

50th Annual Town Meeting

To be signed at the next meeting 2024

Minutes of the 50th Town Meeting held on Wednesday 12th April 2023 at 7.30pm
Clevedon Town Council, 44 Old Street, Clevedon, BS21 6BU

Held in the Council Chamber

PRESENT

Cllr D Shopland – Chairman of Clevedon Town Council

Town Councillors: N Barton, C Blades, B Cherokoff, A Everitt, C Francis-Pester, J Forbes, A Gardner, A Goodliffe, T Morgan, K O'Brien, A Shopland, D Shopland, J Van Blerk, R Westwood & H Young.

IN ATTENDANCE

Deputy Town Clerk – Mrs S Howard,
Locum Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), Mr B Poole
Members of the public (18)

Apologies for non-attendance had been given by Cllr H Blades (unwell),
Cllr Bowden-Green (family), Cllr Harper (family) & Cllr Holdsworth (family).

TM 23/1 MINUTES OF THE 49th TOWN MEETING

Proposed and seconded, and **AGREED** that the minutes of the 49th Annual Town Meeting held on 13th April 2022 are a true record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

TM 23/2 ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

23/2.1 Chairman's Report; Cllr Shopland presented his report as circulated prior to the meeting, thanked members of the Council and public for their support.

23/2.2 Allotment Chairman's report; the report as circulated prior to the meeting.

23/2.3 Finance & General Policy Committee Chairman's report; the report as circulated prior to the meeting.

23/2.3 Planning Committee Chairman; the report as circulated prior to the meeting.

23/2.4 Property Committee Chairman; the report as circulated prior to the meeting.

23/2.5 Town Events and Amenities Committee Chairman; the report as circulated prior to the meeting.

23/2.6 Transport & Highways Committee Chairman; the report as circulated prior to the meeting.

Proposed seconded and **AGREED** to accept the Chairman's & Committee reports.

TM 23/3 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Locum RFO presented the circulated budget accounts for 2023/24.

Proposed, seconded, and **AGREED** by the meeting to accept the financial report.

TM 23/4 TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM RECEIPIENTS OF GRANTS

Wellspring Counselling

The Deputy Town Clerk advised apologies had been submitted and read out Wellspring Counselling's annual report.

The grant of £500.00 received went towards their provision of subsidised counselling for adults in North Somerset. Improvements have been made to the service with new counselling venues who are now working in Nailsea, Clevedon, Portishead and Worle, meaning more people can now access the service closer to home or work.

Great Western Air Ambulance Charity (GWAAC)

GWAAC supports emergency critical care for residents of Bath and Northeast Somerset, North Somerset, Gloucestershire, Bristol and parts of Wiltshire, attending an average of five patients a day.

The Critical Care Team were called 135 times to North Somerset in 2022 and 11 of those were to Clevedon. So far in 2023, the crew have attended eight patients in Clevedon up to mid-April.

GWAAC receive no day-to-day funding from the Government, the service depends on the community for support. It costs £4million a year to be fully operational and one life saving mission costs an average of £2,000.00. Clevedon Town Council's grant will go directly towards these daily mission costs. Thank you for your generous support.

Vision – North Somerset

Vision is an independent charity that is 45 years old, under the Woodspring Association for the Blind. They hold social groups, workshops, meet in Squirrels Café at the Community Centre and have 'splash and chat' sessions, allowing those with visual impairments to feel more secure. Thank you for the grant to enable this service to continue.

The Brightwell (West of England MS Therapy Centre)

Thank you for the grant. The Brightwell is a small fundraising team and have managed to provide 10,748 appointments to people affected by MS and other neurological conditions, including 305 fun group classes. The Brightwell treated sixty-seven different conditions and provided 1,554 more appointments than in 2021.

Read Easy North Somerset

Read Easy helps adults with either poor or no reading skills. It is taken for granted sometimes, that we can, however, there are many that cannot read at all.

The charity evolved in Weston Super Mare in 2019, with twelve coach reader pairs and takes a year to achieve a standard to a GCSE course at Weston College. The service has been extended to cover all of North Somerset, with two coach readers in Clevedon. The turning pages programme is a reading manual for the reader and a set of books, which costs £400.00. Currently there are three readers which is increasing to four. The aim is to maintain twenty-four reading pairs in North Somerset. Thank you for the grant awarded.

Nailsea & District Community Transport (NDCT)

NDCT offer a door-to-door service, enabling people to live in their homes for longer. Currently there are twenty volunteers and eight vehicles. By providing the elderly with transport support, has saved the Government over £355,000.00, as the residents do not need to go into care. In this coming year, the group are obtaining their first electric bus, so keep a look out for it. Thank you for the grant awarded.

The Barn

The Barn and the Youth work derives from the YMCA club in Marson Road, which has been operating for over 10 years. The grant received from the Town Council is essential to keeping the youth work going.

A Youth Worker advised that there are over sixty members with a waiting list too that provide memorable projects to their regulars. Their focus has been on mental health and recovering from the pandemic, and have also linked up with the nursing home, Winash.

Theatre Shop

Thank you for the grant. The Theatre Shop provides outdoor family performances and shows in the retail unit in the Queens Square since 2015. The grant given, has supported three shows in the Theatre Shop programme.

Clevedon Community Association

The grant enables the Community Association to complete projects at the Centre and on this occasion, the money has been put towards a newly refurbished floor at the Community Centre, bringing new life to the hall. Thank you.

Citizens Advice North Somerset

The Chief Officer had submitted their apologies. The Quarter 4 and Year End Report has been submitted and can be viewed on request.

YMCA

The YMCA use the grant to support youth work and wages. They also have fundraising activities to meet their budget. They have also been granted a National Lottery grant for the next 3 years, this is on the proviso that they still receive the money from the Town Council to effectively match-fund the projects. Thank you for the grant awarded.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their reports, it is nice to hear and know that the money has been put to good use and brought some good to the Town.

TM 23/5 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTOR PARTICIPATION

Park Road

A resident wished to raise concern with the dangerous situation of Park Road, which is congested with cars on one side of the road, near the top, and is heavily used by commercial vans etc., and is dangerous and it will only be a matter of time before an accident happens.

Action - The Chairman of Council declared that this should be submitted to the new Council as an urgent item.

WESTlink Bus – On-Demand service

A resident spoke about the new on-demand bus service, WESTlink and enquired why the bus will go to Pill and Portbury but it will not go to Cribbs Causeway. The X5 bus service no longer serves Cribbs Causeway, and it is therefore impossible for those who wish to use the shops that do not have a vehicle.

Action - The Chairman of Council suggested this be passed to the Transport & Highways Working Group.

Untidy Town

A resident used to live outside of Clevedon, and since moving here has noticed how untidy it is here. The amount of leaf debris and weeds growing, with a tidy up it would make such a difference.

Action – The Chairman of Council suggested this be passed to the Transport & Highways Working Group.

The meeting closed at 8.23pm.

CHAIRMAN DATE