



Bradford on Avon Town Council

Minutes of the Virtual Town Council meeting of
BRADFORD ON AVON TOWN COUNCIL
Held on Tuesday 5th January 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

Attendance – Town Council

Cllr L Brown
Cllr E Franklin
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)
Ms L Booth (Communications Manager)
Ms S Hawkins (Accountant)
*left the meeting at 8,15pm
**left the meeting at 8.45pm
Apologies: Cllr S Gibson and Cllr D Garwood

Members of the Public: Trevor Bedeman and Jeremy Wire and 3 others.

69. Declarations of interest - none

70. Minutes of the last meeting

Members of the public who attended the meeting No. 4 Cllr Roberts reported that items he would like to see on the last agenda did not appear. He advised that the Clerk was not following the correct procedure and advised there were only two reasons why an item could not be on an agenda (i) unlawful request and (ii) not enough information to go on an agenda. Clerk explained that if there was no news on an item it was unnecessary to mention it. – Chairman advised there was other ways of asking for information without being a formal item on an agenda, an officer or councillor could give the information required.

Minute 65 – Cllr Lynch reported that his minute was not correctly minuted in full. Clerk replied that verbatim minutes are not required. She said that a recording was available on YouTube. After some changes were made it was proposed by Cllr Kay seconded by Cllr Newton and with 8 in favour and 1 abstention, it was **RESOLVED**: To accept the minutes from the last meeting held on the 17th November 2020.

71. Matters arising

(i) Minute 61 – Social distancing project – Trevor Bedeman advised that he had recently attended a Community Area Transport Group (CATG) meeting at Wiltshire Council in December and consultation on the Berryfield Road was discussed and concern expressed on the solution. CATG would be offering further advice on consulting with a wider area. He said that CATG would like to further discuss this at their next meeting on the 2nd February 2021.

(ii) Minute 55 – Matters arising – Living Green Wall – Cllr Roberts asked if the order had been placed. Cllr Kay advised that it had for the design. Cllr Roberts said he was having difficulty understanding where the income was in the accounts. The Accountant advised him accordingly.

(iii) Members of the public who spoke at the last meeting – Cllr Roberts said that items he wished to see on the last agenda did not make it. Clerk advised that she had an email exchange with

Cllr Roberts and said that if an item had no news, there was no point in saying that on the agenda. (iv) Jez Wire for an update on the Social distancing project – Cllr Roberts advised that the refuge points in the top of the town will be assessed by Wiltshire Council. He was waiting for feedback from Wiltshire Council on the formal crossing to replace the temporary crossing at the end of the town bridge.

72. Minutes of Committees

To note the minutes and decisions taken under delegated powers. These minutes are not for discussion. - 01.12.20 Environment & Planning Committee (circulated) 08.12.20 Resources Committee (circulated) and 22.12.20 Environment & Planning Committee delegated.

73. Chairman's Report

Chairman's Report was noted. Subjects mentioned included Christmas lights, Shining Light awards (Clerk read out a thank you letter from Avril Clarke from The Hub), Holy Trinity On-line Service and C.E.V.s (Community Emergency Volunteers).

Leader of the Council reported on the measures taken for the third lockdown of the pandemic. He said that Councillors will have to make appointments to see Officers. Two members of staff will only be available in the office. Town Wardens have sufficient PPE. We will keep open the public toilets. Community Radio will continue to broadcast. Play areas will be open. C.E.V.s relaunched and existing volunteers contacted for availability. TIC Explore site will have up to date information from businesses on their opening hours and online goods for sale. He wished everyone good health.

74. Budget 2021-22

Cllr Brown advised that he had attended a North West Flood Working Group meeting in late December. He said that the flood defence scheme for Bradford on Avon would be part of the funding for 2021/22. He asked if we still had Earmarked reserve for this. Clerk advised yes £30,000.

Cllr Lynch said that he was surprised not see to COVID-19 with a budget as it would affect people in the future with their health and well-being.

Following the Resources Committee on the 8th December 2020, Cllr Newton proposed and Cllr Kay seconded that Virtual Full Council accepts the budget totalling £1,154,150 and set the precept at £885,590 the same as last year with £53,100 being taken from reserves and £215,460 income. Cllr Brown proposed an amendment to the motion, which Cllr Roberts seconded, that an additional £20,000 from reserves be allocated for specific needs of economic issues relating to COVID. With 9 in favour and 1 against this amendment was carried. Chairman then asked for the proposal as amended to be voted on with all in favour it was **RESOLVED**: to accept the budget totalling £1,174,150 and set the precept at £885,590 the same as last year with £73,100 being taken from reserves. £215,460 Income. A band 'D' property will pay £216.90 per annum.

75. Local Council Award Scheme

Discussion on applying for this award took place. Cllr Newton proposed and Cllr Kay seconded that this item under standing order 6ii (e) be moved to a vote and with 6 in favour, 3 against and 1 abstention (Cllr Parker) it was **RESOLVED**: To stop debate and go to a vote.

Manages the performance of the council as a corporate body and Value for money statements.

It was proposed by Cllr Newton, seconded by Cllr Franklin and with 6 in favour, 3 against and 1 abstention (Cllr Parker) it was **RESOLVED**: That the statements on Manages the performance of the council as a corporate body and Value for money be accepted and the award applied for. Cllr Lynch withdrew from the meeting.

76. Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy Report (CEESR)

Item from Environment & Planning Committee: -Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy Report It was proposed by Cllr Parker and seconded by Cllr Kay and with 8 in favour and 1 abstention it was **RESOLVED**: That this item go to a vote. Proposed by Cllr Newton seconded by Cllr Kay and with all in favour it was **RESOLVED**: That the Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy Report is approved and adopted.

77. Nomination of the Castle Inn to be listed as an Asset of Community Value

After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Kay, seconded by Cllr Taylor and with 9 in favour it was **RESOLVED**: To support the application and respond to Wiltshire Council accordingly.

78. Management Accounts Reports

Detailed management reports up to 30th November 2020 noted. These accounts show detailed balance sheet and income and expenditure by committee heading.

79. Accounts for payment

To approve payroll and direct payments and invoices up to 30th November 2020. The accounts having been examined by a non-signatory councillor, Cllr Kay. It was proposed by Cllr Franklin, seconded by Cllr Newton and with 9 in favour it was **RESOLVED**: To pay invoices and payroll for November 2020 amounting to £84,347.86.

80. Confidential Business

It was proposed by Cllr Newton seconded by Cllr Roberts 9 and with all in favour it was **RESOLVED**: To start private business.