be approved to take effect from 9 August 2012.

**RESOLVED (2)** that the policy be reviewed after an initial 18 month period to ascertain its suitability for purpose. If no revisions are required after the review, the policy to remain in force and reviewed as necessary and at least every five years.

**C37**      **Delegation of Function for Licensing Authority as Responsible Authority**

(Report No. WSC 102/12, circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was to seek delegated authority for the Manager of the Environment and Community Group to act as the Responsible Authority on behalf of the Licensing Authority.

The Lead Member for Housing, Environmental Health and Licensing advised that as a small authority it was necessary to delegate the function as it would not be possible for the Licensing Officer to review licences as well as deal with licensing applications and issues. The Lead Member proposed the recommendations, which were seconded by Councillor S Pugsley.

**RESOLVED** that under the terms of the Licensing Act 2003, authority be delegated to the Manager of the Environment and Community Group to act as the Responsible Authority on behalf of the Licensing Authority where it is deemed necessary to promote the licensing objectives.

**Note:** Councillors K Kravis and A Hadley left the Chamber for this item.

**C38**      **Request for Allocation of Seaside Strategy Funding for Minehead Vision Manager and Apprenticeship Posts**

(Report No. WSC 107/12, circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was to consider proposals for the allocation and use of an element of the seaside strategy earmarked reserve funding, for the creation of an 18-month Minehead Vision Manager post and a 12-month Apprenticeship role. Cabinet considered this proposal at its meeting on 1 August, and the Portfolio Holder would provide verbal feedback in relation to their deliberations.

The Lead Member for Economic Regeneration and Growth presented the report in detail and highlighted the fact that the targets in the action plan were specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and timely (SMART) and summarised the answers to questions raised at Cabinet held on 1 August.

The Lead Member proposed the recommendations, which were seconded by Councillor A Hadley.

During the course of the debate the following main points included:

- Concern regarding whether the outcomes could be delivered.
- It was confirmed that the availability of the Seaside Strategy Fund resulted from a previous government report that had concluded that Minehead was amongst 25 of the most deprived seaside towns and was allocated £200,000 to address the issues.
- Minehead Visioning Group had formulated an action plan on how it's vision could be achieved. The employment of a manager and

apprentice would be essential in delivering the SMART targets in the action plan.

- The apprenticeship post, to be advertised locally, would be part of a standard government scheme employed by the Minehead Development Trust (MDT).
- The MDT were a body of volunteers who operated similar to a charitable trust.
- The Manager and Apprenticeship posts would provide a viable route to improve tourism and regeneration in Minehead.

**RESOLVED** that a supplementary estimate in the sum of £70,000 to Minehead Development Trust from the unallocated Seaside Strategy Funds to employ an 18-month Minehead Vision Manager post and 12-month Apprenticeship role as described in section 4 of the report, attached to the agenda, be approved.

**C39**      **Minutes and Notes for Information**

(Notes and minutes relating to this item, circulated via the Council's website.)

**RESOLVED** that the draft notes and minutes of the following meetings be noted:

- Standards Committee held on 19 June 2012
- Exmoor Panel held on 21 June 2012
- Minehead Area Panel held on 20 June 2012
- Watchet, Williton and Quantocks held on 12 June 2012

The meeting closed at 6.30 pm.