



**Bradford on Avon  
Town Council**



Minutes of the Extraordinary Full Town Council meeting of  
BRADFORD ON AVON TOWN COUNCIL held at St. Margaret's Hall, Bradford on Avon  
on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at 8.05p.m.

Attendance – Town Council

Cllr L Brown\*\*

Cllr E Franklin

Cllr D Garwood

Cllr S Gibson

Cllr A Kay

Cllr J Lynch\*

Cllr S McNeill-Ritchie (Chairman)

Cllr D Newton (Leader of the Council)

Cllr J Parker

Cllr M Roberts

Mrs S Bartlett (Town Clerk)

Apologies – Cllr T Lomax and Cllr D Taylor

\*Left at 7.05pm

\*\*Left at 7.20pm

Members of the Public – 4 members of the public

Cllr Lynch said he was disappointed that the agenda item 8 had been re-worded as he wanted to review progress of the Community Engagement Working Group. He also wished to speak about the Leader of the Council role not the current Leader and do this in public session not private. He was also disappointed that his confidential complaint was not being discussed. He stated that he believed there was a conflict of interest in deciding on agenda items: He claimed that the Chair/Mayor had the final say, and therefore he had no confidence in the governance of the council. The Chair refuted this but Cllr Lynch left the meeting before he or the Clerk or any other councillors had an opportunity to reply and later explained that whilst Chairs were consulted on items on the agenda the Clerk always had the final say.

38. Declarations of interest - none

39. Minutes

(i) After an amendment was made, it was proposed by Cllr Newton seconded by Cllr Garwood and with all in favour it was **RESOLVED:** To accept the minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

(ii) The Full Council minutes from the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 were discussed and accepted in private business, as Cllr Gibson had an amendment to the private minute.

40. Matters arising

Cllr Roberts asked if there had been a reply from Cllr Wayman on the resolution made on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Clerk informed him that [Cllr Wayman](#) only received it this morning.

41. Minutes of Committees

Cllr Brown reported that the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019 Resources Committee minutes had not come to this committee. Cllr Newton advised that they had been accepted at the 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019 Resources Committee.

Minutes noted for Highways & Transport Committee 18.06.19, Environment & Planning 09.07.19, Resources Committee 16.07.19 and Town Development Committee 24.07.19.

Cllr Brown reported that he had made a confidential complaint to the Chairman of the Council and had given him 7 days in which to reply. Chairman had advised him to go through formal channels, but Cllr Brown was unwilling to do so. Chairman advised that he had then told Cllr Brown that he might be unable to reply within that timeframe and that Cllr Brown had accepted this. In the event the Extraordinary Council meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> August followed by the Town Clerk's absence on annual leave had left him little time to deal with Cllr Brown's complaint, but as he had already informed the latter he nevertheless intended to do so before the end of that week. Cllr Brown said it was in the public interest to inform them that salary rises to the amount of £20,000 had been awarded to two senior officers of the council over a period of 2 months. He said this council **could be seen to be** bordering on corruption and left the meeting before Councillors or the Clerk had opportunity to respond.

#### 42. Chairman's Report

Chairman's engagements list was noted. Chairman reported on the German Twinning Mayor's reception event, the Hill Climb and the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Katie Vigar asked the Clerk to send her a copy of the report and she agreed to do so. Chairman said that other councillors could report meetings they had attended on behalf of the council under this heading. Cllr Newton congratulated Cllr Kay, the Communications Manager and the Senior Administration Officer on the launch of the Climate Emergency Steering Group on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019 and confirmed that he had certainly learnt a lot about bees. Cllr Kay reported that nearly 100 people attended. Cllr Newton reported that he would be following up on items in relation to data and benchmarking this week, before reporting to Committee.

#### 43. Future of the Community and Recreation Committee

Cllr Lynch's report was noted. Cllr Franklin explained how the Grants Advisory Panel had met twice and the new system was working well. She appreciated the officer recommendations agreed with Town Council and Area Board. She said this would free up her agenda for other important issues. Cllr Roberts suggested that discussions need to take place with other grant giving bodies such as The Lions, and the Lord Fitzmaurice Trust, which was strongly supported by all present. Cllr Newton reported that he had been involved with some community work with the Rotarians. Cllr Gibson said that Cllr Lynch had a vision for Community Engagement. After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Newton, seconded by Cllr Franklin and with all in favour it was **RESOLVED**: To have a Community Grants Panel with Terms of Reference will be drawn up by the Community and Recreation Committee. This panel will make recommendations only and be ratified by the relevant committee or trust, as discussed in previous meetings.

#### 44. Conclusion of Audit for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019

Chairman explained that the Council had received a clean audit for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

#### 45. Confidential business

It was proposed by Cllr Kay seconded by Cllr Franklin and with all in favour it was **RESOLVED**: To start private business.