

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

HELD VIRTUALLY ON MICROSOFT TEAMS AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POLICE AND CRIME PANELS (CORONAVIRUS) (FLEXIBILITY OF LOCAL AUTHORITY AND POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETINGS) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2020

ON MONDAY 5 OCTOBER 2020 COMMENCING AT 7.00 P.M.

Present: Councillor Peter Hollick (Town Mayor); Councillor Gloria Martin (Deputy Town Mayor); Councillors, Sid Abbott, Lisa Bird, Philip Crawley, Greg George, Pamela Ghent, John Gurney, Kenson Gurney, Cameron Restall, Gladys Sanders and Johnson Tamara with David Ashlee (Town Clerk and Chief Executive), John Crawley (Head of Grounds and Environmental Services), Becky Wisbey (Head of Community Services) and Ian Reed Democratic Services Manager

Members of the public; One

Before the commencement of the meeting, Revd Tim Davis led the Council in prayer.

111 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Liz Jones

112 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 29 June 2020 were approved as a correct record and arrangements made for the Town Mayor to sign them.

113 DECLARATIONS

There were no specific declarations of interest.

114 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Town Mayor informed the Council that he was supporting local family businesses with regular articles in the Dunstable Gazette. He had supported all the markets held during the Summer and he officially opened new premises for Kasmicks, Sundon Model shop and the refurbished New Crown public house in High Street North.

He also advised the meeting he was writing a weekly diary which was published in the Town Councils' website.

He announced to Members that his charities for the mayoral year would be;

Hospice at Home

Autism Bedfordshire (his charity funds would go to projects in Dunstable)

Air Cadets(460)Dunstable

He advised the meeting that he had been looking at the proposed arrangements for Remembrance Sunday and Remembrance Day and he reported that the Town Clerk and Chief Executive would be supplying a briefing to Members after the close of the council meeting.

115 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions put to the meeting

116 TO ANSWER QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 16

There were no questions put to the meeting.

117 COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Further to a question from a Member the Council was advised that following the appointment of a new Youth and Community Manager a report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee on the video gaming project at Grove Corner funded from the Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioners' Violence and Exploitation Fund.

Becky Wisbey Head of Community Services advised there would be a report to the next meeting on the services provided at Priory House

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 7 September 2020 be received subject to the following amendment; Minute 92 – South Bedfordshire Dial-a- Ride – it was reported at the meeting that Dial -a-Ride was surviving well through the Covid 19 crisis and they had diversified into delivering prescriptions to vulnerable residents at the request of Central Bedfordshire Council and the staff were in good spirits and matters were improving although services to the elderly had reduced.

118 GROUNDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

In reply to questions from Members John Crawley, the Head of Grounds and Environmental Services, gave an update on the refurbishment of the Clock House and the performance area, Grove Park and reports would be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee. Members also received a report on two Gypsy/Traveller burials at the cemetery. It was noted that the Town Clerk and Chief Executive would be meeting with Chief Inspector Haines of Bedfordshire Police to discuss how future funerals would be policed

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the Grounds and Environmental Services Committee held on 14 September 2020 be received.

119 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

A discussion took place on Grove House relating to urgent repairs to the roof and the imminent submission of tenders for the repair of the heating system

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 21 September 2020 be received.

120 NOMINATION TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE DUNSTABLE MEN IN SHEDS

The Council was invited to discuss a request to nominate a representative of the Council to serve on the Dunstable Men in Sheds Board of Trustees for a term not exceeding 4 May 2023. It was noted that the Membership of Men in Sheds had grown steadily. The Town Council was working with them to refurbish the Meadway store and it was hoped the group would be able to occupy a fully functioning workshop by the beginning of the of the new year. The Council was advised that Men in Sheds would welcome the opportunity to have a Council representative on their Board of Trustees

RESOLVED: That Councillor John Gurney be appointed to serve on the Men in Sheds Board of Trustees for a term not exceeding 4 May 2023

The meeting closed at 7.50 p.m.