



EVESHAM TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EVESHAM TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 13th MARCH 2023
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, EVESHAM TOWN HALL AT 6:30PM

- PRESENT:** Councillor: Mark Goodge (Mayor)
- Councillors: Sarah Schaathun (Deputy Mayor), Sue Amor, Alan Booth, Andrew Dyke, Wendy Dyke, Jenny Johnson, Robert Hale, Bill Kimberley, Robbie Raphael, Chrissy Smith, Frances Smith, Marlene Sale, Beryl Timbrell, Julie Tucker, Norbert Tucker and John Clatworthy
- OFFICERS PRESENT:** Mrs Jo Adams, Town Clerk
- ALSO PRESENT:** The Mayor's Chaplain Rt Revd Robert Paterson; County Cllr Peter Griffiths.

Prayers were led by the Mayor's Chaplain.

103/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Nigel Deacon, Peter Knight, Patrick Clifford, T. Haines, J. Haines and District Cllr Ed Cohen.

104/23 Declarations of pecuniary or other interest

There were none.

105/23 Announcements by the Town Mayor

The Mayor had attended the Valentine's Dinner at Raphael's Restaurant, the Lord Lieutenant's drinks reception, the Chairman of Worcestershire County Council's Civic Service at Worcester Cathedral and the Chairman of Wychavon District Council's Civic Service at Droitwich.

He reminded councillors that the St George's Day fundraiser would take place on the 21st April and all were welcome. He reported that the pre-election period of restricted publicity, more commonly known as purdah, would start on the 14th March.

106/23 Report from County and District Councillors

District Cllr Ed Cohen had sent apologies.

County Cllr Peter Griffiths reported:

Hampton footbridge: Design issues relating to the landing positions had now been overcome. A planning application would be submitted in Autumn 2023 with construction starting in Spring 2024.

Cllr Griffiths continued to lobby for better bus services and improved traffic measures in Evesham. Many meetings had taken place to try and find ways to improve traffic flows. He agreed to investigate bollards at the entrance to Market Place to prevent parking.

107/23 Clerk's Report

The leaseholder's surveyor and contractor had visited the Town Hall and get back in contact in 3 - 4 weeks' time with their plan. Repairs were required but most urgently was the need to make the roof watertight.

Coronation: Activities for children in the Town Hall and a large TV screen in the Market Square had been booked. There would be a poster competition for children with prizes. The plan for a procession was still hoped for if a marching band could be found.

One of the faces of Hampton church clock was not working; this was under investigation with the contractor.

Cemetery: The Diocese of Worcester had been positive regarding the potential sale of a strip of land within Hampton churchyard for burials. This would need to go through the planning process and there was still a possibility that it might be unsuitable due to groundwater or archaeology issues.

Suitable storage space was being investigated for the council's new PA system.

108/23 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2023 be adopted as a true record.

109/23 7. Committee Minutes

- a) Planning & Estates, 6th February 2023:** It was resolved to approve the minutes including the committee's recommendations.
- b) Personnel, 20th February 2023:** It was resolved to approve the minutes including the committee's recommendations.
- c) Town Plan, 27th February 2023:** It was resolved to approve the minutes including the committee's recommendations.
- d) Planning and Estates, 6th March 2023:** It was resolved to approve the minutes including the committee's recommendations.

110/23 Election of Mayor Elect and Deputy Mayor Elect

a) To elect the Mayor-Elect for 2023/2024

Cllr Raphael nominated Cllr Booth, with Cllr Clatworthy seconding. There being no other nominations, it was duly agreed that Cllr Booth become the Mayor-Elect for 2023/24.

b) To elect the Deputy Mayor-Elect for 2023/2024

Cllr A. Dyke nominated Cllr Schaathun, with Cllr W. Dyke seconding. There being no other nominations, it was duly agreed that Cllr Schaathun become Deputy Mayor-Elect for 2023/24.

111/23 Finance: Payments and Receipts

i. Payments and Receipts for January 2023

It was resolved that the Town Council payments for January 2023 be approved.

ii. Financial report for Quarter 3, 2022/23

The financial report for Q3 was noted.

112/23 10. Applications for funding for the Almonry

The Almonry's application to Round 2 of the Museum Estate and Development Fund (MEND) fund had not attracted funding. Round 3 launched in 2023 and was currently open for Expressions of Interest. Feedback had been received for the previous application and, with the suggested improvements, had a good chance of being successful in Round 3. It was proposed by Cllr J. Tucker, seconded by Cllr A. Dyke and agreed that a new Expression of Interest be made.

It was further resolved that investigations be made into engaging a bidwriter /fundraising expert to assist and review grant applications.

113/23 20's Plenty

Cllr Hale reported on the recent meeting of the 20's Plenty campaigners. He proposed that the council request to WCC a Town-wide speed limit of 20mph. The proposal was seconded by Cllr N. Tucker but was defeated at a vote. It was further proposed that the council align themselves to support the aims of the 20's Plenty campaign. Proposed Cllr Schaathun, seconded Cllr Amor and agreed.

114/23 Code of Conduct

The revised Code of Conduct was published in May 2022. It was resolved to adopt the revised Code.

115/23 To confirm a response to planning applications W/22/02421 & W/22/02414

Planning application W/22/02414 had been withdrawn. It was agreed that the response for planning application W/22/02421 would be amended to read:

It was resolved that this application be refused as the proposal should be re sited well away from the footpath and so that it is not so visually intrusive or potentially obstructive to future Active Travel possibilities. It is firmly suggested that it be sited at the back of a nearby "lay-by", as close to the fence, at the rear as possible, to prevent a "litter spot". The "long" side should be parallel with the fence. The proposed junction boxes must not protrude above the general ground level, it is suggested that they would be better located adjacent to the proposed cabinet or within the proposed fence, so as not to destroy the integrity of the existing footpath. The proposed plans state that the gates will be back hung to open inwards. By front hanging and opening outwards the overall footprint can be substantially reduced with no loss of function.

There being no further business the meeting was closed.

Public Questions

There were none.

Cllr Mark Goodge
Mayor