



EVESHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the **TOWN COUNCIL** held at 6.30 pm on **MONDAY 12 JULY 2021** in the Town Hall, Evesham.

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr Mrs S Amor (Mayor)

Councillors: Cllr G Bearcroft, Cllr A P Booth, Cllr A Dyke, Cllr Mrs W Dyke, Cllr M S Goodge, Cllr Mrs J Haines, Cllr G Hale, Cllr R Hale, Cllr Ms E Haynes, Cllr Mrs J Johnson, Cllr Mrs E Nishgaki Cllr R W Raphael, Cllr Mrs M Sale, Cllr Mrs S Schaathun, Cllr Mrs C Smith, Cllr Mrs F S Smith, Cllr Mrs B Timbrell, Cllr N S Tucker

Officers: Mrs L Steele (Town Clerk)

Also present: Mrs F Pridding, (Town Clerk Designate) to end of Agenda Item 3
Miss A Jayes (Almonry Museum Manager)

The meeting was preceded by prayer led by the Reverend John Darby, Mayor's Chaplain (who did not stay for the meeting).

47. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr P Clifford, Cllr Mrs J Sandalls, Cllr Mrs S Smith and Cllr Mrs J Tucker. The Council took the opportunity to note Cllr Clifford's ill health, to wish him well and, upon the proposal of Cllr Goodge, seconded by Cllr G Hale, the meeting approved Cllr Clifford's reason for absence.

48. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests (if any)

Cllr A Dyke and Cllr Mrs F S Smith each declared non-pecuniary interests in Agenda Item 9/Minute 55 (Planning Applications) on the grounds that they are both members of the planning committee at Wychavon District Council (WDC).

Cllr Goodge declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 10/Minute 56 (Battleton Brook) on the grounds that he is an adjoining landowner.

49. Announcements by the Town Mayor

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and in particular welcomed Mrs Francesca Pridding to the meeting and invited Cllr Mrs F S Smith, as Chairman of the Personnel Committee to say more. Cllr Smith announced that Mrs Pridding is appointed Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (and therefore Proper Officer) to the Evesham Town Council effective from 16 August 2021 and the Council **RESOLVED** to accept the appointment. Mrs Pridding said how much she was looking forward to taking up her appointment.

Thanks were made to the selection panel and to Mrs Steele for her work as Locum Town Clerk.

The Mayor further reported on events attended by her and her consort Cllr Mrs M Sale.

50. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

Two amendments to the attendance list for 14 June 2021 were agreed and with these amendments and upon the proposal of Cllr Mrs F S Smith, seconded by Cllr A P Booth it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2021 be adopted as a true record and should be signed by the Mayor as such.

One amendment to the apologies list for 28 June 2021 was agreed and with this amendments and upon the proposal of Cllr Mrs F S Smith, seconded by Cllr R W Raphael, it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 28 June 2021 be adopted as a true record and should be signed by the Mayor as such.

51. Committee Minutes

Planning and Estates Committee – 28 June 2021.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes including the committee recommendations therein.

52. Almonry Advisory Panel

The meeting received an oral report of the recent Almonry Advisory Panel meeting. Ashleigh Jayes, Almonry Museum Manager, was in attendance and informed the Council of the plan to submit a formal expression of interest to the Arts Council Museum Estate and Development Fund (MEND) – the bid would seek to obtain £850,000 of an estimated £1million required to complete external works to the Almonry building. This would leave the Council needing to raise £150,000 as its contribution to the works and proposals to employ a professional fundraiser at £250 a day to build a fundraising strategy were discussed. The Almonry Museum Manager was asked to revisit the proposal but upon the proposal of Cllr A Dyke seconded by Cllr M Goodge it was **RESOLVED** to fund ten days at £250 a day.

Council noted that if the MEND application were unsuccessful then an application for would be made to the Heritage Lottery Fund in the spring for funding towards £2m of external and internal works to the Almonry building. Fundraising would still be required.

53. Almonry – Electrical Works Tender

Council received and considered the confidential tender analysis report for electrical works at the Almonry and **RESOLVED** to accept the report's recommendation that "an order is placed with MT James with a view to confirm the cost and arrange for the works to be completed at the discretion of The Almonry, during the planned closure period, Summer 2021".

54. Finance – Payments and Receipts for June 2021

Evesham Town Council's payments and receipts for the month of June 2021 were sent out with the agenda. Some questions were raised about payments. It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council payments for the month of June 2021 as attached at Appendix A and to a total value of £71,517.88 (Bank payments of £43,754.43 plus Supplier payments of £27,763.45) be approved.

55. Planning Applications

Members considered a schedule of planning applications and commented upon them as shown:

21/01145/FUL – Bengeworth – Delegated

Evesham Methodist Church

71 Bridge Street

Replacement entrance door and new timber decking terrace to front

<https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/Planning/Display/21/01145/FUL>

Recommend approval

21/01433/HP – Twyford – Delegated

Mr & Mrs LaPaglia

119 Greenhill

Proposed garden and cycle storage with carport

<https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/Planning/Display/21/01433/HP>

Recommend refusal on the grounds of overdevelopment, the size and bult of the proposed store and detrimental to the street scene.

56. Battleton Brook

Members noted that a full tendering exercise had been conducted for the Battleton Brook project and that two companies had submitted tenders. Those tenders were currently with a partner organisation for appraisal. Given the need to commence the project as soon as possible and upon the proposal of Cllr M Goodge, seconded by Cllr N Tucker, it was **RESOLVED** that the tender best fitting the project criteria be accepted and that if both tenders met the criteria then the lower should be accepted.

57. Asbestos Management

Members received and noted the recent report of the management asbestos survey carried out at the Town Hall. The Locum Town Clerk was asked to find out why some parts of the Town Hall had been inaccessible to those carrying out the survey.

58. Clerk's Report

Members considered the Clerk's report and noted that following consultation with the Mayor and the Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee the Locum Town Clerk had exercised her delegated authority to purchase a new mower, at a cost of £2,407.50, on grounds of urgency because the old mower became unusable at a time of rapid grass growth. The 2021/22 budget provides £3,000 for expenditure on new Cemeteries equipment (code 601105); the cost of the mower was accommodated within this budget.

Members further noted two items of correspondence received, the first was an email about flooding of Abbey Bridge and the Council advised the Locum Clerk upon her reply. The second was a series of emails complaining about the siting of the market stall trailer adjacent on an amenity space on the High Street. Members again offered advice and Cllr Mrs F Smith offered to forward, for investigation, a list of potential alternative sites suggested by the correspondent.

59. Reports from Council's Representatives

There were none.

60. Matters of Urgency

Cllr A Dyke spoke about the potential for establishing a Friends of the Almonry group and there was brief discussion about holding a meeting for interested parties and who those parties might be.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.58pm.

COUNCILLOR S AMOR
TOWN MAYOR