



Bradford on Avon Town Council

Minutes of the Virtual Town Council meeting of
BRADFORD ON AVON TOWN COUNCIL
Held on Tuesday 17th November 2020 at 7.00 p.m.

Attendance – Town Council

Cllr L Brown
Cllr E Franklin*
Cllr D Garwood
Cllr S Gibson ***
Cllr A Kay (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr T Lomax**
Cllr J Lynch
Cllr S McNeill-Ritchie (Chairman)
Cllr D Newton (Leader of the Council)
Cllr J Parker
Cllr M Roberts
Cllr D Taylor
Mrs S Bartlett (Town Clerk)
Mr I Brown (Director of Operations)
Ms L Booth (Communications Manager)

Apologies: none

*left at 7.40pm

**left at 8.35pm

***left at 9pm

Members of the Public: Jeremy Wire and Trevor Bedeman and 13 members of the public.

The Chairman gave an apology for having a meeting on the first day of the second lockdown with a local travel agent. He was discussing complicated travel restrictions for a programme on Radio Bath. He reassured members that he was taking the COVID-19 rules seriously. He said that there were strict rules in place at Radio Bath. He said that if during his meeting with the Travel Agent that his social distancing appeared closer than it should be, then he apologises and accepts responsibility.

53. Declarations of interest

Chairman declared a non-pecuniary interest in Floaty Boat.

Cllr Brown declared a non-pecuniary interest in The Hub.

Cllr Newton declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Floaty Boat item as he was Chair of the Trustees.

Cllr Roberts declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Hub, as he is a trustee.

Cllr Lynch declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Floaty Boat item and said he would not vote.

Cllrs Garwood and McNeill-Ritchie declared a non-pecuniary interest in the item on West Wilts Radio.

54. Minutes

After some changes were made it was proposed by Cllr Gibson seconded by Cllr Roberts and with all in favour it was **RESOLVED**: to accept the minutes from the last meeting held on the 6th October 2020.

55. Matters arising

Cllr Roberts asked about the Living Green Wall are the full costs available yet and if so its needs to be brought back to an agenda in a clearer state. Cllr Kay advised that the full costs had been discussed. Director of Operations advised that he was in discussions with the contractor and that the order will be placed next week and that we were in the process of applying for planning permission. He reported that most grant opportunities were on hold dealing with COVID-19.

56. Minutes of Committees

07/10/20 Environment & Planning Committee minutes noted.

11/11/20 Environment & Planning Committee minutes to follow.

57. Chairman's Report

Chairman's Report was noted and covered the following subjects: -

Support Local Businesses, Remembrance Sunday, C.E.V.s, Club and St. Laurence School Laboratory. Leader of the Council reported that the Shop Local Scheme had been updated online on the Explore website. He said that there were plans for an advent calendar with gifts from the traders. Also, that he would be doing a BBC interview on Thursday for Shop Local which came in via Visit Wiltshire.

58. The Hub and Floaty Boat COVID-19 Response

(i) Leader of the Council proposed that members donate £2,000 to the Hub with £500 to be ringfenced for Christmas boxes specifically and to address a dramatic increase in demand. After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Newton, seconded by Cllr Kay and with ten in favour and 1 abstention it was **RESOLVED**: To donate £2,000 to the Hub with £500 to be ringfenced for Christmas boxes.

(ii) £500 for Floaty Boat to address issues of fuel poverty in the local area. After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Newton, seconded by Cllr Parker and with 6 in favour 2 against and 3 abstentions it was **RESOLVED** to award Floaty Boat £500.

59. Donation to Bradford on Avon Football Club

Cllr Lynch proposed that the Town Council notes the fundraising efforts of young players from Bradford on Avon Football Club, who are running the equivalent of Land's End to John o' Groats during the 4 week lockdown to raise money for The Hub. Although the Council provides grant aid to The Hub, we wish to support and encourage this effort, in the spirit of Marcus Rashford. We will, therefore, provide a modest donation and encourage our Local (WC) Area Board to match it. We will also highlight our contribution on the Town Council's social media platforms and urge others to join in. Seconded by Cllr S Gibson. After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Newton, seconded by Cllr Kay and with 10 in favour and 1 abstention it was **RESOLVED**: To donate £500 to Bradford Town Football Club.

60. West Wilts Radio – COVID-19 Special license

Cllr Kay took the Chair for this item.

Clerk reported that she had received an objection letter to this from a resident from another parish. After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Kay, seconded by Cllr Newton and with 6 in favour, 2 against and 3 abstentions it was **RESOLVED**: To donate £750 towards the temporary FM license.

61. Social distancing project

(i) Zebra crossing on the North end of the bridge - Cllr Gibson reported that together with Cllrs Brown and Roberts they had attended a Microsoft Teams meeting with Wiltshire Council Highways Officer. They had now convinced the W/C Officer that the existing crossing was not much help and that it would be appropriate for the Town Council to submit a formal request to Wiltshire Council for a formal crossing on the north side of the town bridge. And to insist that this request was valid regardless of whether the COVID-19 system remains in place. Cllr Gibson asked Councillors whether they were happy to make the application and start the process with the funding not necessarily out of the Town Council's pocket. This was proposed by Cllr Gibson seconded by Cllr Roberts and with 10 in favour this was **RESOLVED**.

(ii) This item was not on the agenda but discussed

Cllr Gibson discussed vehicle movements in Springfield, New Road and Mount Pleasant. She said there was not an increase in speed but an increase in volumes. Cllr Gibson said to request Wiltshire Council that under the existing TRO a series of refuges, with bollards in the middle of the road which would assist pedestrians cross and should help slow the traffic down and therefore reduce flow. Cllr Roberts explained where the crossing points could be placed. One by the shop from Highfield where the road measures 7.4m. Second one in New Road 7.39m and third one by Springfield flats south of the double roundabout 7.3m in width. He will investigate concerns in Mount Pleasant in the next 24 hours. The request for central refuges will include a request, that if these manage to reduce speed, a speed limit to 20mph will also be requested. Cllr. Roberts had been part of Community Speed Watch in that area. He was aware of some speeding issues late at night up to 50mph and very early in the morning at 1am. He thought that Wiltshire Council should consider these areas and come back with a proposal. Cllr Gibson proposed, seconded by Cllr Roberts and with 10 in favour it was **RESOLVED**: To request to Wiltshire Council that a 20mph limit was needed in Springfield, New Road and Mount Pleasant and that the process of surveying for formal crossings needed to commence. Also, as a separate request a blanket 20mph speed limit in town.

62. Berryfield Road

Cllr Roberts explained that he had spent time monitoring the cars in this area at school drop off and pick up times. Leader of the Council explained that a draft consultation letter had been sent in and circulated with the agenda from the Friends of Berryfield to find out what the residents think. This was to make sure that no residents were excluded from the consultation. Town Council to provide admin support for this. It was proposed by Cllr Newton, seconded by Cllr Gibson and with 10 in favour it was **RESOLVED**: To photocopy the letter and distribute in Berryfield Road.

63. Resources Committee

It was noted that a Virtual Extraordinary Resources Committee meeting on Tuesday 8th December 2020 at 7pm to discuss next year's budget. Cllr Kay also reported that there would be an Environment and Planning Committee on 1st December 2020.

64. Section 106 Side Agreement – Outdoor Leisure Facilities Contribution

Director of Operations explained that the section 106 agreement between the developer and Wiltshire Council. This side agreement with Wiltshire Council and Bradford on Avon Town Council for outdoor leisure facilities contribution at Culver Close and Victory Field amounting to £30,000 plus interest. It was proposed by Cllr Kay and Cllr Brown seconded and with 9 in favour it was **RESOLVED**: That this document be signed and sealed.

65. Local Councils Award Scheme

Cllr Lynch said that he was against the Council applying.

66. Extending Standing Orders

It was proposed by Cllr Roberts, seconded by Cllr Newton and with 8 in favour and 1 against it was **RESOLVED**: to extend standing orders and continue pass 9.30pm.

67. Local Councils Award Scheme

Biodiversity Statement

Proposed by Cllr Kay, seconded by Cllr Newton and with 8 in favour it was **RESOLVED**: That the Biodiversity Statement be accepted.

Crime and Disorder Statement

After a couple of changes were made, it was proposed by Cllr Newton, seconded by Cllr Kay and with 7 for and 2 against it was **RESOLVED**: to accept the Crime and Disorder Statement.

Manages the performance and continuing professional development (CPD) of each employee to achieve its business plan

After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Parker, seconded by Cllr Newton and with 6 for and 2 against it was **RESOLVED:** To accept the statement on Managing the performance and continuing professional development (CPD) of each employee to achieve its business plan.

Leadership in Planning for the Future of the Community Statement

Proposed by Cllr Newton and seconded by Cllr Kay and with 7 in favour and 1 against it was **RESOLVED:** To accept the Leadership in Planning for the Future of the Community Statement.

68. Adjournment of the meeting

Cllr Parker proposed that the meeting be adjourned as it had gone on for 3 hours, seconded by Cllr Brown and with 5 in favour, 2 abstentions and 1 against it was **RESOLVED:** To adjourn the meeting.

The meeting closed at 10pm.

Members of the public who spoke at the meeting

1. Jeremy Wire welcomed the crossing on the town bridge and asked could councillors press Wiltshire Council to install a crossing in New Road.
2. Trevor Bedeman said that he would welcome the formal crossing north end of the town bridge. He said that along with Louise Walford he supports the proposed consultation with Berryfield residents. Under item 12 he would be pleased to hear the discussion regarding New Road, and he knew that it was work in progress by Cllr Gibson.
3. Cllr Gibson spoke on behalf of Carol Aldridge and asked “How do Councillors plan to address the significantly increased risks to social distancing and pedestrian safety on Mount Pleasant, caused by the one way system which forces schoolchildren and other pedestrians to walk inches from fast, heavy traffic?”
4. Cllr Roberts said he had several Town Council issues he wanted to discuss but not all his items made the final agenda.