

**Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the Scrutiny Committee - Communities on Wednesday, 14 February 2024**

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
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**Part A – Items considered in public**

<b>A1</b>	Apologies for Absence	Apologies were received from Cllr Andy Dingwall (Cllr Steve Ashton as substitute), Cllr Wes Read (Cllr Martin Lovell as substitute), and Cllr Lance Duddridge.
<b>A2</b>	Minutes from the Previous Meeting	Resolved that the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee – Communities held on 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 be confirmed as a correct record.
<b>A6</b>	Community Services Budget Monitoring Update	The committee received a report and presentation from Christian Evans, Strategic Manager – Finance and Business Partnering. The chair invited comments and questions from members, and noted the report.
<b>A7</b>	Open Spaces Briefing	The committee received a presentation from Jonathan Stevens, Head of Operations, Regulatory, and Operational Services, and Sarah Dowden, Service Director – Regulatory and Operational, on Open Spaces. The chair invited comments and questions from members, and noted the presentation.
<b>A8</b>	Growth/New Housing	The committee received a presentation from Chris Brown, Service Director of Housing. The chair invited comments and questions from members, and noted the presentation.
<b>A9</b>	Review of Street Cleansing and Groundcare Operations	The committee resolved under 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting, on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure of exempt information, within the meaning of 12A to the Local Government Act 1972:

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		Reason: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).