

AMERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 27 JULY 2016

PRESENT: Councillor M Vivis
Councillor C Morgan (Deputy Town Mayor)
Councillor Mrs J Cook
Councillor M Flys
Councillor Ms C Jones
Councillor Mrs D Kenchington
Councillor H Newton
Councillor M Phillips
Councillor A Seymour
Councillor N Shepherd
Councillor Mrs L Staite

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs L. Richardson

43. **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs A Lamont; M Lacey; Mrs L Staite; Mrs L Walsh (*apologies were also received from Councillor R Jones after the meeting*)

44. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**
Councillor Flys declared a personal interest in item 16 on the Agenda and left the room whilst this matter was discussed.

45. **MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS:** The engagements from 20 June to 25 July 2016 had been circulated with the Agenda and were noted.

46. **APPROVAL OF THE AMENDED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20 JUNE 2016**
After one typographical amendment

It was	Proposed	Councillor C Morgan Councillor A Seymour
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RESOLVED to
Approve the Amended Minutes of the Council meeting held on 20 June 2016.

47. **MATTERS ARISING**

(i) **1% Pay increase for ATC Staff**

The Clerk reminded Councillors that it had been agreed at the F & GP Meeting held on 13 June 2016 (ratified at the Council meeting on 20 June 2016) that Council would

not award the NJC 1% pay increase for Local Government Workers effective from 1st April 2016, with the matter being deferred until December 2016. However, after seeking clarification, the Clerk reported that staff employed under the NJC terms must be paid in accordance with the agreed salary scales. After discussion,

It was Proposed Councillor Mrs J Cook
Seconded Councillor C Morgan

RESOLVED TO:

Award the 1% pay increase (backdated to 1st April 2016).

The Clerk was also asked to investigate the possibility of amending all ATC staff contracts so that they are no longer aligned to the NJC regulations.

ACTION ER

48. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 JULY 2016:**

It was Proposed Councillor M Flys
Seconded Councillor C Morgan

RESOLVED to

Approve the Minutes of the Annual Statutory Meeting held on 6 July 2016.

49. **MATTERS ARISING:** There were no matters arising.

50. **COMMITTEE MINUTES:**

i) Planning & Footpaths Minutes – 27 June 2016

It was Proposed Councillor H Newton
Seconded Councillor Mrs J Cook

RESOLVED to

Approve the Minutes of the Planning and Footpaths Committee Meetings held on 27 June 2016.

ii) Planning & Footpaths Minutes – 18 July 2016

It was Proposed Councillor H Newton
Seconded Councillor Mrs D Kenchington

RESOLVED to

Approve the Minutes of the Planning and Footpaths Committee Meetings held on 18 July 2016.

51. **MATTERS ARISING FROM FINANCE MEETING:**

There were no matters arising.

52. **TO CONSIDER RECONVENING BI-MONTHLY COMMUNITY SERVICES MEETINGS:**

Councillors were reminded that the 6 month trial period for holding monthly Council meetings will expire in August. After discussion

It was Proposed Councillor M Vivis
Seconded Councillor Ms C Jones

RESOLVED THAT:

The bi-monthly Community Services Meetings and bi-monthly Council meetings be resumed.

ACTION ER

53. **FEASIBILITY OF CHARGING OUTDOOR FITNESS GROUPS:**

The Clerk reported that research from other Councils showed that very few parish councils appear to charge outdoor fitness groups for use of public open space, and those that do charge, only seem to charge a nominal amount. Councillors felt, however that given the wear and tear on the grass created by some of these groups, particularly those who drag heavy equipment on the grass during their classes, should be asked to contribute towards the maintenance work this necessitates. The Clerk was therefore asked to establish a list of training groups who use the parks and report back to council for a decision to be made on the annual fees to be charged.

ACTION ER

54. **TO APPROVE DCK BEAVERS TO CARRY OUT VAT PARTIAL EXEMPTION CALCULATIONS:**

After discussion

It was Proposed – Councillor A Seymour
Seconded – Councillor M Flys

RESOLVED THAT:

DCK Beavers be appointed to carry out the calculations for the 2015/2016 VAT Partial Exemption at the quoted fee.

55. **TO APPROVE DCK BEAVERS TO ASSIST WITH THE BUDGET SETTING FOR THE 2017/2018 FINANCIAL YEAR:**

After discussion,

It was Proposed – Councillor N Shepherd
Seconded – Councillor J Cook

RESOLVED THAT:

DCK Beavers be appointed to assist in the budget setting for the 2017/2018 Financial Year.

It was Proposed – Councillor Ms C Jones
Seconded – Councillor A Seymour

RESOLVED THAT:

Derek Kemp from DCK Beavers attend the Council's Finance / Budget Briefing meeting to be held in October 2016.

56. **COMMUNITY SERVICES ITEMS**

i) Update on Amersham Carnival

A report from Zoe Richardson had been circulated before the meeting. Councillors were delighted with the success of the event, and requested their thanks to all staff be minuted, particularly Zoe for her extraordinary efforts and to the depot team in agreeing to take time off in-lieu, rather than claiming overtime for working over the weekend. The Clerk will write to the staff to thank them.

ACTION ER

57. **CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS:**

i) ATC Planning Application for Barn Meadow Car Park Extension

It was agreed that the Clerk will arrange for a Councillor to represent ATC should the planning application be brought before the CDC Planning Committee.

ii) Taxis parking outside the Chiltern Pools, Amersham

Councillors noted that there were a number of taxis parking on a regular basis in the car park outside The Chiltern Pools / Drake Hall in Amersham. Not only are the taxis unlicensed to park here, but the practice is reducing the number of parking places available for members of the public. It was agreed that Councillor Shepherd would make enquiries with the District Council on the matter.

ACTION N SHEPHERD

iii) Church Mead rubbish bins

The Clerk was asked to investigate the emptying of the rubbish bins at Church Mead which are regularly overflowing.

ACTION ER

58. **BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS:**

i) Pavement outside 37 Hill Avenue Amersham

It was noted that the pavement outside The Record Shop / Heritage Funeral Directors on Hill Avenue is in a poor state of repair. The Clerk will notify Bucks County Council.

ii) Damage to roundabout

Councillors noted that the roundabout at the junction of A413/ Stanley Hill had been damaged. The Clerk was asked to notify Bucks County Council.

ACTION ER

iii) Reimbursement for cost of replacing toilets at Barn Meadow Community Hall

The Clerk reported that she had e-mailed the Early Years Co-ordinator at Bucks CC regarding reimbursement for the cost of replacing toilets at Barn Meadow Community Hall which had been removed by Mitchell Walk Playgroup when they had vacated the building in March. Cllr Phillips has also spoken to the Early Years Co-ordinator, who stated that she will be liaising with the owner of the playgroup regarding the matter.

iv) Delivery trolleys left outside Tesco Express on Hill Avenue

Councillor Kenchington reported on the number of delivery trolleys left on the pavement outside the Tesco Express store in Hill Avenue. It is believed this is contrary to the planning permission for the store. Councillor Kenchington offered to make enquiries on the matter. (*Post-meeting note – Cllr Kenchington has spoken to the store manager who has agreed to address the issue*).

59. MATTERS FOR REPORT:

There were no matters for report.

Part 2

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

That under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they include the likely disclosure of exempt information, stated to be confidential.

- 60. ITEM RELATING TO A STAFF MEMBER.**
- 61. ITEM RELATING TO STAFF APPOINTMENT.**
- 62. ITEM RELATING TO AN ATC PROPERTY.**
- 63. ITEM RELATING TO AN ATC PROPERTY.**
- 64. ITEM RELATING TO AN ATC PROPERTY.**
- 65. ITEM RELATING TO AN ATC PROPERTY.**
- 66. ITEM RELATING TO AN ATC PROPERTY.**
- 67. ITEM RELATING TO AN ATC PROPERTY.**
- 68. ITEM RELATING TO AN ATC PROPERTY.**

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Chairman Date