

EVESHAM TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EVESHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 2023 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, EVESHAM TOWN HALL AT 6:30PM

PRESENT:	Councillor:	Alan Booth (Mayor)
	Councillors:	Sue Amor, John Campbell-Muir, John Clatworthy, Callum Gailey, Terri Gailey, Mark Goodge, Marion Griffiths, Julie Haines, Tim Haines, Bill Kimberley, Celia Kimberley, Ann Lyon, Emma Nishigaki and Peter Scurfield
OFFICERS PRESENT:		Mrs Jo Adams, Town Clerk
ALSO PRESENT:		County Cllr Peter Griffiths; District Cllr Mary Tasker; 12 members of the public

55. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Stan Brotherton, Chrissy Smith, Nigel Deacon, Andrew Dyke, Robbie Raphael, Sarah Schaathun, Julie Tucker and Revd Caroline Green.

56. Declarations of pecuniary or other interest There were none.

57. Announcements by the Town Mayor

The Mayor reported that during the summer recess mayoral engagements had been minimal. He hosted a charity quiz on the 9th September which raised further funds for his charities. He thanked those who had attended.

58. Updates from District and County Councillors

Cllr Griffiths reported that a second new bench was due to be installed at the corner of Albert Road. He had no update on the replacement town trees.

RAAC: There was no RAAC concrete in any of the Evesham schools. The roof at County Hall was affected. In Worcestershire, two academies had been suspected of having RAAC concrete, one had already been investigated and found to be clear.

Hampton footbridge: Due to be discussed at the Wychavon planning committee in November. Construction would start mid to late summer 2024.

Cllr Booth noted that work would restart on the NatWest building on the 18th of October but the construction site would not extend into Market Square.

59. A Vote of No Confidence

Cllr C. Gailey read a statement regarding various interactions between councillors. He stated that he felt he had been bullied, harassed and coerced by a fellow Councillor and wanted all Members of the Full Council aware of what had happened. He asked that the council did not proceed with the item and reversed its decision on Cllr Nishigaki's committee membership.

Cllr Campbell-Muir proposed a vote of no confidence in Cllr Nishigaki. He read out the Nolan Principles and stated that these were not being followed. Robust discussion took place.

Cllr Campbell-Muir left the meeting.

Cllr T. Haines proposed that the item be removed from the agenda. This was seconded by Cllr J. Haines and agreed. Cllr Nishigaki requested a named vote, detailed as follows: For: Cllrs Scurfield, Lyon, J. Haines, T. Haines, Nishigaki, C. Gailey, T. Gailey; Against: none; Abstentions: Cllrs Amor, B. Kimberley, C. Kimberley, J. Clatworthy, Goodge, Griffiths.

60. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting on 12th July 2023 were circulated and adopted as true a record.

61. Committee Minutes

- a) Planning & Estates 29 August 2023: It was resolved to approve the minutes including the committee's recommendations, subject to adding Cllr Griffiths' attendance and removing Cllr Goodge's from the minutes.
- b) Finance & General Purposes 4 September 2023: It was resolved to approve the minutes including the committee's recommendations.

62. Finance

The reports were noted and it was resolved that the Town Council payments for Quarter 1, July and August be approved.

63. Mentoring System

Following the elections in May, useful feedback has been received from new members. It had been suggested that newly elected members would benefit from being mentoring by a more experienced councillor so that they could ask questions and not feel isolated. This system would not be compulsory but would be there if needed. This was supported and it was resolved to introduce a mentoring system for new councillors.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8pm.

Public Questions

A resident expressed concern over the lack of detail on one of the items on the agenda.

A resident noted her concerns over the traffic problems in town.

A resident made a report to council. No further detail is supplied on this item so as not to prejudice an ongoing police investigation.

Cllr Alan Booth Mayor