

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE  
QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL ON THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2018**

PRESENT: Mrs S CONBOY (Town Mayor)  
Councillors: Mrs S WILSON (Deputy Mayor); G CAMPBELL; A HOOKER; P IRVING; R MAHMOOD; P MALLEY; P MORGAN, R TAPLIN; C THOMAS; D UNDERWOOD; C VANE PERCY; G WILSON; Mrs S WORTHINGTON; J YOUNG

Deputy Town Clerk: MRS V PRYCE  
Mace Bearer: Mr M WILLIAMS

3 members of the public were in attendance

**18/141 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

**ACTION**

Mrs M RADFORD – Personal  
C HYAMS - Personal

**18/142 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

CLLR Malley: Planning Application, 17/02590/FUL  
CLLR Hooker: 18/158 18/155 Member of Community Association  
CLLR Taplin: 18/155 Member of Looker Trust  
CLLR Wilson: 18/155 Environment Agency employee  
CLLR Morgan: Planning Application, 17/01785/TREE  
CLLR Underwood: Planning Application, 18/1320/FUL Neighbouring Property

**18/143 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 16 August 2018 were duly APPROVED and signed as a complete and accurate record.

**18/144 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The MAYOR represented town on 14 occasions during September.

The MAYOR, accompanied by the Town Clerk, attended a Town meeting in Yaxley. Attendees included a number of other local Mayors and Clerks, including the Mayor of the Combined Authority. The Mayor of the Combined Authority has agreed to meet with the group twice a year.

**18/145 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

The Club 800 draw took place.

Mr Greagg addressed the Council with regard to planning application 17/2590/FUL. He advised that his addendum on the submitted application was a CCC Highways comment confirming that the strip of land adjacent to 15 London Road is acceptable for access and visibility. He advised that there would be no displacement of parking onto London Road should the application be approved since they did not use the strip for parking. Mr Greagg informed the Council that the application has the full backing of HDC and requested the Town Council support this application.

**18/146 PRESENTATION FROM GERARD SMITH: A14 LEGACY FUND**

The MAYOR introduced Gerard Smith from A14 Legacy Fund. Gerard outlined several schemes which could be introduced in Godmanchester but this would be subject to funding

being secured. He advised that the two key priorities were improving quality of life and the local economy.

Mr Smith advised that he was working with Highways England with regard to the pigeons under the A14 flyover, and was seeking to fill the gap in their funding in the next two weeks. Talks are ongoing on the technical issues as to how to deal with the pigeons.

The MAYOR advised that the work on the Neighbourhood Plan had spent a long time mapping the green spaces, and some of the suggested schemes would fit comfortably with those that the community had identified as issues. Consequently, a number of these projects might meet the criteria for Legacy Funding. The MAYOR requested careful consideration and liaison locally with Council and the community.

The MAYOR thanked Mr Smith for his time, and requested that copies of the slides should be sent to the office.

### **18/147 OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

The report on outstanding actions was noted.

CLLR Malley requested that, now that the repair of Churchyard Wall had been carried out, this item is removed from outstanding actions; this was so **resolved**.

Town Clerk

### **18/148 CORRESPONDENCE**

The list of correspondence received was noted.

### **18/149 FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTS**

18/149.1 The list of payments to be made was APPROVED.

18/149.2 Councillors noted receipt of the Petty Cash Reconciliation for the period to 20 September, a copy of the budget report on the year to date, and a copy of the monthly bank reconciliation approved by the DEPUTY MAYOR.

### **18/150 BUSINESS REPORT**

CLLR Underwood proposed that – as a six month trial - future Town Council meetings should begin at 7pm and finish no later than 10pm. All were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

CLLR Underwood proposed that each portfolio group should ratify and inspect Council policies in relation to their portfolio. In addition, two Councillors from the Business Portfolio will review suggested additions/changes, and the policy would be brought back to Council for ratification. All were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

All

CLLR Underwood proposed that the Council discontinue their membership of ACRE as the Council do not use it. All were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

Town Clerk

CLLR Underwood proposed that the Council approve two free uses of the QES or Judiths Field accommodation for Timebank for coffee mornings, and would encourage the Co-ordinator to find other venues through the Town. All were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

Town Clerk

CLLR Underwood requested approval to purchase a new of laptop for Admin Asst. All were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

Town Clerk

CLLR Underwood proposed that an IT upgrade be made available to Councillors who require it in order to use the new email system. All were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

Town Clerk

CLLR Underwood proposed that the Council make clear in writing to the PCSO that bike

marking is charged at £5 for over 18's and £5 for non-residents. Bike marking would remain free for Godmanchester children in full time education and it would be marketed specifically to them. All were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

Town Clerk

### **18/151 REMEMBRANCE DAY ROAD CLOSURE**

CLLR S Wilson proposed the Council pay for road closures during the service for an hour. The Council will use an external company. All were in favour to proceed with road closures and in agreement to instruct Avanti; funding will be allocated from the S137 grants budget and it was so **resolved**.

Town Clerk

### **18/152 CHRISTMAS MARKET**

The MAYOR proposed the Council purchase a Christmas Tree with funding coming from the Christmas Lights budget. CLLR Malley advised that he had received a quote for £700 from the company that had provided the tree in 2016. CLLR Malley added that although the Freeman of Godmanchester and BIG kindly met the cost of the tree in 2016, BIG could not donate this year. The MAYOR requested that the Town Clerk write to the Freeman to ask if they would be willing to make a donation this year, for which the Council would be grateful. All were in favour of purchasing a tree and it was so **resolved**.

### **18/153 REPORT FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

CLLR Wilson circulated correspondence regarding the proposed secondary school in Godmanchester. The County Council had concluded that, based on their forecasts, there is currently no need for an additional school. The site proposed was unsuitable, too small and did not offer enough green area. CLLR Wilson will continue to monitor the development of the new local plan, as new houses within the District could mean that the matter may arise again.

CLLR Conboy advised that the District Council would be hearing their Local Plan in public. Developers were currently lobbying planning officials and the Inspector to include a number of additional sites that are not included in the plan – two of which are in Godmanchester. District Council will have to have consider that if it chooses to amend the Draft Local Plan.

### **18/154 ENVIRONMENT REPORT**

CLLR Hooker presented the environment paper. CLLR Underwood extended the Council's thanks to CLLR Hooker and all of the volunteers for the work on the Osier Beds. CLLR Taplin extended the Council's thanks to CLLR Hooker for the Remembrance Day display on the side of the Town Hall.

### **18/155 REQUEST FROM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION FOR PERMISSION TO DREDGE MILL LADE**

CLLR Hooker presented the request from the Community Association. CLLR Hooker confirmed that the Environment Agency would not undertake the task and, as such, this area of the river would become a silt bank if not attended to. CLLR Hooker advised that the project was subject to the Community Association getting a permit from the Environment Agency.

The MAYOR proposed that the Council offers support to the Community Association in appointing the suggested contractor Irvins; the majority were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

Town Clerk

The MAYOR proposed that, as requested by the Community Association, the work be carried out in winter of 2018 and the Council give permission for the material to be stored in containers on the Recreation Ground and Queen's Walk. All were in favour and it was so

Town Clerk

**resolved.**

The MAYOR proposed that the Council agree to start the work for funding future dredging during the lifetime of the current council, and also start discussions with HDC on the possibility of joint funding. All were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

Town Clerk

### **18/156 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

The applications and correspondence set out in Appendix 18/156 were considered. The Town Clerk would advise HDC of the Council's recommendations.

The MAYOR requests that time is set aside for Councillors to review the Neighbourhood Plan.

All

On Application 17/2590/FUL, the MAYOR requested clarification on additional information that has not been provided officially from the CCC Highways to the planning portal, which the Town Council will consider when it is received.

Town Clerk

CLLR Malley requested full clarification from HDC regarding permitted development - which allows garages to be converted with the loss of off-street parking – but the same conversion can be refused when associated with a planning application for additional works.

Town Clerk

### **18/157 PROPERTY REPORT**

CLLR Campbell reported that the heating controls in the QES will be adjusted by the end of the month. All other defects have been dealt with, and we have a 2.5% Retention sum until next March. The front door now has a locking latch for the convenience of hirers.

The Property Group were keen to decorate the Christmas tree well, costings will be advised at the Extraordinary meeting to be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> September.

### **18/158 REQUEST FROM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION TO INSTALL AN EXTERNAL SOCKET ON THE TOWN HALL**

A request has been received from Community Association to install a 13amp socket on champagne terrace at the Town Hall ahead of New Year's Eve at their expense. The MAYOR proposed that up to the value of £300 be initially funded Town hall maintenance budget with a view to receiving a refund from the CA. All were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

The meeting ended at 22:03

Mayor