

AMERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 18 JANUARY 2021

PRESENT VIA REMOTE ACCESS:

Councillor M Flys (Town Mayor)
Councillor A Seymour (Deputy Town Mayor)
Councillor Mrs F Barrett
Councillor M Grimson
Councillor C Jones
Councillor R Jones
Councillor R Kenchington
Councillor Mrs A Lamont
Councillor C Morgan
Councillor S Scott-James
Councillor N Shepherd
Councillor Mrs L Staite
Councillor Mrs L Walsh

IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor Graham Harris - Chair Amersham Community Board
Jim Conboy (Chair - HS2AAG)
Di Caudery (HS2AAG)
Councillor Jonathan Waters – Bucks Councillor
Councillor Isobel Darby – Bucks Councillor
Pat Milliner – Amersham resident
Mark Dormer – Amersham resident
Mrs E Richardson - Town Clerk Finance & Policy
Mr S Catanach -Town Clerk Community Services & Engagement

227. APOLOGIES: Councillor Mrs G Croxall
Councillor M Vivis

228. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:
There were no declarations of interest.

229. OPEN SESSION:
Councillors were pleased to receive an update from Jim Conboy, Chair HS2 Amersham Action Group, on the HS2 project, especially concerns relating to traffic implications for local residents. The possibility of organising a meeting with HS2 in conjunction with other affected parishes was discussed.

230. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS - 14 DECEMBER 2020 TO 18 JANUARY 2021:
The list of engagements circulated prior to the meeting were noted.

231. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 14 DECEMBER 2020:
There were no matters arising.

232. COUNCIL MINUTES:

a) Council Meeting held on 14 December 2020

It was Proposed – Councillor M Flys
Seconded – Councillor C Morgan

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14 December 2020 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

b) Extra Ordinary Council Meeting held on 4 January 2021

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

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Council Meeting held on 4 January 2021 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

233. FINANCE MATTERS:

a) TO RECEIVE THE FINANCE REPORTS FOR NOVEMBER 2020:

- i) Income and Expenditure Reports for period ending 30 November 2020
- ii) Balance sheets as at 30 November 2020
- iii) Accounts paid from 1 to 30 November 2020

It was Proposed - Councillor M Flys
Seconded – Councillor C Morgan

AGREED that the finance reports for the period 1 to 30 November 2020 be accepted.

b) APPROVAL OF PRECEPT REQUEST FOR 2021/2022:

Following discussion at previous meetings and in order to avoid a reduced level of Council reserves, Members agreed to request an increase of 3.27% for the 2021/22 precept to £763,804 (equivalent of £3.52 per annum increase for a Band D property).

234. PLATT CEMETERY WALL - APPROVAL OF QUOTATION FOR UNDERPINNING PROJECT :

Members reviewed the updated quotation for the project to underpin the wall on the eastern boundary of the cemetery. After discussion

It was Proposed – Councillor R Kenchington
Seconded – Councillor A Seymour

AGREED to accept the quotation for the project, including stabilization of an additional 6.3m of wall in addition to that included in the previous estimate. The Clerk will contact residents of The Platt and other affected properties to notify them of the work.

235. JOINT HS2 MEETING:

Following the presentation by Jim Conboy during the Open Session of the meeting, Members agreed to request the Chair of the Amersham Community Board organize a joint meeting with other affected parishes and the HS2 contractors to discuss the traffic

issues arising from the altered HS2 lorry routes and to investigate whether any mitigating measures can be put in place.

236. HIRE OF SUMMER HANGING BASKETS:

A report from Steve Catanach had been circulated prior to the meeting. After brief discussion

It was

Proposed – Councillor Ms C Jones

Seconded – Councillor L Staite

AGREED that hanging baskets should be hired for both Amersham-on-the-Hill and Old Amersham based on the quotation from Windowflowers of £6665 for 121 baskets.

237. COMMENTS ON RECENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

It was

Proposed – Councillor R Kenchington

Seconded – Councillor A Seymour

RESOLVED that the comments agreed for Plan Lists dated 27th November, 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th December, 1st & 8th January be approved and the recommendations therein be adopted.

238. BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL MATTERS:

a) Community Board update:

Youth Council:

Councillor Walsh reported that local Head Teachers would be notified that progress in forming the Youth Council would be put on hold owing to the current COVID restrictions.

Members were reminded that all Councillors are welcome to attend the various sub-group meetings of the Community Board. Councillor Walsh offered to send all Members a meeting link for the forthcoming Transport sub-group meeting and agreed to ask Lizzie Wright to send an invitation to the local Focus Groups.

239. MATTERS FOR REPORT:

There were no matters for report.

240. DATE OF NEXT VIRTUAL MEETINGS:

Next Council meeting– Monday 22 February at 7.30pm

March Council meeting – Monday 22 March at 7.30pm

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.

241. LICENSE TO OCCUPY SPACE AT FLINT BARN HOUSE:

After brief discussion and subject to Councillor Barrett's review of the documentation,

It was

Proposed – Councillor M Flys

Seconded – Councillor Mrs F Barrett

AGREED to sign the License to Occupy for the small ground floor room at Flint Barn House.

242. LICENSE TO LEASE A CAR PARKING SPACE:

After brief discussion and subject to Councillor Barrett's review of the documentation,

It was

Proposed – Councillor N Shepherd

Seconded – Councillor M Flys

AGREED to sign the License for a lease of a parking space at Flint Barn Court (note this is a license for the existing parking space and not an additional parking space).

The meeting closed at 8.52pm.

Chairman Date