Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on 10th August 2026 in the Council Chamber, The Old Courthouse, Jaycroft Road, Burnham-on-Sea at 7 pm

Present: Councillors Facey (Chair), P. Clayton, J. Flurry, G. Gudka, A. Hendry, R. Keen, A. Matthews, P. Mills, M. Murphy, K. Pearce, S. Perry, C. Searing, B. Vickers,

In attendance: E. Dutton (Deputy Clerk) and 4 members of the public

Public Participation:

Members of the public raised concerns regarding ongoing anti-social behaviour in the Pier Street car park, noting that issues have persisted for several years. Another member of the public raised concerns about camper vans parking overnight.

Cllr Perry advised that councillors have been meeting with Somerset Council and are engaged in ongoing discussions to identify solutions regarding camper van parking, with hopes that progress will be made soon.

The Mayor requested that the resident provide a copy of their email to the Town Council office, confirming that it would be forwarded directly to the Leader of Somerset Council and to Richard Wilkins in support of the residents' concerns.

(2 members of the public left at this juncture)

759.0.T26 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from the Town Clerk and Councillors Wynn, Tolley and Millard

760.0.T26 To receive any declarations of interest on items included on this agenda

There were no declarations of interest.

761.0.T26 Appointment of the Mayor's Cadet for the ensuing year

The Mayor's Cadet was unable to attend the meeting, this item will be deferred to the next Town Council meeting agenda.

762.0.T26 To receive and approve the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 29th June 2026

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Town Council, held on 29th June 2026, were presented by the Mayor.

Resolved that the minutes be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

Signed by Chair…….. Date……

763.0.T26 Matters arising from previous minutes

A question was raised regarding recent consultations, the Deputy Clerk confirmed they would be on the next Town Council Agenda.

764.0.T26 Confirmation of Mayor's Charity for 2026/27

The Mayor confirmed that In Charley's Memory will be his chosen charity for the year.

765.0.T26 To receive Mayor's report

The Mayor's report had been circulated with the agenda.

766.0.T26 To receive report from the Police

No report was submitted.

767.0.T26 To receive any reports from Somerset Councillors

The circulated report was noted.

768.0.T26 To receive minutes of previous committee meetings

Planning Committee - 7th July and 20th July

Finance & Governance Committee - 20th July

A question was raised regarding the Finance & Governance Committee meeting, specifically relating to the deferred grant request. The Deputy Clerk advised that she would confirm the information with the RFO and report back to members.

769.0.T26 To receive list of payments up to 31st July 2026

The attached list of payments was received and noted. One query was raised regarding an item on the list, and the matter was satisfactorily answered.

(Councillor Gudka entered at this juncture)

770.0.T26 To receive Town Council Accounts for month of June 2026

The accounts for June were received and no queries raised.

771.0.T26 To receive reports from town councillor representatives appointed to outside bodies

Written reports from Town Council representatives on outside bodies were circulated with the agenda.

772.0.T26 To receive Working Group update reports

Cllr Vickers provided a verbal update on the Highbridge Regeneration Working Group. She reported that members had reviewed the planting in the area and made further efforts to improve the flowers. It was also

Signed by Chair…….. Date……

confirmed that the grass at the roundabout coming from the direction of Bridgwater into Highbridge had been cut.

Cllr Vickers expressed disappointment that the funding from Isleport development appears to be returning to Somerset Council and was keen to pursue the installation of a MUGA on the Isleport estate.

Cllr Keen advised that he had additional information relevant to the matter and would forward it to the Town Clerk for distribution.

773.0.T26 To review and adopt the updated IT, Cybersecurity and Email Policy

Resolved that the updated IT, Cybersecurity and Email Policy is adopted.

774.0.T26 To consider response to correspondence received

774.1 To consider invitation from Site Stakeholders Groups to visit Hinkley A + B sites on 8th September 2026

Resolved that Councillor Pearce will attend the visit to Hinkley A + B sites on behalf of the Town council.

774.2 To consider a response to the Somerset Council consultation on Council Tax Reduction Scheme

Resolved that Councillors would respond individually to the consultation.

774.3 To appoint a member to attend the Somerset Prepared Community Resilience Day on Wednesday 21st October 9.15am - 4pm at Millfield School

Resolved that if Councillor Millard was unable to attend Councillor Perry would attend on behalf of the Town Council.

774.4 To nominate a representative to attend the Somerset Armed Forces Partnership Conference on Tuesday 29th September, from 10am - 4pm at The Canalside Centre, Bridgwater, TA6 6LQ

Resolved Councillor Keen will attend the Somerset Armed Forces Partnership Conference on behalf of the Town Council.

774.5 To consider a response to the Somerset Council recommendations consultation on the Polling District and Polling Place Review

Resolved that Councillors would respond individually to the consultation.

Signed by Chair…….. Date……

774.6 To consider supporting a request from a resident to Somerset Council for a speed limit review and pedestrian safety improvements on Poples Bow

Resolved that the Town Council would write a letter of support to Somerset Council, requesting that they carry out a formal review of the speed limit and consider pedestrian safety improvements at Poples Bow.

775.0.T26 To approve a request to release £2,752 earmarked funds for floral decorations

Resolved that the request to release £2,752 from earmarked reserves for floral decorations is approved.

776.0.T26 To approve a request to release £2,000 CIL monies for a contribution to the Trees Outside Woodland Grant application

Resolved that the request to release £2,000 of CIL monies for a contribution to the Trees Outside Woodland Grant application is approved.

777.0.T26 To consider the purchase of digger for cemeteries

Resolved that the quotation from Company B for a Kubota mini digger is approved at a cost of £20,700.00 funded £8,000 from the Cemetery Mech Grave Digger budget and £12,700 from the Grounds Equipment earmarked reserve.

It was further agreed to approve the delivery of specialist grave-digging and shoring training at a cost of £2,695.00 funded from the Training budget.

778.0.T26 To consider purchase of sockets for Christmas Lights

Resolved that the purchase of sockets and timers for the Christmas lights was approved, with £8,999.88 allocated from the Christmas Lights budget.

779.0.T26 To consider purchase of wall brackets for Christmas lights motifs

Resolved that the purchase of wall brackets for the Christmas lights motifs is approved, at a cost of £2,030.00 to be allocated from the Christmas Lights budget.

780.0.T26 To consider quotations for the installation and decoration of the towns Christmas trees

Resolved that the Council approves Quote A at a cost of £5.095 per annum for three years for the installation and decoration of the town's Christmas trees, to be funded from the Christmas Lights budget.

Signed by Chair…….. Date……

781.0.T26 To appoint another councillor onto the Burnham Neighbourhood Stakeholder Reference Group

Resolved Councillor Perry is appointed onto the Burnham Neighbourhood Stakeholders Reference Group as a Town Council representative.

782.0.T26 To accept the notice from Councillor Murphy to be removed from the Planning Committee

Resolved to accept the notice from Councillor Murphy and remove him from the Planning Committee.

783.0.T26 Date of next meeting

Resolved: The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on 21st September

Signed by Chair…….. Date……