



Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 25th May 2021 in the Public Hall.

The applicant spoke in response to the Town Council's previous concerns and highlighted the changes within the amended plans in respect of Planning Application WD/D/21/000033.

2577 Members present – Cllr Monks (Chairman), Cllr Body, Cllr Cheeseman, Cllr Corbett, Cllr Dawkins, Cllr Drinnan, Cllr Langridge and Cllr Turner; also the Town Clerk and two members of the public.

Dorset Police - In the absence of a representative the Town Clerk read a report received from PCSO Bishop.

Dorset Councillor – in the absence of Cllr Mrs Knox no report was received.

Enforcement Officer – the Town Clerk gave a brief resume of the key issues contained within the Enforcement Officer's report.

2578 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Dorset Councillor Mrs Knox and PCSO Bishop.

2579 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS

No declarations were made.

Members **RESOLVED** to bring agenda item 10 forward for discussion as the next item

2580 PLANNING APPLICATION WD/D/21/000033 – 14 ST JAMES

Members **NOTED** the detail outlined by the applicant and expressed disappointment that the original plans had been removed from the Dorset Council website thus making it difficult to make a comparison. In light of the amendments to the application members Recommended Approval.

2581 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5TH MAY 2021

Having previously been circulated with a copy the minutes of the virtual Annual Town Council meeting held on 5th May 2021 were **RESOLVED** for signature by the Chairman.

2582 PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS

Members had previously been circulated with details of the payments made in May 2021 including cheque numbers 105349 – 105364, direct debits and bank payments totalling £27,878.81 also receipts totalling £83,071.48 (copy attached). Members **RESOLVED** adoption as presented.

2583 INSURANCE ISSUES

Members had previously been circulated with information obtained from neighbouring Council's as to their position with regard to Cyber Risk insurance. Members, having considered the potential risks against normal office procedures **RESOLVED**, at the present time not to include cover for Cyber Risk.

Members had also been circulated with a response from the construction company with regard to damage risk cover in respect of the skate park, members **RESOLVED** at the present time not include cover.

2584 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2020/21

Members had previously been circulated with a copy of the second internal audit report for 2020/21 and **APPROVED** the Town Clerk's response to the recommendations within.

2585 ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Members had previously been circulated with a copy of the Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for financial year 2020/21.

Members **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** and sign the Statement of Accounts and having confirmed compliance **RESOLVED** to sign as **APPROVED** the Annual Governance Statement.

2586 COUNCIL IT - MEETINGS

The Chairman advised having considered the options to continue to live stream Council meetings details of the most cost effective via individual tablets had previously been circulated.

A number of members, having personal tablets, were not keen to acquire a Council tablet, following further discussion other options to be explored.

2587 SKATE PARK

Members **NOTED** arrangements were in hand for the formal opening of the Skate Park with regard to refreshments and the 'Jam' session, the Chairman confirmed Chris Loder MP would attend.

2588 CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

No consultation documents had been received.

2589 CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) **Yarn Barton Centre** – members **NOTED** a letter of thanks from the Trustees for the £2,000 support grant.

2590 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

RESOLVED to defer this item to Planning Advisory & Highways Committee.

2591 PROGRESS REPORT

Members had previously been circulated with a progress report to date **NOTED**.

2592 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Under this heading Cllr Dawkins drew attention to the interior of the Tunnel, the walls were in need of cleaning or repainting; also a manhole had collapsed on the Beaminster side of the tunnel.

Attention was drawn to a number of ex local authority properties recently sold in Clay Lane, members questioned the logic when so many people were waiting for accommodation. The Town Clerk was asked to seek clarification with Magna Housing Association.

2593 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Council meeting would take place on Tuesday 22nd June 2021 at 7.00pm.

2594 PUBLIC BODIES (Admission to meeting) Act 1960

The Council **RESOLVED** to exclude the public and press from the meeting whilst discussion took place on the following items on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of business to be transacted in respect of lease arrangements and the consideration of debts outstanding.

2595 FLEET CLUB

The Town Clerk sought members retrospective approval for the deferment of rent during the Covid-19 lockdown commencing April 2020, **RESOLVED**.

With the lifting of lockdown restrictions on 17th May, enabling the Club to re-open members **AGREED** re-commencement of rent from 1st June 2021.

2596 LONG TERM DEBTORS

The Town Clerk advised a small number of debts, due in the main to the first Covid-19 lockdown early 2020 with limited staff time in the office and businesses closed, had remained outstanding, in total amounting to £102.75. Members **RESOLVED** to write off identified debts, those in respect of Public Hall hire must be cleared by the debtor prior to any new bookings in the future.

2597 MEETING

The meeting which commenced at 7.00pm, closed at 9.10pm.

CHAIRMAN
22nd June 2021