



## North Petherton Town Council

Town Council Office, Small Hall, North Petherton Community Centre

Fore Street, North Petherton, Somerset, TA6 6QA

Tel 01278 574074; Email [joy.norris@northpethertontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:joy.norris@northpethertontowncouncil.gov.uk)

Town Clerk: Miss Joy Norris

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025 starting at 19:15hrs in The Small Hall, Fore Street, North Petherton, TA6 6QA

### **Present:**

**Chair:** Councillor A Bradford

**Town Councillors:** D Baker, L Dennis, L Hyde, K Power and S Sharman

### **In attendance**

**Town Councillors:** P Herbert

Miss J Norris (Town Clerk)

No members of the public attended the meeting.

The Mayor opened the meeting and called for nominations for the Chair

### **GP23/2025 Election of Chair**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Bradford be elected as Chair of the General Purposes Committee for the civic year 2025/2026

Councillor Bradford took the Chair.

### **GP24/2025 Appointment of Vice-Chair**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Baker be elected as Vice-Chair of the General Purposes Committee for the civic year 2025/2026.

### **GP25/2025 Chairs Announcements**

The Chair thanked the Committee for electing him for a further term of office.

The Chair and the Town Clerk are due to meet in the next week to discuss the options for dealing with the Cemetery Tree and to make relevant decisions.

### **GP26/2025 Apologies for absence**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Taylor.

### **GP27/2025 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made at this stage of the meeting.

### **GP28/2025 Minutes**

Consideration was given to the draft minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

**RESOLVED** to confirm the draft minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025 as a correct record.

#### **GP29/2025 Community Time**

This agenda item provides an opportunity for members of the public to speak on matters on the agenda or pertaining to the work of the Committee.

No matters were raised,

#### **GP30/2025 Items for Payment**

Consideration was given to invoices received for payment.

**RESOLVED** to pay the invoices detailed in the table below

Payee	Invoice Date	Invoice No	Net	VAT	Gross	information
GWB	31.05.2025	3109	£125.00	£25.00	£150.00	May play inspections
GWB	31.05.2025	3108	£5,062.50	£1,012.00	£6,075.00	Grounds maintenance and toilets for May
Junction 24	01.05.2025	7951	£716.66	£143.33	£859.99	New Office Rent
<b>Total</b>			<b>£5,904.16</b>	<b>£1,180.33</b>	<b>£7,084.99</b>	
<b>Direct Debits etc</b>						
Water 2 Business	21.02.2025	5067585274	£401.57	£0.00	£401.57	Water for public toilets 30.8.2024-21.02.2025
DCK	06.03.2025	25302	£73.40	£14.68	£88.08	Salary admin
Water 2 Business	03.03.2025	6067704280	£6.00	£0.00	£6.00	Allotments
<b>Direct Debits Total</b>			<b>£480.97</b>	<b>£14.68</b>	<b>£495.65</b>	

#### **GP31/2025 Youth Provision**

- (i) An update report from Youth Unlimited regarding the youth club was received.

Committee discussion included:

- new youth leader is starting soon
- 15-20 young people currently attending each week
- Youth Unlimited have provided a wish list of items that it would like the Town Council to provide for use at the weekly youth club sessions.

- (ii) An update report on the Local Community Network (LCN ) youth project (including provision using the Boombox) was received.

Councillor Hyde gave the report as she has been attending the LCN Youth Working Group.

The LCN had initial seed funding from Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC) for surveys to find out what type of activities etc young people would like. The grant was £35, 000 grant and each parish in the LCN committed to an amount of 5% of their precept as a contribution to youth work in the LCN. The grant is being administered by West Monkton Parish Council.

Somerset Youth Alliance is advising the working group.

Somerset Youth Theatre have conducted interactive drama sessions in schools including year 6 at North Petherton Primary school.

Creative Outbursts is a voluntary organisation based in Weston and they operate a youth project in a van called "Boombox". The van travels to agreed locations with 2 qualified youth workers per session to provide activities for young people. In the Easter school holidays it made a visit to a location by Somerset Bridge School and North Newton Village Hall, in the summer ½ term it will be in the Memorial Park. In the summer school holidays it will be in the North Petherton Town Council area every Wednesday afternoon. Locations in Stockmoor and Wilstock are being sought

So far the grant has met the boombox / survey costs.

- (iii) Consideration was given to renewing the Town Council's Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Youth Unlimited but changing it so that the youth club operated for 48 weeks of the year including the provision of summer holidays sessions and some outreach work.

Committee discussion this agenda item included:

- It would be good to engage with a younger age group so that they are encouraged to be part of youth activities as they develop
- Ratio of youth leaders / adults to children
- The number of young people attending the youth club
- A £1.00 charge per person is payable direct to the youth club by attendees which is put towards incidentals

## **RESOLVED**

- (i) To extend the existing Service Level Agreement until 22 July 2025
- (ii) That during the 6 weeks of the school summer holidays in July / August 2025 there is an outreach session; each week to be in a different location. The cost will be approx. £1,600
- (iii) That a new SLA be entered into for the period 09.09.2025 – 08.09. 2026 which includes youth session provision for 48 weeks of the year (and includes updated contact details etc) at a cost of £18,060
- (iv) Resolved that the Town Clerk may spend up to £1,000 for pool table, and other activity equipment to be agreed with Youth Unlimited; such equipment will be the property of the Town Council

#### **GP32/2025 Dog Waste Bins**

- (i) To consider a request for the Town Council to arrange and pay for the emptying of a dog bin adjacent to the canal at North Newton

**RESOLVED** that the Town Council will pay for emptying the dog bin twice week between 1 April – 30 September and once a week between 1 October – 31 March.

- (ii) To consider a request for a dog bin in Wilstock to be moved from the current location of the Wilstockhub site to the land owned by the Wilstockhub at Vetchling Patch.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (i) That the Town Council has no objection to the dog bin being moved and is willing to meet the cost.
- (ii) That the Town Clerk meets Cllr Spelman-Ives on site to agree the precise location.

#### **GP33/2025 Watering the New Cemetery Hedges**

The Committee were advised of the cost of watering the new cemetery hedges.

**RESOLVED** that the price of watering the hedges when needed, by the contractor who provided and planted the hedge, is accepted for the remainder of 2025.

#### **GP34/2025 Exclusion of the Press and Public**

**RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public during consideration of

- Agenda No 13 Allotments on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reasons of its confidential nature (item is likely to include personal information and details of a financial and legal nature)

#### **GP35/2025 Allotments**

- (i) Consideration was given as to whether or not to release deposits for vacated plots

**RESOLVED** that the deposit for vacated plot 33B should be returned.

- (ii) There was no new information on non-payment of rents

The meeting closed at 20:40hrs