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Minutes of the Martock Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 26th April 2023 in the Parish Hall, Church Street, Martock commencing at 7:00pm.

PRESENT: Councillor John Hole (Chairman), Councillor Joy Bailey (Vice

Chairman), Councillor Neil Bloomfield, Councillor Paul Helyer, Councillor Suzanne Luxton, Councillor Graham McDonald, Councillor Alan Potter, Councillor Alison Warne,

Councillor Louise Clarke, Councillor Tony Welsh and

Councillor Ashley Chapman.

ALSO PRESENT: Ward Councillor Emily Pearlstone and the Locum Clerk

Public Participation: There were no members of the public present.

Ward Councillor Reports: The Ward Councillor report was received and noted from Cllr Emily Pearlstone.

477. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Neil Williams and Councillor Sylvia Williams.

It was noted that Councillor Andrew Clegg and Councillor Ash Warne had resigned from the Council.

478. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were received.

479. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Proposed: Cllr Helyer Seconded: Cllr Joy Bailey

Unanimous

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 22nd March 2023 be signed as a correct record.

480. COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS

To receive the minutes of all the following Committee meetings that have taken place since the last full Council meeting held on 22nd March 2023.

It was agreed to include the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 8th February 2023 on the next Full Council Agenda.

Planning Terms of Reference: These had been amended by the Committee. It was agreed to include these for adoption at the May meeting.

Proposed: Cllr Clarke Seconded: Cllr Bailey

Unanimous

RESOLVED to receive the following minutes, note and review the resolutions passed at all committee meetings held since 22nd March 2023 and ratify any decisions as required.

- Events Committee 3rd April 2023
- Personnel Committee 5th April 2023
- BOS Committee 13th March 2023

481. Internal Auditor

To consider appointing an alternative internal auditor to complete the year end audit.

Proposed: Cllr Bailey Seconded: Cllr McDonald

Unanimous

RESOLVED to appoint an alternative auditor to complete the end of year internal audit as required subject to the Locum Clerk reviewing the alternative quotations received to ensure value for money is achieved.

482. Grounds Maintenance Contract

To consider the approval to extend the Village Grounds Maintenance Contract with Evis Grounds Maintenance from 1st August 2023 to 31st March 2024. The additional 8 months will cost £9,930. This was being recommended so that it falls in line with the end date of the Recreational Grounds maintenance contract.

Proposed: Cllr Helyer Seconded Cllr Clarke

Unanimous

RESOLVED to extend the Village Grounds Maintenance Contract with Evis Grounds Maintenance from 1st August 2023 to 31st March 2024 when the contract will be re-tendered.

483. Finance reports

a) To receive and sign the list of payments for March and April 2023

Proposed: Cllr Bailey Seconded: Cllr Welsh

Unanimous

RESOLVED to approve the payments list for March and April 2023.

b) To receive and note the current statutory balance sheet

Proposed: Cllr Helyer Seconded: Cllr Bailey

Unanimous

RESOLVED to approve and adopt the Balance sheet

c) To receive and note the current income and expenditure report

Proposed: Cllr Clarke Seconded: Cllr Helyer

Unanimous

RESOLVED to approve the budget report as presented.

d) To approve bank account reconciliations for March 2023 – This item was deferred.

484. Date of next meeting

Members noted that the date of the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 24th May 2023 at 7.00pm. This would be the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

The Annual Parish Meeting was to be held on 10th May 2023 subject to an agenda being developed.

485. Confidential Session

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.

486. Update on Staffing Issue

To formally approve and ratify the proposal from the Personnel Committee. Members will be provided with additional information at the meeting.

Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr Bailey and seconded by Cllr McDonald to accept the recommendation made by the Personnel Committee.

For: 10 Against: 1

RESOLVED to accept the recommendation from the Personnel Committee and to action it as soon as possible.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:17pm

Chair:	 Date:	
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