

## **COUNCIL MINUTES**

## Monday 10 October 2022

Present: Cllrs R Bailey, J Buckley, R Dexter (Chairman), M Garner, P Moore, W Moore, D Parsons, A Rawf, D Saunders, M Saunders, J Savage.

Town Clerk: Kirsty Holroyd

Before the meeting commenced, the Chairman, Cllr Dexter welcomed everyone and drew their attention to the openness and transparency legislation confirmed in several notices around the room.

### 71. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies with reason were received and accepted from Cllrs B Bayford, J Bayford, R. Binks & R. K. Binks

72. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None received

### 73. MINUTES

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 September 2022 can be approved and duly signed as a true record by the chairman.

### 74. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Bailey asked whether a response from the leader of TDC had been received concerning the financial assistance for beach accessibility projects. The Town Clerk confirmed she had received no response. Cllr Saunders reported that apparently the offer is still on the table and the leader is waiting for suggestions on how the money can be spent. The Town Clerk will add the issue to the agenda of the Community Assets committee.

### 75. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF BROADSTAIRS AND ST PETER'S

ia) A representative of Surfers against Sewage attended and spoke to councillors about working together to obtain accreditation for Broadstairs and St Peter's as a Plastic Free town. The Chairman thanked her for her presentation and it was agreed the Environment sub-committee would be happy to work with SAS and any other local groups towards this goal.

ib) The manager of the Visitor Information Kiosk informed councillors that the volunteers in the kiosk had been given notice that Shepherd Neame wished to take back use of the kiosk – which is within the curtilage of their property – from July 2023. The group is working with TDC to secure new premises for this successful and

valuable local service and the support of the Town Council would also be very much appreciated. The Chairman thanked the manager for her time and it was agreed the issue would be added to the Leisure and Tourism sub-committee agenda for consideration.

At this point and with the agreement of Council the chairman moved item 12 to this point of the meeting. The following item was discussed after a resolution to exclude the public under standing order 3d due to the confidential nature of the business.

## 76. HENDERSON SETTERFIELD

i) Members received a short summary report from the Town Clerk on the handover to the tenant management company.

### **RESOLVED:** Members agreed to note.

ii) Members received a short presentation from the management company on how the service charges had been calculated and discussed some concerns held by some of the tenants. Members were shown two options for addressing the concerns. A third option had been requested only two hours previously and so whilst the illustration could be shown it needed to be double checked for accuracy. **RESOLVED:** 

## i) That members wish to pursue the third option subject to the numbers being thoroughly checked.

*Cllrs P Moore, W Moore, A Rawf and J Savage wished their abstention on this decision to be recorded.* 

### ii) That Council is to make the final decision in all commercial matters and that any proposal put to the tenants will be substantiated and supported by legal advice.

*Members of the public were permitted to re-enter the meeting – none were in attendance* 

## 77. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF BROADSTAIRS AND ST PETER'S – part ii

Cllr Garner had asked a question of the Town Mayor two days in advance as required and therefore was permitted to speak. Cllr Garner brought to Council's attention the fact that Taylor Wimpey had notified residents of Chestnut Drive and the surrounding streets that some small parcels of land were once again going to be put to auction. Cllr Garner requested that the Town Clerk be instructed to engage with Taylor Wimpey to discuss options on future uses for the land.

# **RESOLVED:** that the Town Clerk be instructed to approach the company to start a dialogue.

## 78. PLANNING COMMITTEE

i) Members received the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 3 October 2022. **RESOLVED: Members agreed to note** 

### 79. COMMUNICATIONS

i) The Town Mayor reported that he had met with members of the Twinning Society who had agreed to continue the organisation until the next AGM due in April 2023. Anyone interested in joining the Society should contact the Mayor.

ii) The Town Clerk reported that on Saturday 8 October she had attended a presentation event held by the Town Team's Broadstairs in Bloom project. She had been very pleased to accept a certificate on behalf of the Town Council in recognition of the grant which had assisted some of the planting around the town. She reported that as the group work on improving the already impressive scores they received from the South and South East in Bloom judges, one of the issues they will be focusing on is the eradication of graffiti. This is just one of the areas which the Town Council will be able to support and assist since it fits so well with the Council's own agenda.

## 80. FINANCE

i) Members received and approved a report concerning payments for the period 26 September 2022 to 5 October 2022. (see attached) **RESOLVED: That the payments be approved** 

ii) Members were due to receive information about works or services authorised between meetings. The Town Clerk stated that on this occasion there was nothing to report.

iii) Members were due to receive and approve a report concerning payments for the period 6 October when the agenda was sent out to 10 October 2022. The Town Clerk confirmed that on this occasion there was nothing to report.

iv) Members received and considered a report of payments and receipts to 30 September (end of quarter 2) in line with Standing Order 17c **RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.** 

### 81. GRAFFITI

i) Cllr Garner updated members on the progress that had been made by the working group. A list of contact for third party organisations had been drawn up so that reporting will be much easier. The Operations Officer had agreed his phone number could be used for the graffiti hotline and he would decide which locations needed a to be reported and which he could attend himself. The Town Clerk reported that the focus of the Town Forum due to take place on 17 October would be reduction of graffiti around town involving all agencies and organisations.
ii) Members confirmed that £2000 had been allocated to this project from the Environment Initiatives budget. They considered how best to spend the money. **RESOLVED: That the option of training the Operations Officer to professionally remove graffiti represented the best value for money. The Town Clerk will therefore arrange this subject to the £2000 limit.**

## 82. THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL – Draft Net Zero Strategy 2022

Members received and discussed the draft document. **RESOLVED:** That the Town Clerk submit the following suggestions for additions or amendments to the document on behalf of the Town Council

- That TDC planning department does everything within its power to rigorously encourage the implementation and adherence to high standards of carbon neutral and biodiversity policies in respect of newbuilds and new developments.
- ii) That more land be made available for tree planting across the District.

## 83. NALC AND SLCC CIVILITY AND RESPECT PLEDGE

Members received information on a nationwide pledge to bring an end to bullying and harassment within the local council sector. **RESOLVED: That the Town Council sign the pledge.** 

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

**84. HENDERSON SETTERFIELD** – this item had already been discussed under minute 76

## 85. STAFF MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

Members received and considered the minutes of the meeting held on Friday 7 October.

## **RESOLVED:**

- i) That the Events and Bookings Manager be moved up one spinal point in recognition of satisfactory performance over the last year and one further point in recognition of the additional responsibilities of line management, backdated to 1 September 2022.
- ii) That the family leave policies as recommended be adopted by Council
- iii) That the maternity pay structure mirror that adopted by KCC

*Members of the public – had any been in attendance – would have been permitted to re-enter the meeting* 

## 86. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 14 November at 7pm in Pierremont Hall

Town Clerk Meeting closed at 20.41

Signed	 		
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Date \_\_\_\_\_