



Minutes of the Meeting of Bridgwater Town Council held on Thursday 17 January 2019 at 7.30pm in the Bridgwater Room, Town Hall, Bridgwater.

Present - Councillors

D Rodrigues - Mayor	D Loveridge
T Heywood – Deputy Mayor	A Moore
A Glassford	K Pearce
G Granter	L Redman
P Johnstone	B Smedley
M Lerry	S Wilson

In Attendance:

David Mears PSLCC – Town Clerk and PCSO Dan Wheeler. There were fourteen members of the public and one member of the press present.

During the Police report members of the public raised issues concerning the recent rise in antisocial behaviour in Bridgwater. PCSO Dan Wheeler addressed some of the concerns raised and met separately with concerned residents.

TC2019/61 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs' Cresswell, Leavy (conflicting engagements) and Cllr Morley who is unwell.

RESOLVED – to accept the apologies and to approve the reasons given.

TC2019/62 Declarations of interests - Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

None

TC2019/63 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Thursday 6 December 2018 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Council meeting held on Thursday 6 December 2018 be signed as a correct record.

TC2019/64 Mayor Announcements

There were no announcements.

TC2019/65 Casual Vacancy – to note that John Turner has ceased to be a member of this Council and that with ordinary elections being held in May 2019 a by-election will not be held

Cllr Smedley noted that John Turner had successfully served as a councillor for Bridgwater for various authorities since 1960. A vote of thanks proposed and taken.

RESOLVED – to note the report and that John Turner has ceased to be a member of this Council and that with ordinary elections being held in May 2019 a by-election will not be held.

TC2019/66 Youth Council – to receive the minutes of the last Youth Council meeting and to discuss issues raised (*Cllr Rodrigues*)

Cllr Redman is attempting to establish ownership of the zebra crossing at Morrison's and B&M.

TC2019/67 Transport Forum – to receive the minutes of the last Transport Forum meeting and to discuss issues raised (*Cllr Heywood*)

Cllr Heywood presented the minutes and Cllr Redman provided updates on SCC signage work.

TC2019/68 Town Council Leader – Cllr Smedley to update members on matters of interest and forward plan

Cllr Smedley presented the forward plan and informed members that SDC have launched an open spaces consultation.

RESOLVED – to note the forward plan.

TC2019/69 Town Clerk's Oral Report – including use of delegated powers and update on progress since the last meeting.

- The Town Clerk updated members on the following:
- Using delegated authority to purchase a new water heater for the Charter Hall, in consultation with Cllr Redman;
- Using delegated authority to register the Council as a member of South West Councils, for employment advice and policies, in consultation with Cllr Lerry;
- Rooms above BOS café, are now being let for storage to the Labour Group on a short term lease and rental arrangement;
- New I.T and phone system now installed; and
- Fore Street enhancements scheduled for March/April.

TC2019/70 Parish Paths Consultation – Cllr Pearce to outline and discuss possible comments to be made on the Parish Paths Consultation

RESOLVED – to note the update.

TC2019/71 Strategic Framework Document – to approve the request from Sedgemoor District Council to work in partnership and to help with funding (approx. £3,000) to undertake research and produce a strategic framework document to advance the Library and Blake Gardens project

RESOLVED – to delegate to the Town Clerk to negotiate a fair partnership approach to funding this project.

TC2019/72 Rollercoaster – Town Clerk to update members on storage arrangements and to seek guidance for future arrangements

Town Clerk updated members and received further information from members. Town Clerk and members of the Youth working group to take the matter forward.

TC2019/73 Finance - Budget for 2019/2020 - Members to approve the budget and precept demand for the financial year 1 April 2019 – 31 March 2020

RESOLVED – that this Council agrees to set a budget for 2018/2019 of £709,405 with a precept demand of £596,000 which equates to a 5.33% increase (£3.01 increase per band D properties).

TC2019/74 Finance - Town Council Year 2018/19 Year to Date Budget - to review and note the budget information for the year to date as of 31 December 2018 ([Account & Audit Regulations 2015](#))

RESOLVED – to note the year to date budget.

TC2019/75 Finance – Bank Account Balances – To review and note the balances of the Council's bank and investment accounts:-

1)	NatWest Current Account as of 28 December 2018	£ 25,603.00
2)	NatWest Reserve Account as of 28 December 2018	£ 57,007.94
3)	NatWest CIL Account as of 30 October 2018	£ 26,605.05
4)	CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund as of 30 November 2018	£204,533.96
5)	CCLA Local Authorities Property Fund as of 31 December 2018	£195,369.00

RESOLVED – to note the account balances

TC2019/16 Finance - Accounts for Payment and Income - to note items of expenditure and income for December

RESOLVED – to note expenditure of £31,714.20 and income of £3,286.74.

TC2019/17 To resolve to exclude members of the press and public - To agree that agenda item TC2019/18 be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Members of the press and public left the meeting.

TC2019/18 Trinity Hall Lease update

Cllr Redman and the Town Clerk gave members an overview of the current negotiations with the lease for Trinity Hall. Guidance was given to the Town Clerk and Cllr Redman on the way forward.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.17pm

Signed

Date