



WINCANTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 27TH JULY 2020 VIA ZOOM AND STREAMED LIVE ON YOUTUBE

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Ten

MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL PRESS: None

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Muriel Cairns, Deputy Town Clerk

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Shelbourn Barrow (Chairman), Tudgay (Vice-Chairman), Old, Smith, Greening, Eadington, Galitzine, Vagg, Ralph, Walter, Thomas, Power, Rodgers, Hinks and Hearne

COUNTY COUNCILLOR: County Councillor Groskop

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS: District Councillor Winder

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Four members of the public spoke at Public Participation. The Chair thanked the residents for their participation and noted the comments they have made.

0050 APOLOGIES

None

0051 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

0052 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Monday 13th July 2020 (minutes 0032-0044). Councillors proposed and voted on several amendments: Page 1 no amendments.

Page 2 – Cllr Ralph proposed some additions to Item 0038:1) After a request for clarity the Clerk advised that the Councillors presenting the projects can neither propose, second or vote due to pecuniary interests. 2) The Clerk further advised the amount was below £5,000 limit requiring a tender process. 3) There was discussion in broad agreement, this discussion would be revisited in August when we have a more detailed picture of the COVID-19 situation but with enough time with schools to make enough logistical plans to progress this project.

Cllr Vagg the proposals/projects were so unique that it would be difficult to tender.

Councillors proceeded to vote on the two proposals put forward. On a proposal from Cllr Ralph to amend the previous minutes to include the amended sentences to Item 0038 Proposed by Cllr Galitzine and seconded by Cllr Power. Vote: 10 For, 5 Abstained.

On the proposal by Cllr Vagg that the proposals/project were so unique that it would be difficult to tender. Proposed by Cllr Tudgay and seconded by Cllr Galitzine. Vote 9 For, 1 Against and 5 Abstentions.

Page 3 – there were no amendments.

Page 4 – Cllr Old wanted it recorded, Item 0044 on Page 4. Following discussion by the Councillors, Cllr Ralph and Cllr Old both put forward a proposal. “Cllr Old tried to raise the matter, that it needed to be an agenda item for the next meeting, and there had been a complaint presented to Cllr Old as Head of Personnel Committee, that was from a member of staff and was about the Mayor and it needed to be discussed at the next meeting”. Proposed by Cllr Old and seconded by Cllr Rodgers. Vote: 6 For, 9 Against – Motion not carried.

Cllr Ralph proposed Cllr Old attempted to bring a complaint to the Council's attention, the Chair muted Cllr Old in order to protect the Council from a breach of confidentiality. Proposed by Cllr Ralph and seconded by Cllr Power. Vote: 10 For, 4 Against and 1 Abstained – Motion carried.

Cllr Galitzine proposed Council support the amended minutes, this was seconded by Cllr Power. Vote: 9 For, 1 Against and 5 Abstained. The amended minutes were approved.

Cllr Old stated she had 4 points to raise and that she has only covered one of them, and she would like to raise the rest of her points in connection with minutes that have already been signed, Cllr Old agreed with Cllr Tudgay, that in the interests of moving the meeting forward Cllr Old would withdraw trying to amend previous meeting minutes.

0053 PLANNING:

Application recommended for approval

No Planning Applications to be discussed.

Before moving onto Agenda Item 5, Chairman mentioned that as there is just over 45 minutes remaining for the Agenda to be discussed, Council consider what items we cover today that are important to cover and those we move forward to the next meeting. Cllr Hearne stated that Item 12 – Chalk Painted Distancing Signs would be going down the Sports Ground now.

Cllr Shelbourn Barrow proposed that due to time constraints Council keep Agenda Items 5, 6, 7, 8, 8A, 9 and 10, and proposed the other items down on the Agenda to be moved forward to the next meeting with the exception of the Chalk Painted Distancing Signs as Cllr Hearne had withdrawn the motion and Chairman requested the formal process to remove the items from the deputy clerk and Correspondence will be covered. Proposed: Cllr Tudgay and seconded by Cllr Walters to keep Agenda Items 5,6,7,8,8A,9,10 and 14. Vote: 13 For, 2 Abstained. Proposed by Cllr Galitzine and seconded by Cllr Smith to move forward Agenda Items 11 and 13 to next meeting. Vote: 14 For, 1 Abstained.

Agenda Item 12 – Chalk Painted Distancing Signs – this item was removed from the agenda as Council were informed the signs would now be going down the Sports Ground.

0054 VERBAL REPORTS AND FEEDBACK

County Councillor Groskop

Councillor Groskop reported that the majority of her work for the last month has been with One Somerset, chairing the meeting. A vote will go to Full Council at County on Wednesday to decide whether the case will go forward to the Secretary of State as a business case to be accepted. The Education Department have announced that all schools in our area intend to open from September. Cllr Groskop asked Town Councillors if they had any questions, there were none.

District Councillor Winder

Councillor Winder mentioned at the beginning of the meeting that in reference to Item 10 on the Agenda which Council label Neighbourhood Plan, what is going on at the moment is a review of the Local Plan. Council needs to get involved in a review of South Somerset District Council Local Plan as they are pushing 600 houses onto Wincanton. There are three qualified planners at SSDC, and it is going to get more difficult as SSDC planning are putting in place the amount of time parish/town councils have to comment and Council should be careful about how they deal with planning applications as they are going to be very restricted in how long you have.

Chairman of the Council

No report from The Chairman of the Council.

Council representatives to outside bodies

No reports from Council representatives to outside bodies.

0055 CHEQUE LIST

Councillor Tudgay asked why there were two cheques for Window Cleaning on the cheque list, it was explained that one company did the Town Hall windows downstairs and the other company did the Community Office windows upstairs. On a proposal from Councillor Power and seconded by Councillor Tudgay, the cheque list was approved. Councillors Hinks and Walters will sign the cheques Tuesday 28th July 2020.

0056 STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Chairman Cllr Shelbourn Barrow provided an overview of the Town Initiative Fund Budget. The Good Stuff Fund and all the papers associated with the Town Initiative budget have been through Council and ratified before the end of the financial year 2020.

The Chairman Cllr Shelbourn Barrow invited Councillors who sponsored the Expression of Interest bids presented at Wincanton For The Future Stakeholder Meeting held on 7th July 2020 to speak about the projects being presented to Council.

Cllr Vagg gave a brief report on One Planet – One Planet is seeking a grant of £1000 towards The Repair Café – Set Up. Cllr Hearne questioned whether Cllr Vagg was a member of One Planet? Cllr Vagg mentioned that she was a member of One Planet and declared an interest.

Cllr Tudgay spoke about two of the bids applied for by One Planet – Cash's Park and The Picnic Park. One Planet are seeking a grant of £500. The grant will be spent on some trees, plug plants, seeds, bulbs and a log bench.

Sue Place spoke about Wincanton Community Venture (The Balsam Centre) bid called The Core – Volunteer and Social Action. The Balsam Centre is seeking a grant for £4,525 and this will be used towards a Project Worker for 1 day a week for one year and project costs.

The Deputy Clerk was asked about voting and replied Councillors to declare an interest and not vote – this was wrong advice, and agreed by the Council as there were no pecuniary interests Councillors could all vote.

Councillors proceeded to vote on each of the bids presented for a grant from the Good Stuff Fund: One Planet – Cash's Park – Proposed by Cllr Tudgay and seconded by Cllr Thomas. Vote 13 For and 2 Abstained.

One Planet – The Picnic Park – Proposed by Cllr Galitzine and seconded by Cllr Tudgay. Vote 11 For and 4 Abstained.

One Planet – The Repair Café – Proposed by Cllr Power and seconded by Cllr Thomas. Vote 10 For, 2 Against and 3 Abstained.

Wincanton Community Venture (The Balsam Centre) – The Core – Before voting Cllr Shelbourn Barrow declared an interest only of support of Balsam Centre. Proposed by Cllr Greening and seconded by Cllr Thomas. Vote 11 For, 3 Against and 1 Abstained.

Before moving onto Item 8 of the Agenda, Chairman Cllr Shelbourn Barrow asked Councillors to consider a proposal to extend the meeting to cover key aspects of this agenda, and they are Items 8, 8A, 9, to extend to cover those items only and to move Item 10 forward to the next meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Ralph and Seconded by Cllr Walters. Before any vote took place Cllr Old stated a second proposal and that was to carry remaining items to the next meeting. Cllr Tudgay proposed that Council take all three items 8, 8A and 9 and hold an Extraordinary Meeting as soon as possible to cover Council liabilities under AGAR, and to move Item 10 forward to the next available meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Ralph. Vote: 15 For

Due to internet problems, The Deputy Clerk was not present at the meeting when the item above was discussed and has taken minutes by watching the Zoom recording of the meeting.

The meeting ended at 9.03pm

Signed

Dated: 10th August 2020

These minutes are in draft format until signed at the Full Council meeting 10th August 2020