

MINUTES
of the Full Council meeting held remotely via Zoom
on 14th December 2020 at 6pm

Present: Cllrs P Aldridge (Chair), H Davis, S Raywood, M Sztymiak, J Raywood, K Powell, C Cody, H Bowman, C Danter, S Raywood, R Gurney, T Fowler, K Brennan

In attendance: D Hill (Town Clerk), J King (Assistant Town Clerk), Cllr Cromwell & Cllr Workman.

20/21 - 125 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Rudge, Cllr Devine & Cllr Smith.

20/21 - 126 To receive declarations of interest

None received.

20/21 - 127 To consider requests for dispensation

None requested.

20/21 - 128 To receive written questions from member of the public

No questions have been received.

20/21 - 129 Public participation

There was no public participation.

20/21 - 130 To note the Mayor's announcements

- The M5 Junction 9 / Ashchurch Scheme – consultation has been postponed until Summer 2021.
- The Mayor thanked Councillors and staff for their support during 2020.
- Former Mayor Chuck Pavey has passed away.
- The Mayor wished everyone a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

20/21 - 131 To approve the Minutes of the meetings held on 9th November 2020

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9th November 2020. Proposed by Cllr Danter, seconded by Cllr Powell.

20/21 - 132 To note the following Committee Minutes:

Finance – 1st October 2020

Planning – 6th & 21st October 2020

Staffing – 13th October 2020

A Cllr asked about the 4% salary increase included for next year. The Chair of the Staffing Committee advised that the budget had been set before the Government's announcement regarding the pay freeze for public sector workers.

Cllrs enquired about the TTRP minutes and were advised that the last meetings had been cancelled, but that any minutes would be circulated to all Councillors.

Action: Reports from Outside Bodies to be added back to the agenda.

- 20/21 - 133 Matters arising from the Minutes – for information only**
- 19/20-187 Air Pollution** – Cllr Cromwell advised that the Borough Council monitored the High Street and GCC are monitoring the impact of the school streets project. Item complete.
- 20/21-058 Impact of Covid-19 on Town Hall & Watson Hall income** – will be discussed further in the next Finance meeting and then back to Full Council in January when talking about the budget.
- 20/21-104 Lights for the outside of the Town Hall** – will be erected this week – complete.
- 20/21-119 Guide to the accounts** – has been circulated - complete.

20/21 - 134 To receive Councillor reports for Tewkesbury Borough Council from Cllr Cody and Gloucestershire County Council from Cllr Cromwell

Cllr Cody provided an update from Tewkesbury Borough Council.

- Pay & Display machines are going to be replaced with solar powered machines, there will still cash and card options.
- Tewkesbury Borough Council did not support the Local Electricity Bill.
- Rob Weaver has left to become Chief Executive of Cotswold Council. The role is not being replaced and will be split between other senior officers.
- Covid 19 support works continues. Hand sanitisers are now available on the High Street.

Cllr Cromwell provided an update on behalf of GCC:

- Covid 19 response – current issue is acute cases in hospital, County hospitals are reaching capacity
- Pre budget has been set for examination.
- All children who get Free School Meals will continue to get meals / vouchers over Christmas. If anyone knows of individuals who may be eligible, please direct them to the GCC website or to Cllrs Cromwell or Smith who can direct them to support.
- GCC is continuing to successfully reduce their carbon footprint.

20/21 - 135 To receive the finance reports for October 2020

The finance reports were received.

The Town Clerk advised that all furlough payments have been received and are included on the staffing expenditure line as a credit.

Cllrs enquired about the staffing item under the Watson Hall and were advised that it covered bar staff, so that the Watson Hall cost centre reflects actual costs.

The Town Clerk advised that the facilities management contractor and office staff fall under Staffing cost centre.

20/21 - 136 To consider a motion from Cllr Cody that Tewkesbury Town Council will lead by example and phase out single-use plastics and will support all plastic-free initiatives in the area

Cllr Cody provided an update on the work of Plastic Free Tewkesbury and the excellent progress they have made towards gaining plastic free status.

It was RESOLVED that Tewkesbury Town Council will lead by example and phase out single-use plastics wherever possible within its own house and will support all plastic-free initiatives in the area.

Proposed by Cllr Cody, seconded by Cllr Bowman.

20/21 - 137 To consider and agree the eligibility criteria for the Tewkesbury Town Civic Awards 2021

Cllrs discussed the eligibility criteria of ten years for the Civic award and the relevance of the award in 2021. It was felt that the Civic Award should not be awarded in 2021 but that it would be replaced with an award for adults, youths and groups who have made an exceptional contribution during Covid. Nominations will be requested from the Community.

It was RESOLVED to suspend the Civic Award for 2021 and award Covid contribution specific awards instead.

Proposed by Cllr Brennan, seconded by Cllr J Raywood.

20/21 - 138 To consider and agree that the approval of grant applications at Full Council or Committee includes approval to pay and that payments will appear on the payments list retrospectively.

It was RESOLVED that the approval of grant applications at Full Council or Committee includes approval to pay and that payments will appear on the payments list retrospectively.

Proposed by Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr Sztymiak.

20/21 - 139 To review and agree grant applications

There were no grant applications.

20/21 - 140 To approve the payments list

There was no payments list.

20/21 - 141 Correspondence

Thanks were received from Tewkesbury Christmas Lights for the grant from Tewkesbury Town Council.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.05pm.

Signature of Chairman upon approval of the minutes 18th January 2021