

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE  
TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 21<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2019**

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

Town Clerk: Ms V PRYCE  
Mace Bearer: Mr M WILLIAMS

Three members of the public present

**Action**

**19/166 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

CLLR M Radford – Personal  
CLLR Hyams – Personal

**19/167 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None disclosed.

**19/168 MINUTES**

THE MAYOR proposed that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 and the Budget Meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> October were accurate and should be accepted as a true record, ALL IN FAVOUR and it was so **resolved**.

**19/169 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The MAYOR was happy to report a successful Remembrance Day procession and subsequent service in the evening. Thanks were given to Cllr MORGAN, the Town Clerk, staff and the Mayor's Chaplain. Many members of the public spoke positively about the road closure. The next major event was the Mayor's Civic Supper which would be attended by 48 people which included many Councillors. The MAYOR gave his thanks to the local businesses which had made donations towards his raffle. Together both the Deputy and MAYOR had attended 16 events in the past month including the Remembrance events in Godmanchester. The MAYOR also thanked everyone who had been involved with the silt spreading on the Recreation Ground in late September.

**19/170 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

The Club 800 draw took place.

**19/171 CASUAL VACANCY FOR TOWN COUNCILLOR**

Mr Phillip Round, Mrs Sarah Smith and Mr Nigel Pauley presented to the Council outlining their reasons for applying for the position of Councillor. The Council asked a series of questions to each of the candidates.

**19/172 OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

Cllr G WILSON advised that Carter Jonas had been negotiating with Council for a gate to be installed onto Judith's Field from the proposed new development to the west of the A1198. Carter Jonas had offered the Council a further £2500 (£500 per year) for the maintenance of the gate together with the £22,000 previously offered towards play equipment/maintenance.

Cllr IRVING advised that he had spoken to Mr Wright, who had advised that he would contact the Clerk in due course regarding Land Registration of Council land.

**19/173 CORRESPONDENCE**

Signed  
Dated

Correspondence had been received from a member of the public raising concerns over security at Judith's Field. Cllr CAMPBELL advised that the site had recently been broken into and a ladder had been stolen. Cllr CAMPBELL added that as the building was still under construction that the vandalism was the responsibility of the developer.

#### **19/174 PROPERTY REPORT**

Cllr CAMPBELL advised that the Judith's Field project had an overspend of £5000. A 2.5% retention would be held for one year to cover any residual defects which might arise. The formal handover would take place on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November. Quotations had been received from three different companies to replace the heads of the streetlights at Judith's Field with LED lamps: Safeguard Electrical, SG Electrical and Balfour Beatty. The first two quotes were in the region of £3500 and the third quote from Balfour Beatty was £2434. Cllr CAMPBELL confirmed that a timer would be fitted and that the Council could agree appropriate timings. Cllr CAMPBELL proposed that the Council accept the quote from Balfour Beatty at £2434 plus VAT to be financed by CIL; all were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

TOWN CLERK

TOWN CLERK/Cllr  
Campbell

It was confirmed that the official opening date of the building was taking place on 28<sup>th</sup> November, with a public opening planned for the 30<sup>th</sup> November.

All

Cambridge Alarms had advised that due to a lack of capacity in existing ducts, installation of further ducting would cost an additional £2374. The Mayor proposed that the amount be allocated from CIL and the Council accept the increase; all were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

Cllr Campbell

#### **19/175 PLANNING:**

The applications and correspondence set out in Appendix 19/175 were considered.

TOWN CLERK

The Town Clerk would advise HDC of the Council's recommendations.

HDC had asked Councillors to let the Town Clerk know if they aware of any HMOs in Godmanchester.

All

Correspondence had been received regarding the removal of the BT phone box at East Chadley Lane, it was it was proposed that the Council did not take on responsibility; all were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

TOWN CLERK

CCC have proposed to reduce the length of double yellow lines that were proposed on Cambridge Road opposite the Co-op. It was proposed that the Council support this; all were in favour and it was so **resolved**. The Clerk would write to CCC and indicate support for the proposals.

TOWN CLERK

The Clerk was requested to write to CCC and request the derestriction sign limit on Silver Street be relocated to beyond the streetlights along the footpath leading to Comben Drive.

TOWN CLERK

Cllr S WILSON in her capacity as a District Councillor had been approached by a resident regarding a crossing on West Street. It was agreed that the Town Council continued to consider the project of a crossing in West Street and the possibility of a 20mph zone in West Street, but no decisions would be made until the transport survey post-A14 changes are complete and priorities for the Town identified.

Cllr G Wilson

Cllr G WILSON requested the Council approved the scope work for a transport study he had circulated for after completion of the A14 upgrade. The MAYOR thanked Cllr G WILSON for the hard work that he had put into the scoping report. The MAYOR recommended that the council accept the scoping report; all were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

Cllr G WILSON proposed that the Council accept the offer of £2500 for the maintenance of the new gate from Carter Jonas to be installed at Judith's Field. All were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

#### **19/176 ENVIRONMENT REPORT:**

The contents of the report were noted

#### **19/177 FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTS:**

19/177.1 & 19/177.2 The list of payments was APPROVED.

19/177.3 CLLRs noted receipt of petty cash reconciliation to 31<sup>st</sup> October, monthly

budget report on the year to date, and monthly bank reconciliation.

**19/178 BUSINESS REPORT:**

Cllr THOMAS advised that the Mill steps community group had met and they had been advised that there was a separate silting study being carried out and a design for the fish pass was expected at the end of January.

The Annual Town meeting scheduled for May would be brought forward to 7.30pm from 8.00pm

All

Following a request from the Godmanchester Community Time Bank, Cllr THOMAS advised the Town Council had retained some money from the original Time Bank grant and a small amount of money raised from Time Bank activity totaling £1164.72 and the Council had possession of the laptop purchased partially with grant funding. The MAYOR proposed the outstanding monies be given to the new Time Bank which was £1164.72 together with the donation of the laptop; all were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

TOWN CLERK

The Council had received a request to site a small non-animal Circus at Judith's Field for 5 days with 4 days of performance. It was agreed in principle to continue talks with the Circus and with Brampton Council who had dealt with them previously. Cllr CAMPBELL raised concerns regarding underground services and requested they were taken into consideration.

Cllr Thomas

Revised Standing Orders had been circulated prior to the meeting for review. The MAYOR proposed that these be adopted; all were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

The MAYOR proposed that the Council adopt the amended grant awarding policy that had been previously circulated; all were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

The MAYOR proposed that the Council accept the new Councillor Expenses Policy, which had been previously circulated. All were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

**19/179 LAND ACQUISITION**

Cllr CONBOY provided an update to the Council regarding discussions relating to acquisition of HDC car parks in Godmanchester and the land adjacent to the A14, which included the Cricket Field. Cllr CONBOY requested approval to draft a paper, to be agreed by the Business Group Portfolio, Mayor and Clerk to take to HDC Cabinet 'in principle'. The MAYOR proposed that the Council support further scoping, with no commitment to take them on. All were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

Cllr Conboy

**PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC: It was resolved that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting.**

**19/180 JUDITHS FIELD**

Cllr Thomas updated the Council on correspondence received from the Trustees of Judith's field. The MAYOR proposed the Council go ahead with negotiations; all were in favour and it was so **resolved**.

**19/181 PERSONNEL**

Cllr Worthington gave a verbal update from the Personnel Committee concerning staff leave allowances and Council pension contributions for the coming FY.

**19/182 CO-OPT TO FILL CASUAL VACANCY ON COUNCIL:**

The Council debated the candidates that had presented to the Council and, after a private vote, decided to co-opt Mr Philip Round.

TOWN CLERK

Signed  
Dated

**PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC. It was resolved that the confidential business having been concluded, the Press and Public were re-admitted to the meeting.**

Meeting Closed: 21.35