

AMERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

**HELD ON MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2019**

**PRESENT:** Councillor M Flys (Town Mayor)  
Councillor Mrs J Cook (Deputy Town Mayor)  
Councillor Mrs B Dhanda  
Councillor M Grimson  
Councillor R Jones  
Councillor A Lamont  
Councillor C Morgan  
Councillor Mrs L Staite  
Councillor Mrs L Walsh

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

39. **APOLOGIES:** Councillor Ms C Jones  
Councillor Mrs D Kenchington  
Councillor A Seymour  
Councillor N Shepherd

40. **ABSENT NO APOLOGIES:** Councillor H Newton  
Councillor M Vivis

41. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**  
There were no declarations of interest.

42. **MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS FROM 8 JULY TO 16 SEPTEMBER 2019:**  
The list of engagements circulated prior to the meeting were noted.

43. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 8 JULY 2019:**

i) **Platt Cemetery Wall**

The Clerk confirmed that a revised quotation had been obtained from the specialist contractor for stabilisation ground works on a section of the cemetery wall, with an additional £3,911 over the previous quotation last year. The required process was also being followed for the PWLB loan application required for the project.

44. **COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MINUTES:**

a) **Council Meeting held on 8 July 2019**

It was

Proposed - Councillor M Flys  
Seconded - Councillor C Morgan

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8 July 2019 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

**b) Planning and Footpaths Minutes**

It was

Proposed - Councillor - Mrs J Cook

Seconded - Councillor – M Flys

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Planning and Footpaths Committee Meetings held on 15 July & 5 August 2019 be accepted and the recommendations therein be adopted.

There were no matters arising.

**c) Finance & General Purposes Minutes**

It was

Proposed - Councillor – R Jones

Seconded - Councillor – C Morgan

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 12 August 2019 be accepted and the recommendations therein be adopted.

There were no matters arising.

**d) Community Services Minutes**

It was

Proposed - Councillor – Mrs L Staite

Seconded - Councillor – M Flys

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Community Services Committee held on 9 September 2019 be accepted and the recommendations therein be adopted (excepting one amendment relating to security cameras at Hervines Park).

There were no matters arising.

**45. CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL LIFESTYLE CENTRE:**

The agenda item relating to storage of materials during the building of the new lifestyle centre was deferred until more detailed information is available from the District Council.

**46. HS2 REVIEW – RESPONSE TO LETTER FROM DAME CHERYL GILLAN:**

A letter from Dame Cheryl Gillan MP requesting the Council's views on the impact HS2 is having in the local area was discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond, drawing attention to the unsustainable nature of the project, given the traffic disruption caused by lorry movements during preliminary work. Members also questioned the justification for work starting in October on a 'haul' road off the A413 in Great Missenden, given that the current review is taking place.

**47. UPDATED ALLOTMENT TENANCY AGREEMENT:**

The updated Allotment Tenancy Agreement had been circulated prior to the meeting. After discussion

It was

Proposed – Councillor R Jones

Seconded – Councillor M Grimson

**AGREED** that the revised Tenancy Agreement be implemented.

**48. MOBILE APP FOR AMERSHAM:**

The Mayor outlined his suggestion to introduce a Town Council mobile app to enable the public to download information and news from the Town Council, as well as possible material about local businesses and services. After discussion it was agreed that the Mayor should investigate the viability of the app and would report back to Council in due course with suggested costs and more information about what on-going input would be required.

**49. CHRISTMAS LIGHT DISPLAY:**

The Town Clerk's report concerning the renewal of the contract for the town's Christmas light display had been circulated prior to the meeting. After discussion,

It was

Proposed – Councillor R Jones

Seconded – Councillor Mrs L Staite

**RESOLVED** to follow the recommendation of the Community Services Committee for the new Christmas light display. The Clerk will prepare a document to invite tenders for the contract.

**50. CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS:**

There were no matters for discussion.

**51. BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS:**

a) Consultation on proposed Community Boards for new Unitary Authority

The Consultation document had been circulated prior to the meeting. Members considered that the option for 14 Community Hubs across the county would best serve the residents of Amersham. It was suggested that all Councillors respond individually to the consultation document.

b) Consultation on proposed Unitary Authority Council Tax Reduction Scheme

After discussion, it was agreed that the Council would submit no comment on the proposed changes, given that these appear to best support vulnerable and low income families and individuals.

c) Approval of Service Agreement for Buckinghamshire Council devolved work

After discussion

It was

Proposed – Councillor R Jones

Seconded – Councillor C Morgan

**RESOLVED** that the Council is agreeable in principle to the renewal of the Devolved Service Agreement with the unitary authority from 1 April 2020 on the same terms as the existing Agreement. The Clerk will communicate this to the Director of Highways.

**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.**

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

The meeting closed at 8.16pm.

Chairman ..... Date .....

Council