



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE
TOWN HALL, 5 CHURCH STREET, AYLESBURY, ON THURSDAY
12th SEPTEMBER 2019**

In the Chair: Cllr M Smith (Town Mayor)

Present:

Cllr C Adams	Cllr M Bateman	Cllr Mrs J Bloom
Cllr A Christensen	Cllr T Dixon	Cllr T Hussain
Cllr A Huxley	Cllr S Jarvis	Cllr R Lloyd
Cllr G Moore	Cllr Mrs S Morgan	Cllr Mrs J Puddefoot
Cllr Mrs B Russel	Cllr M Willis	

Officers in attendance: Mr K Gray (Town Clerk)
Mr M Broughton (Deputy Town Clerk)

The Town Mayor welcomed all and opened the meeting at 7.00 p.m.

1. TO RECEIVE, NOTE AND AGREE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED: To receive and accept apologies for absence from:

Cllr Mrs D Summers (ill health), Cllr Mrs A Harrison (work commitments), Cllr M White (work), Cllr T Hunter-Watts (work), Cllr B Chapple (family commitment), Cllr Mrs S Chapple (family commitment), Cllr Mrs R Takodra (ill health), Cllr M Winn (ill health), Cllr B Adams (family commitments) and Cllr W Raja (work).

2. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor referred to the list of events provided and particularly highlighted the Park Life weekend which he felt were the best ever and he formally thanked the staff and all those who took part and organized the events of the weekend. He also drew to members' attention, in the absence of Cllr Mrs Takodra, the work being done by Diabetes UK and referred to a training session to be held on 12th October and encouraged members to attend and become Diabetes Champions. Details of the training would be circulated to all members by email.

3. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr R Lloyd warmly praised the Park Life event and also sent best wishes to Cllr Mrs Summers who was presently in hospital.

He drew to members' attention an initiative which would involve volunteers working on a community allotment plot and appealed also to councillors to get involved in such a worthwhile community project. The Town Clerk added that the proposal originated from the Town Hall to provide community plot(s) and distribute produce grown to local food banks.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To declare and note any personal or prejudicial interests, and to declare and note any pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests.

No declarations made, and no dispensations requested.

5. MINUTES

To agree as a correct record the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 11th July 2019

RESOLVED: That the Draft Minutes be duly received, accepted and agreed as a correct record by the Chairman.

6. MATTERS ARISING ON THE MINUTES

To receive a report from the Clerk on additional matters not on the agenda, if applicable.

The Town Clerk advised that there were no additional matters to report on the Minutes but did draw attention to a resolution of the Direct Services Committee (4th September 2019, as tabled) which included a resolution to spend £45,000 to cover remedial works on paths at the cemetery. Members were reminded that in voting to agree and accept the Minutes this would necessarily also agree to source this expenditure from the Council's General Reserve.

7. COMMITTEE MINUTES AND CHAIRMEN'S REPORTS

RESOLVED: Unanimously, to take Minutes "as read" and to note/accept Minutes accordingly:

- i) **Planning & Licensing Committee** - Cllr R Lloyd
 - a) To receive Minutes of 15th July 2019 (pages 11-13)
 - b) To receive Minutes of 29th July 2019 (pages 14-18)
 - c) To receive Minutes of 12th August 2019 (pages 19-22)
 - d) To receive draft Minutes of 27th August 2019 (pages 23-25)
- ii) **Policy Committee** - Cllr R Lloyd
 - a) To note the next meeting would be held on 8th October 2019
- iii) **Direct Services Committee** - Cllr S Jarvis
 - a) To receive draft Minutes of 4th September 2019 (as tabled)
- iv) **Communities Committee** - Cllr T Dixon
 - a) To receive draft Minutes of 9th July 2019 (Pages 26-28)
- v) **Grants Committee** - Cllr Mrs J Puddefoot
 - a) To note the next meeting would be held on 16th October 2019
- vi) **Finance Committee** - Cllr M Smith
 - a) To note the next meeting would be held on 26th September 2019

8. FINANCIAL

- a) To accept the Cost Centre Budget Monitoring Report to Month 4 (July 2019)

b) Cash Books for Month 4 (July 2019)

Councillors are asked to send any questions to officers and/or Cllr M. Smith before the meeting so that any necessary information may be gathered.

- No questions received from Members either before or during the meeting.

The Chairman of Finance Committee indicated that the level of general reserve as stated in the budget papers was 34.5%, however the agreed expenditure on the cemetery paths would have the effect of reducing the proportion to around 31% of general reserve.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Dixon and on being put to the vote duly agreed to accept the Cost Centre Budget Monitoring Report and Cash Books to Month 4 (July 2019).

c) 2018/19 Audit - Report (Page 53)

To receive and note the endorsement of the 2018/19 audit by the external auditor (KPJ Littlejohn).

RESOLVED: To receive, note and accept the external auditors report.

9. ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE

Proposal: To make a resolution i) renewing the Council's stated intent of ensuring that the following buildings/facilities are to be considered as assets of community value and ii) that these assets be duly submitted to Aylesbury Vale DC for formal consideration under the application process.

- Alfred Rose Park
- Alfred Rose Community Centre
- Aylesbury Vale Multi-Cultural Centre
- Andrews Way football pitches
- Aylesbury Vale Park
- Bedgrove Community Centre and Bedgrove Park
- Hawkslade Community Centre
- Haydon Hill Community Centre
- Judges Lodgings (former Corn Exchange building)
- Quarrendon & Meadowcroft Community Centre
- Mount Park, Green End
- Old Shire Hall
- Prebendal Community Centre
- Queens Park Arts Centre
- Southcourt Community Centre
- Walton Court Community Centre

The Town Clerk reminded members that the Council had previously agreed that a number of locations and premises should be considered assets of community value. A period of five years had now elapsed so it was necessary to refresh

the listing accordingly, along with any other cases members feel should be so designated by November.

The Town Clerk stressed that this matter concerned suitable subjects needed to be buildings used by community groups and evidenced appropriately for submission rather than any asset transfer from another council to ATC. In answer to a question the Town Clerk indicated that current ownership of an asset wasn't a particular issue but simply that any listed community asset would allow the Council to have first refusal at such a time when it may be offered for sale.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Lloyd, seconded by Cllr Jarvis and on being put to the vote duly carried that the above list of 16 assets be duly submitted to AVDC for listing as community assets. In addition, any other potential sites needed to be put forward to the Town Clerk at an early opportunity.

10. CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Motion proposed by Cllr M Willis

"This council recognises the climate emergency and the serious consequences that climate change will have on the planet and all our lives as custodians.

This council will work towards being Carbon Neutral by 2030 and will lobby higher councils and government for the resources and help to achieve this ambitious target.

As council services develop and change the environmental impact of operations should be part of designing how these services are delivered.

The council will publicise more environmentally conscious ideas to encourage waste reduction and environmental awareness".

Cllr Willis introduced this item and outlined his proposal, supported with evidence contained in a briefing paper and summary from the World Health Organisation, as previously circulated to members.

Members made several points incorporating measures intended to lead to a proportionate reduction in the Council's carbon footprint, enhanced use of the mantra of recycle/re-use where possible and in recognition of the "circular economy".

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Willis, seconded by Cllr Dixon that the above motion be moved, and on being put to the vote there were 13 For, 0 Against and 2 Abstentions and thus duly carried.

10. OUTSIDE BODY REPRESENTATIVES

To receive verbal reports from representatives on outside bodies

Aylesbury Town Twinning Association

The Town Mayor advised that a Morris troop and the Silver Band had visited Bourg-en-Bresse in the summer.

Aylesbury Vale Multi-Cultural Centre

No report

Town Centre Partnership

Cllr Willis reported that the latest meeting was held yesterday and was well attended with the following items noted: A new phone app had been developed which would enable virtual tours of the town centre; homelessness and begging and AVDC's involvement; Youth Action Charity plans; reduced footfall at Hale Leys shopping centre but a new Clark's shop would be opening; Friars Sq shopping centre had instituted free parking after 3 p.m. and this had proved popular; provision of free tables and equipment at the Ping Pong Parlour; Business First had assessed the impact of Brexit on business grants to assist in mitigation.

The Town Mayor notified members that he had recently had a meeting with the new police commander and he was encouraged at the approach the police were taking which would involve AHAG and the Youth Action Charity.

Edith Eman Trust

Cllr Mrs Puddefoot indicated that the next meeting would be held in November.

Greater Aylesbury Local Area Forum (GALAF)

No report

William Harding Trust

No report

Arla Liaison Group

No report

11. CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES QUESTION TIME

Planning & Licensing Committee - Cllr Lloyd

No questions

Policy Committee - Cllr Lloyd

No questions

Direct Services Committee - Cllr Jarvis

Cllr Mrs Russel had received a notification from a resident concerning the foliage on the Friarage Road roundabout near Morrisons which resulted in a road traffic collision due to obstructed sightlines. Cllr Jarvis advised that the relevant responsibility lay with Bucks County Council as the Town Council only maintained the Friarage Road itself and not the roundabout and that Cllr Mrs Russel should ideally refer the matter back to the BCC portfolio-holder, Mr Irwin, to resolve in the first instance.

Cllr Mrs Bloom asked about whether grass clippings e.g. at the cemetery were routinely collected and whether waste paper was shredded. Cllr Jarvis responded that grass clippings were put to re-use by providing compost on allotments whilst the Council engaged a professional company to dispose of waste paper in a responsible manner and ensuring the any confidential waste paper was processed accordingly and disposed of correctly.

Cllr Dixon had received excellent feedback from residents in his ward on the efficiency of grass cutting.

Cllr Adams referred to the hedges at Tring Road which bordered the cemetery and felt there was a need to trim them further, however in response, Cllr Jarvis explained that the Council was restricted in what it could do during the nesting season.

Communities Committee - Cllr Dixon

Cllr Mrs Puddefoot reported that she had received very positive feedback on the summer events organised by the Council and gave effusive praise to those responsible. She asked whether the Council would be involved in the Waterside Festival and Cllr Dixon confirmed that ATC staff would be participating. Cllr Dixon echoed his appreciation of the hard-work put in by the events team to ensure that the programme was delivered efficiently and professionally.

Grants Committee - Cllr Puddefoot

No questions

Finance Committee - Cllr Smith

Cllr Smith advised that he would be meeting with officers next week to give initial consideration to the first draft of the 2020/21 budget.

Cllr Adams referred to the new unitary council and asked whether the Town Council had a strategy or plan in place? The Town Clerk indicated that the Council had previously agreed delegated powers for him to lead on asset transfer and he had met with other interested parties recently. In addition a cross-party working group had recently been established. The Town Mayor asserted that any asset being looked at for potentially being taken on is always subject to a business plan.

Cllr Adams also queried the lack of an update on the activities of the Aylesbury Youth Town Council and felt it would be helpful to receive an understanding in this regard at the next or future meeting. Cllr Dixon reminded Cllr Adams is a member of the Communities Committee and that this is covered in the Communities Committee remit and reports are made to the committee when necessary.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the next meeting will be held on Thursday 10th October 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

Cllr Adams suggested that a get well card should be sent to Cllr Mrs Summers and the Town Mayor agreed to arrange this.

There being no further business of the Council, the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 8.10 p.m.

Mayor _____ Date _____