

HUNTINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

A meeting of Huntingdon Town Council was held in the Town Hall, Huntingdon, on Thursday 21st June 2018 at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillors A Beevor; A Blackwell; P Brown; C Doyle; S Gifford (Town Mayor); V Hufford; P Kadewere; P Kennington; S McAdam; P Pearce; T Sanderson; A Sedgwick, T Shrapnel and S Sweek.

Absent: Councillor C Wayment

In attendance: There was one member of public in attendance

8. **WELCOME**

The Mayor welcomed those in attendance and invited the Mayor's Chaplain, Revd Andrew Milton, to say a prayer.

9. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors J Cole, A Diaz, B Luckham and K Webb.

10. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

11. **MINUTES**

Members had before them copies of the minutes of the Annual Town Council/Mayor Making meeting held on 16th May 2018 (M1). It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to approve and adopt these minutes and they were duly signed by the Mayor.

12. **PUBLIC ADDRESS/ADDRESS FROM OTHER COUNCILLORS TO COUNCIL**

The Mayor asked Members and members of the public whether they would like to address the meeting. A Member expressed that they wished to speak, and it was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting.

Cllr Beevor questioned if the bedding around the town signs would be tidied before the Huntingdon In Bloom judging date, as some were looking untidy. The Deputy Town Clerk explained that the new town signs would hopefully be installed in time for the judging day, and new bedding would then be planted. If

the signs were not ready by the judging day, the existing bedding would be tidied.

Cllr Kadewere suggested that tourism in Huntingdon should be added to an upcoming agenda, to discuss promoting tourism in the town, and to look at potential grant funding options. The Deputy Town Clerk explained that the Town Hall Heritage Programme would incorporate tourism and a tourist information centre. Cllr Kadewere suggested that a sub-committee could be formed to look at tourism in the town.

The Mayor thanked Members for their comments and with no further questions, it was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to reconvene.

13. **REPORTS FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Sanderson reported that Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) would no longer be opening and closing the High Street gates, except for market days. It has since been agreed that BID Huntingdon would take over the management of the gates. Cllr Sanderson also informed Members that site meetings had taken place at Coneygear Park and Bloomfield Park to look at the potential for CCTV to be installed. It was also noted that the plans for the new A14 upgrade were available to view at exhibitions around the town.

14. **TOWN CLERK'S UPDATE**

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that a new member of the Estates Team would be starting on 2nd July 2018, and a new Caretaker to be based at the Town Hall would be starting on 9th July 2018.

The proposed new community centre plans were to be discussed by HDC in July. Extra surveys on the site had been completed and looked positive. Results of the drainage survey were still pending but various positive options for drainage had been highlighted.

The new Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) had been installed at Coneygear Park and was being well used.

A request had been received from HDC for the Town Council to take over the maintenance of the HDC bedding in the town due to staff shortages. The cost of this was currently being calculated.

The tender documents for the DDA compliance work in the Court Rooms would be received by the end of the month.

15. **REPRESENTATION TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

Members approved the Council representatives onto the designated outside bodies. (Table of representatives is attached).

Cllr Beevor questioned whether a Member could be allocated to attend Huntingdonshire Volunteer Centre meetings. The Deputy Clerk noted that this

may come under Hunts Forum which already had Members allocated, but agreed to contact the Volunteer Centre to look into this.

16. **ROLLING PROGRAMME**

- (i) Members had before them copies of the rolling programme of work.
- (ii) Members had before them copies of the civic events rolling programme.

Members noted both rolling programmes of work.

17. **BANK MANDATE**

Members had before them copies of Huntingdon Town Council's Bank Mandate. It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to approve the Bank Mandate.

18. **TWINNING ASSOCIATION UPDATE**

As the Chairman of Huntingdon & Godmanchester Twinning Association was not present, it was

RESOLVED to defer this item to a future meeting.

19. **STANDING ORDERS**

Members had before them copies of the amendments model for Standing Orders as issued by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC). It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to adopt the amendments.

20. **STRATEGY AND CORPORATE PLAN COMMITTEE**

Members were asked to appoint 9 Members to the Strategy and Corporate Plan Committee for the ensuing local government year. The Deputy Town Clerk explained that this committee would consist of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairmen of the 3 Standing Committees, and 4 additional Members.

It was proposed that the 4 additional Members would be Cllrs P Kadewere, T Shrapnel, V Hufford and P Brown.

21. **CORPORATE PLAN**

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to adopt the Corporate Plan contained within the Councillor's Handbook.

22. **OUSE VALLEY LETTER**

Members had before them a letter from Ouse Valley Trust requesting support for their application for the Great Ouse Valley to be designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED that Cllr A Beevor would attend the conference on 22nd September to support the Ouse Valley Trust.

23. **ACCOUNTS**

i) Members were asked to approve the Council's Annual Financial Statements 2017/18 and it was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to do so.

ii) Members were asked to approve the Audit Commission's Annual Governance and Accountability Return Financial Year ended 31st March 2018 – specifically:

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2017/18
Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2017/18.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to do so.

24. **FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

Members were asked to approve and adopt Huntingdon Town Council's Financial Regulations. It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to do so.

25. **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor reported that she was enjoying the start of her year and had been very busy attending various events in the community.

26. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was noted as Thursday 30th August 2018, Town Hall, Market Hill, Huntingdon.

MAYOR