

AMERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL STATUTORY MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 13 MAY 2019

PRESENT:

Councillor M Flys (Town Mayor)
Councillor Mrs J Cook (Deputy Town Mayor)
Councillor Mrs B Dhanda (part meeting)
Councillor M Grimson
Councillor Ms C Jones
Councillor R Jones
Councillor Mrs D Kenchington
Councillor A Lamont
Councillor C Morgan
Councillor A Seymour

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs E Richardson (Town Clerk Finance & Policy)
Mr S Catanach (Town Clerk Community Services & Engagement)

1. **APOLOGIES:** Councillor H Newton
Councillor N Shepherd
Councillor Mrs L Staite
Councillor M Vivis
Councillor Mrs L Walsh

2. **CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR TO FILL CASUAL VACANCY:**
Members were pleased to welcome Mrs Belinda Dhanda as the new Councillor for the Amersham on the Hill ward.

It was

Proposed	Councillor M Flys
Seconded	Councillor Mrs J Cook

RESOLVED THAT:

Mrs Belinda Dhanda be appointed to fill the casual vacancy for the Amersham on the Hill ward for the remainder of the current electoral period.

3. **ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR:**

The retiring Mayor, Councillor Caroline Jones gave a short speech, outlining the Council's achievements over the past year and expressed her thanks for the opportunity to have held office and how much she had enjoyed the role.

Nominations were invited for the election of the Town Mayor for the year 2019-2020.

It was	Proposed	Councillor Ms C Jones
	Seconded	Councillor C Morgan

RESOLVED that **COUNCILLOR MARK FLYS** be elected **TOWN MAYOR** for the civic year 2019-2020.

Councillor Flys thanked Councillors for electing him to serve as Mayor of Amersham and gave a short acceptance speech. Cllr Flys then awarded Cllr Jones with the past Mayor's Badge.

4. **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE:**
The Mayor signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

5. **ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR:**

It was	Proposed	Councillor M Flys
	Seconded	Councillor Mrs A Lamont

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs J Cook be elected Deputy Town Mayor for the civic year 2019-2020.

Councillor Cook thanked Councillors for electing her as Deputy Mayor and said how much she was looking forward to the coming year.

6. **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE:**
The Deputy Mayor signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

7. **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES:**
It was agreed to defer this item until the next Council meeting on 17 June 2019. In the meantime, the current Committee Membership will stand.

8. **COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MINUTES:**

a) **Council Minutes**

It was	Proposed	Councillor C Morgan
	Seconded	Councillor J Cook

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25 March 2019 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.
There were no matters arising.

b) **(i) Planning and Footpaths Minutes**

It was	Proposed	Councillor Mrs J Cook
	Seconded	Councillor Mrs A Lamont

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Planning and Footpaths Committee Meetings held on 8 and 29 April 2019 be accepted and the recommendations therein be adopted.
There were no matters arising.

c) Finance & General Purposes Minutes

It was	Proposed	Councillor M Flys
	Seconded	Councillor Ms C Jones

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 15 April 2019 be accepted and the recommendations therein be adopted.
There were no matters arising.

9. **MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS FROM 19 MARCH TO 14 MAY 2018:**

The list of engagements circulated prior to the meeting were noted, with the addition of the Mayor's visit to Tiggywinkles Wildlife Centre on 9 May 2019.

10. **APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL RISK REGISTER:**

It was	Proposed	Councillor Ms C Jones
	Seconded	Councillor A Seymour

RESOLVED that the comments in the Annual Risk Register for the year 2018/2019 be noted and the Action Plan approved for implementation.

It was also agreed that the Clerk should draw up a Business Interruption Policy for approval by Council.

11. **HS2 PROPOSED MOTION TO WRITE TO GOVERNMENT:**

After discussion,		
It was	Proposed	Councillor M Flys
	Seconded	Councillor Ms C Jones

That the following Motion be submitted to government in line with similar motions already submitted by the District and County Councils:

“That this Council proposes that the Mayor should write to Government to request that all enabling works for HS2 in Buckinghamshire should be paused until the Notice to Proceed to main works contractors has been approved. As required by the Department of Transport, Notice to Proceed should not be given until management capability, affordability of contracts and robustness of revised business case have all been proven. We see no reason why the residents of Amersham should suffer significant disruption and long term environmental destruction until detailed design and cost has been approved. We also ask that HS2 Ltd significantly improves the effectiveness of its community engagement with those impacted by the line.”

12. **POSSIBLE DONATION TOWARDS PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT:**

The letter from a local business offering a donation towards playground equipment was discussed. The Clerk will report to the Finance Committee with proposals for

replacement play equipment at Hervines Park and Barn Meadow. It was noted that there may also be some funding available from the District Council.

13. **UNITARY AUTHORITY UPDATE:**

It was agreed that Councillors Mark Flys, Rob Jones and the Clerk would attend the forthcoming 'Design Workshop Meeting for Town & Parish Councils' being held at Chesham Town Hall on Tuesday 25 June (6pm – 8pm).

Post meeting note – Cllrs Flys and Jones will be unable to attend so the Clerk was asked to find other Councillors to go in their place. Cllr Morgan has confirmed his availability so far.

14. **BARN MEADOW CAR PARK EXTENSION:**

Members noted the quotation from the surveyor for preparation of appropriate documents and re-submission of the planning application for the extension of the Barn Meadow car park. After discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should investigate what work could be done to start the project before the expiry of the current planning consent.

15. **SUMMER FESTIVAL:**

The Clerk reported on the request from the organisers for support towards the summer festival being scheduled for 20 July 2019. After discussion, it was agreed that the Council should offer:

- Permission for the use of King George V Field
- A donation of £1000 towards the event
- Marking out the field prior to the event
- Two marshals for the day
- Litter pick on the field the next day

Proposed Councillor M Flys
Seconded Councillor R Jones

16. **MATTERS FOR REPORT:**

Members noted the previously circulated advice from Councillor Mrs Walsh concerning the consultation on the District Council's emerging Local Plan.

Part 2 CONFIDENTIAL – FOR COUNCILLORS ONLY

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.

17. **ITEM RELATING TO ATC PROPERTY:**

18. **ITEM RELATING TO ATC PROPERTY:**

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Chairman Date

Council