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A MEETING OF THE EXTRAORDINARY FULL TOWN COUNCIL

[Link to Agenda here](#)

Held on: Tuesday, 24 January 2023 at 7 pm. The Council Chamber, Mendip District Council Offices, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5BT

Members Summoned and Present: All Councillors; Berkeley, Crisfield, Ducker, Harrison (Chair), Hobbs, Heaton, Lovell, Makin, Mayall (Vice-Chair), McGuire, Nicklin, Roth & Stokes-Stephens

Absent: Councillors; Brittain, Hale, Kennedy

Officers Present: Claire Commons, Town Clerk, Zoe Moxham, Deputy Town Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer and Becky Kingston-Wood, Democratic Support Assistant.

In attendance: Press (0), Members of the public (22).

Public Question Time

Members of the public were invited to make representations to the Council on any matters relating to the work of the Council or to raise any issues of concern, the following matters were raised.

- 🌐 **Leisure Centre** - Comments relating to governance were raised. A history of squash provision at the leisure centre was given. Comments on a petition that has been circulated and impact the leisure facility is for wellbeing

The meeting commenced at **07:18pm**

MINUTES

TC6.1 Apologies

- Officer report TC6.1 was received and it was **RESOLVED** To accept apologies for absence from Cllr J Brittain due to a conflicting business engagement. Cllr G Kennedy due to a conflicting business engagement, Cllr S Hale due to a conflicting personal engagement.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

TC6.2 Declarations of Interest

- a. Officer report TC6.2 was received, all councillors were reminded of their duty to declare any interests in the business to be transacted and it was **NOTED** that Cllr M Lovell declared an interest in Whitstone School due to Mrs Lovell being a governor of the school. *(Financial provision - 0)*

TC6.3 Minutes

- a. Officer report TC6.3 was received and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of Wednesday, 09 November 2022 be approved for signing as a true record of the decisions taken and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of Tuesday, 10 January 2023 be approved for signing as a true record, with the amended to reflect that Item TC5.15 include the request that the cycle racks are to be painted black. *Financial provision - 0)*

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

TC6.4 Leisure Centre

- a. Officer report TC6.4 was received and the Vice-Chairman provided a verbal summary of the latest offer / position from Whitstone School Academy Trust, namely that;
- The AstroTurf will continue as before.
 - Use of the centre by hockey and a variety of football clubs will continue.
 - Roller skating will continue as before.
 - Trampolining will continue until at least August.
 - Meeting rooms can still be used for a variety of functions.
 - Badminton will still take place in the sports hall.
 - Taekwondo will still take place in the sports hall.
 - Classes each evening will run largely unchanged between Monday and Friday. These include circuits, LBT, burn, Pilates, yoga, suspension and booty burn.
 - Two squash courts will remain until at least August. These will be booked on a pay-as-you-go basis and available Monday-Friday between 5pm and 9pm.
 - The gym will remain available to residents on a pay-as-you-go basis between 5pm and 9pm Monday to Friday.
 - The physiotherapy business and nail salon who sub-let the top floor of the Leisure Centre will continue to do so.

It was **RESOLVED** that Shepton Mallet Town Council welcomed Whitstone School Academy Trust's statement and embraced the opportunity to set up a cross community working group for the long-term provision of leisure in Shepton Mallet. Details in discharging this decision has been delegated to the Town Clerk. A press release to be prepared by the Communications Officer. *(Financial provision - 0)*

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

- b. In addition to the prior resolution it was further **RESOLVED** to express that the Town Council was shocked and saddened at the current situation and that the offer proposed by Whitstone School Academy Trust wasn't good enough. *(Financial provision - 0)*

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 08:52pm