

COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday 8th November 2021

Present: Cllrs J Bayford, R Binks, Buckley, Dexter, Garner, P Moore, Parsons, Rawf, D Saunders, M Saunders, Savage (from 7.15)

Town Clerk: Kirsty Holroyd

342. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Bailey, B Bayford, RK Binks and W Moore

343. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received

344. OPENESS AND TRANSPARENCY

Those present were reminded of the right to record, film or broadcast any meetings of the Council, committees and subcommittees is established following the Local Government Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

345. MINUTES

RESOLVED: Members approved the minutes of the Council meeting held on 11 October 2021 and they were duly signed as a true record by the chairman.

346. MATTERS ARISING

The Town Clerk reported that she had received a response to her enquiry concerning festive lights at the harbour arm. The Harbour group are attempting to install lights but are encountering issues regarding existing streetlamps. They are persevering and will keep the Town Council informed.

The Town Clerk also informed Councillors that the Fireworks display on Friday 5 November had been excellent, with large numbers of people coming into the town to enjoy them and no issues reported by security staff. A false allegation against the Town Council had been made by an individual on Facebook and this was deemed of a sufficiently serious nature to warrant reporting to the police.

Cllr Savage entered the meeting

347. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FORM THE ELECTORATE OF BROADSTAIRS AND ST PETER'S

No member of the public wished to speak.

No question had been received in writing by either the Mayor or the Town Clerk

348. COMMUNITY ASSETS COMMITTEE

Members received the draft minutes of the meeting held on Friday 15 October and considered any recommendations contained therein.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note

349. ALLOTMENTS AND LAND SUB-COMMITTEE

Members received the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 25 October and considered any recommendations contained therein.

RESOLVED: That the draft terms of reference document be approved with the amendment that defibrillators (and other smaller assets such as benches) fall under the remit of the Community Assets Committee.

350. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members received the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 1 November and considered any recommendations contained therein.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note

351. COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman wished to report that he and the Mayoress had attended a civic event on behalf of the Town Council in Margate over the past month. He had also received a certificate of thanks along with the Town Clerk from the Town Team in recognition of the grants the council had given to them which afforded them such excellent recognition in the South and South East in Bloom competition.

He also reported that he had visited the Community Payback team that day to thank them for their hard work over the summer which has resulted in a total refresh of the shelters, benches and railings adjacent to Victoria Gardens. It is hoped that the team can continue their good work next year.

Lastly he reported that he had visited the Bowls Club with the Town Clerk to discuss the longer term future of the club. Cllr Saunders was able to update members and report that a longer term lease had been negotiated and it was hoped that this would enable the club to apply for grants and bring the building up to standard. The Town Clerk will continue to liaise with the club and bring options to Council should the club request additional assistance.

The Town Clerk shared the following information with members:

- 17 November Thanet East Neighbourhood Engagement meeting at Queens' Road Baptist Church at 7pm
- Town Shed mince pie event 25 November at 13.30
- A Neighbourhood Watch survey is currently open and members are encouraged to have their say

- An offer of assistance with small projects has been received from the Youth Justice reparation project. Members are requested to make any suggestions for suitable projects to the Clerk.

352. BROADSTAIRS IN BLOOM

Members received the report of the Town Clerk and the Civic Support Officer and considered the last tender document.

RESOLVED: That a small working party comprising the Civic and Support Officer, Cllr Garner and Cllr RK Binks be established to work on the new tender requirements.

353. FINANCE

i) Members received and approved a report concerning payments for the period 7 October to 3 November 2021.

RESOLVED: That the payments be approved

ii) Members received information about payments authorised between meetings. The Town Clerk read out the payments approved under financial regulation 4.1c, 4.1d and 4.5.

- Box Green £1160 to replant and tidy up woodland area adjacent to the war memorial in time for Remembrance Sunday
- Automatic Access £500 to attend to fix the automatic door which keeps catching on the frame. £350 per visit for preventative maintenance twice a year going forward.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

354. GRIEVANCE POLICY

Members received and considered the draft grievance policy as agreed by the Staff Management Sub-committee on 23 September.

RESOLVED: That the policy is fit for purpose and can be adopted by Council.

355. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY EVENT

Members received final details on timings for the event. A follow up email would be sent the following day.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

356. TOWN FORUM

Cllr Ros Binks had chaired the Forum and updated members on the discussions. Much of it had revolved around the proposed regeneration of the seafront area and Cllr Binks proposed that a sensible first step would be that a survey of the cliffs is undertaken.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk will approach TDC officers to ascertain when the last survey was undertaken and when they will be undertaking the next.

The following item was discussed after a resolution to exclude the public under standing order 3d due to the confidential nature of the business.

357. APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEMBER OF STAFF

Members received the report of the Town Clerk and Cllr Garner who together with Cllr Bailey had interviewed four candidates for the position of Senior Administrative Officer. All four had demonstrated relevant skills and knowledge but one had scored most highly on a variety of competencies.

RESOLVED: That Julie Belsey be offered the position with a probationary period of 13 weeks.

Members of the public were permitted to re-enter the meeting: None were present.

358. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 13 December 2021 at 7pm in Pierremont Hall. The chairman invited everyone to stay behind after that meeting to enjoy mulled wine and mince pies.

Town Clerk
Meeting closed at 20.25