

Minutes of the Assets Management Committee Meeting
held on Monday 18th April 2024 at 6.30pm

Present: Cllrs Irven, Brake, Murphy and Whetlor

In attendance: Annie Robinson Deputy Town Clerk

- 24/56D **To Receive Apologies for Absence:** (LGA 1972, section 85 (1))
Cllr Brake proposed that *'apologies given by Cllrs Campbell, Richards, Terrett & Westcott are accepted'*.
Seconded by Cllr Whetlor. Carried.
- 24/57D **To receive any Declaration of Interests** under Watchet Town Council's Code of Conduct (adopted on 9 July 2012) issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 SI No: 1464
None received.
- 24/58D **To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2024 - circulated to members prior to the meeting via Appendix 1-** (LGA 1972, Sch 12 Para 41)
Cllr Murphy proposed that *'the minutes of the meeting held 14th March are a true and accurate record'*.
Seconded by Cllr Whetlor. Carried.
- 24/59D **Somerset Council Asset Transfers:**
- (i) Report outlining running utility costs of Market Street toilets through comparison with Harbour Road Toilets. Clerk to update committee on report – *circulated to members prior to the meeting via Appendix 2*
The Clerk updated the Committee on the estimated annual running costs, and it was agreed the figures should be further researched and amended as needed.
It was noted that future running costs would impact residents through precept charges and Cllr Whetlor suggested a public consultation could be undertaken to establish if toilets were wanted.
 - (ii) Renovation and building costs Market Street Public Toilets quote – *circulated to members prior to the meeting via Appendix 3*
Members noted the costs of the building contractor's quote. A discussion ensued.
Cllr Murphy noted the importance of a time locking system within the toilet blocks, it's costs and importance to staff safety.
Cllr Irven noted the donation system for the community toilet block at Blue Anchor and requested research is undertaken to establish how much this system raises pa.
Cllr Irven also requested further research into annual costs of using a professional cleaning company across both toilet blocks for comparative purposes.
It was requested that analysis of footfall should be further researched.
Cllr Murphy requested that Somerset Council be contacted to establish if renovation costs of West Street toilets could be offset against the cost of the asset lease.
 - (iii) Update on E.O.I Asset transfers progress – Nothing to report
Cllr Irven requested that Somerset Council be contacted to update and hasten asset transfer on play areas and Watchet Sea Scouts premises whilst West Street Toilet block research continues.
- 24/60D **Watchet Library refurbishment:**
- (i) Clerk update on progress of repairs.
Cllr Irven updated the committee members on the progress of repairs which are proceeding well.
- 24/61D **Watchet Cemetery:**
- (i) Matters requiring Committee approval – *if required*
Cllr Irven noted raising issues of cemetery noncompliance at Annual Town Meeting and ongoing noncompliance issues are still being reviewed.
- 24/62D **Matters for the next meeting** – no discussion or decisions made

Meeting Closed at 7.09pm

Signed Sollin Smer

Date 16th May 2024