



Minutes of the Meeting of Bridgwater Town Council held on Thursday 6 June 2019 at 7.00pm in the Charter Hall, Town Hall, Bridgwater.

Present - Councillors

T Heywood – (Mayor)

L Redman – (Deputy Mayor)

G Burrows

J Cordiner

M Cresswell

L Gibson

G Granter

M Lerry

D Loveridge

K Pearce

G Slocombe (arrived 7.23pm)

B Smedley

D Rodrigues

In Attendance:

David Mears PSLCC – Town Clerk and PCSOs’ Jo Fowler, Tom Hall, Liam Frampton and Dan Wheller. There was one member of the public and no members of the press present.

7.30pm PCSOs’ Jo Fowler, trainee Tom, Liam Frampton and Dan Wheller discussed local issues concerning ASB, drug issues and homelessness with councillors. Councillors discussed setting a multiagency liaison group Cllr B Smedley proposed that himself, Cllrs G Burrows and K Pearce be part of this group.

TC2019/60 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

Cllrs S Aujla and L Leavy both with family commitments and Cllr Lilley with a work commitment

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

TC2019/61 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)

Cllr Tony Heywood declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item TC2019/70 as a member of the BCP.

TC2019/62 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting held on Thursday 9 May 2019 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))

The Town Clerk informed councillors that there is one amendment required. Cllr Lilley was appointed to the Premises committee and not Cllr Aujla.

With the above amendment it was:

RESOLVED - that the minutes as amended above of the Annual Council meeting held on Thursday 9 May 2019 be signed as a correct record.

TC2019/63 Mayor Announcements

The Mayor, Cllr Heywood thanked all those involved with the Mayor Making preparations and to those who attended. The Mayor accepted a last minute invitation and attended a short service of remembrance for the D-Day 75th Anniversary Commemoration on 6 June 2019 at 11:00am.

TC2019/64 Town Clerk's Oral Report – including use of delegated powers and update on progress since the last meeting

Cllr G Slocombe joined the meeting at 7.23pm

The Town Clerk provided a brief update on the Fore Street Improvement works that are underway and tree replacement in the High Street. A Ward Grants scheme is available for ward members to use within their wards. A grant fund of £1,000 is available for the 2019/20 financial year and must have the support of the majority of ward members. Grant policy and an application form are available from the office. Councillor email accounts have been created and if councillors are having issues please contact the office. An overview of the Disc scheme was explained to councillors and a presentation from Sedgemoor District Council was requested for 1 August 2019.

7.30pm RESOLVED – to suspend Standing Orders to allow for the Police Report.

8.02pm RESOLVED – to reinstate Standing Orders.

TC2019/65 Working Parties – to create a Working Party for EDF Energy

Cllr Smedley proposed an amendment to the name - 'Nuclear Waste Transport Working Party'

This proposal was seconded by Cllr L Redman and it was:

RESOLVED – that a Nuclear Waste Transport Working Party be created consisting of Cllrs G Burrows, J Cordiner, L Gibson, L Redman and G Slocombe

TC2019/66 Earmarked Reserves – to approve the attached list as the Bridgwater Town Council's Earmarked Reserves

RESOLVED – that the presented list be approved as the Council's Earmarked Reserves.

TC2019/67 Finance – to note the Annual Internal Audit Report for 2018/19

RESOLVED - to note the Annual Internal Audit Report for 2018/19

TC2019/68 Finance - to approve the Annual Governance Statement (s.1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19) ([Account & Audit Regulations 2015](#))

RESOLVED – that the Annual Governance Statement (s.1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 18/19) approved and signed.

TC2019/69 Finance - to approve the Annual Accounting Statement for the year ending 31 March 2019 (s.2 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19) ([Account & Audit Regulations 2015](#))

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer explained that the figures in last year's columns have been amended (reinstated) due to the council's investments being entered into the incorrect box (as advised by the external auditors). A large variance with Box 9 due to valuations being included into the council's asset register in accordance with 2.27 of the Joint Practitioners' Guide.

RESOLVED – that the Annual Accounting Statement for the year ending 31 March 2019 (s.2 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 17/18) be approved and signed.

TC2019/70 Finance – to authorise the Town Clerk to release the £7,000 Bridgwater Cultural Partnership funding

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk be authorised to release the £7,000 Bridgwater Cultural Partnership funding to Bridgwater Arts Centre who will act as bankers.

TC2019/71 Forward Plan – to adopt a Forward Plan for Bridgwater Town Council (Notice of Motion received from Cllr B Smedley)

Cllr B Smedley introduced the proposed Forward Plan and explained that it is based on proposals made at the local elections by the Local Labour Party Group.

RESOLVED – that the Forward Plan be adopted as presented and will form the basis of activities for the year ahead.

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.29pm

Signed

Date