

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE  
TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

PRESENT: R TAPLIN (Town Mayor)  
Councillors: S WORTHINGTON (Deputy Mayor) G CAMPBELL; Mrs S CONBOY; A HOOKER; C HYAMS;  
P MORGAN; Mrs M RADFORD; P ROUND; C THOMAS; G WILSON; Mrs S WILSON; J YOUNG

Administration Officer: Mrs J ROYLE  
Mace Bearer: Mr S WAKEMAN

One member of the public was present

**MINUTES**

Action

<p><b><u>19/183 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE:</u></b> Cllr HLADKIWSKYJ – Personal Cllr IRVING – Personal Cllr VANE PERCY – Previous Engagement Cllr MAHMOOD - Personal</p>	
<p><b><u>19/184 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:</u></b> Cllr CAMPBELL on matters pertaining to Godmanchester in Bloom</p>	
<p><b><u>19/185 MINUTES:</u></b> The MAYOR proposed that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019 and the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2019 were accurate and should be accepted as a true record, ALL WERE IN FAVOUR and it was so <b>resolved</b>.</p>	
<p><b><u>19/186 TOWN MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS:</u></b> The MAYOR reported that he and the Deputy had received invitations to and attended many Carol services throughout the month. He thanked Cllr RADFORD for an interesting and successful Christmas Market this year and was happy to report that including the revenue from the Christmas Market the Mayors Charities had raised almost £2000 this year. The MAYOR is planning to arrange another fund-raising event in the New Year.</p>	
<p><b><u>19/187 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION:</u></b> Mr Malcolm Cohen from Godmanchester in Bloom presented to the Council in support of the group’s request for a grant. He advised the council that although the finances of the group looked healthy on paper, most of the money had been ringfenced for agreed projects and should therefore not be considered as available funds. The Club 800 draw took place</p>	
<p><b><u>19/188 OUTSTANDING ACTIONS:</u></b> Cllr CONBOY advised that there had been no further updates on the transfer of the Community Nursery site. Further talks were now planned for January 2020.</p>	
<p><b><u>19/189 CORRESPONDENCE:</u></b> A list of correspondence was duly noted.</p>	
<p><b><u>19/190 FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTS:</u></b> 19/190.1 &amp; 19/190.2 The list of payments was approved. 19/190.3 Cllrs noted the receipt of petty cash reconciliation to 30<sup>th</sup> November, monthly budget report on the year to date, monthly bank reconciliation. Cllr Hooker queried if the Muir Group had contributed towards the cost of the fly tip removal at Judith’s Field as originally advised. The Town Clerk will check. The MAYOR advised that there were two payments for HMRC in December as the payment for November had been missed.</p>	TC

<p>The MAYOR also explained that there was an extra invoice for Hutchinson's that had been received too late for payment but if the Council agreed it would be paid the following week. All were in favour and it was so <b>resolved</b>.</p>	<p>TC</p>
<p><b>19/191 BUSINESS REPORT:</b>  Cllr THOMAS advised that there were three Grant applications to discuss. The application from <b>Disability Huntingdon (DISH)</b> was discussed with Cllr THOMAS expressing some concern over their finances and although the Business Group approved the grant which would help to support Godmanchester residents with disabilities they may not support such a request in future. Cllr HYAMS requested to know the total amount of grants to be awarded and was advised by Cllr THOMAS it was £3000 of which £300.00 had so far been spent. The MAYOR proposed the approval of a grant of £1500.00 to DISH. All were in favour and it was so <b>resolved</b>.</p> <p>Having declared an interest in the next grant proposal Cllr CAMPBELL left the meeting. Cllr THOMAS informed the council that the Business Group had recommended refusal of a grant to <b>Godmanchester in Bloom (GMCIB)</b> as it appeared that they were requesting funds for running costs and their bank balance suggested that they had the funds required. However, during the public participation session Mr M Cohen had advised that most of the funds had been ring fenced for agreed projects. Cllr THOMAS suggested that he could take the decision back to the Business Group for reconsideration however Cllr WORTHINGTON objected to this because she stated that GMCIB had already been advised by the Town Clerk to be more specific in their application. Cllr WORTHINGTON recommended refusal of the grant and to advise GMCIB to reapply. The MAYOR suggested that GMCIB may have tried to contact the Town Clerk but had not been successful. The MAYOR proposed that the Council recommend refusal of the grant application and the vote was carried unanimously and it was so <b>resolved</b>.  Cllr CAMPBELL rejoined the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr THOMAS recommended that the grant application to <b>Godmanchester Timebank</b> also be refused. The Town Council had recently arranged for the transfer of £1164.72 to the group and, together with the donation of a laptop, it was felt that the group had sufficient funds to launch the Timebank in 2020. The MAYOR recommended refusal of a grant of £1000.00 to Godmanchester Timebank and the majority with one abstention voted to refuse the application and it was so <b>resolved</b>.</p> <p>Cllr S WILSON queried if the new Timebank was a sub-group of the Community Association. Cllr HOOKER advised that the Community Association had initially given the Timebank £1000.00 towards public liability insurance to get them started but there was no further connection.</p> <p>Cllr THOMAS recommended that the Council request all users of Council land to register their details with the Council and provide proof of indemnity cover. Further discussion would be required on how to implement this. The MAYOR proposed the Council approve the request for the Town Clerk to request all users of Council land register with the Town Office. All were in favour with one abstention and it was so <b>resolved</b>.</p>	<p>TC</p> <p>TC</p> <p>TC</p> <p>TC</p> <p>TC</p>
<p><b>19/192 CHRISTMAS MARKET REPORT:</b>  The MAYOR once again thanked Cllr RADFORD for organising the Christmas Market this year. Cllr RADFORD thanked Cllr IRVING and Clair Whitlock (Admin Officer) for all their help and support with organising the market and also thanked the ladies from the Rotary Club who did an excellent job in arranging Santa's Grotto.  Cllr RADFORD enquired if the Council would be interested in holding a similar market in 2020. The majority indicated by a show of hands that they would.</p> <p>Cllr RADFORD advised that stall holders need to be booked early in the year and that the St Johns Ambulance suggested that the numbers attending would require more officers in</p>	



<p>Cllr G WILSON recommended approval of the license renewal for outside tables and chairs at the Royal Oak public house, although Cllr MORGAN commented that these were starting to look a bit shabby, and the proprietor should be asked to improve their appearance.</p> <p>Cllr ROUND was consulted on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan and reported that there had been no significant changes affecting Godmanchester.</p> <p>With regards to the moving of the 30mph signs on Silver Street, Cllr G WILSON advised that CCC had responded to say they do not have the funds to move it, and suggesting a LHI bid or Godmanchester to pay. He recommended replying to Sharon Piper at CCC and indicating that the developers of the new houses should be required to pay. Cllr HYAMS also voiced his disapproval at the response from CCC and agreed to contact the County Council.</p> <p>The MAYOR queried whether the new A1414 transport study into roundabouts and the river crossing in 2020 would be before the new Huntingdon link road was complete. Cllr WILSON advised he would make further enquiries</p> <p>Cllr CONBOY voiced her concerns over the proposed third river crossing from the Combined Authority. Cllr CAMPBELL advised that a consultant was to have been appointed to look into this. However, following objections, this appointment had now been withdrawn. Cllr CONBOY said that the proposed crossing close to Cow Lane would not be acceptable, and the situation needed to be monitored.</p> <p>Following a query from a Godmanchester farmer about heavy agricultural vehicles travelling through Godmanchester Cllr G WILSON reported that having contacted Sharon Piper it was confirmed that agricultural vehicles and mopeds under 50cc were prohibited from travelling on the new A14 and that agricultural machinery was not classed as heavy goods vehicles. With regard to the Old Bridge into Huntingdon, the weight of the machinery would not be a problem, as it can hold up to forty-four tons. The warning signage on weight is more for environmental reasons. However, the width of the vehicles may be more of a problem. The new A14 opened on the 9<sup>th</sup> December and is causing chaos due to poor signage and car satellite navigation systems not being updated. The MAYOR reported that although some disruption is expected for the next nine months until the link roads are completed, he and Cllr CONBOY felt that the situation was improving slightly.</p> <p>Cllr G WILSON reported that he was still following up concerns that the double yellow lines on Tudor Road did not go far enough and would report back to the Council in February 2020. Cllr CAMPBELL queried a late planning application for 7 Cambridge Road, Godmanchester and queried if the Town Clerk had requested an extension as they had requested a response by the 20<sup>th</sup> December. Cllr CONBOY advised that there had been a change of staff in the planning department recently which may mean more rigid response times.</p>	<p>Cllr G Wilson</p>
<p><b>19/195 ENVIRONMENT REPORT:</b></p> <p>Cllr HOOKER commented on 2.6 of the report “<b>Demonstrating Environmental Responsibility</b>” and requested any suggestions before the next Town Council meeting. Cllr CONBOY noted that the litter pick on January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at Judith’s Field would coincide with bike marking and suggested they might combine the two.</p> <p>The Mayor wished everyone a Happy Christmas and concluded the meeting at 8.50pm.</p>	