

# SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the forty sixth Annual Meeting of Sandbach Town Council held on  
Thursday, 11 June 2020 at 7pm on Zoom

## PRESENT

Councillors: M Muldoon, Retiring Mayor  
G Price Jones (Mayor Elect)  
K Seymour  
G Merry  
D Jack  
S Ashcombe Hurt  
M Lea  
I Williams  
S Kirkham  
K Flavell  
A Smith  
R Hovey  
J Beddows  
P Eaton  
D Hegarty  
R Hoffmann  
S Crane  
L Crane  
S Corcoran  
S Broad

Also present were the Assistant Town Clerk, Operational Support Officer and approximately 25 members of the public and press.

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The Opening Prayer was read by Cllr Gill Merry

## AGENDA

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

### 2. THE RETIRING TOWN MAYOR'S REMARKS

Cllrs Mike Muldoon welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. He noted that 12 months have now passed since the honour of receiving the prestigious post of Mayor was bestowed upon him and said that he had thoroughly enjoyed that time. He took the role on Cllr Richard Hovey, who did a splendid job as Mayor and left a high bar to follow.

Cllr Muldoon explained that he started the role with great trepidation, mixed with excitement. He has learnt more about the magnificent Town of Sandbach, and

its residents, on 1 year as Mayor than in 40 years as a resident. He discovered the huge amounts of talented people, of all ages, that participate in all sorts of organisations, societies and groups within the Town with both Pride and resilience. The amount of man hours that people invest in these groups was certainly noted. Many give their time and efforts for things which they often receive no praise for, which is very commendable.

Cllr Muldoon noted that in his role as Sandbach Mayor, he has attended 59 events and thanked all the organisations who had asked him to be involved. During his time as Mayor, Cllr Muldoon attended and Chaired Full Town Council Meetings, as well as attending the majority of Committee, Sub Committee and Working Group Meetings during the year. He recognised the tremendous work and support given by Council Staff in the background, and thanked them for their hard work in helping the Council run efficiently.

Mike noted that his Mayoral Year had been brought to a sudden and unforeseen halt by the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic, leading to many events cancellations and effort wasted. He is positive that events will return next year for the Town of Sandbach, and that the Council and its residents will ensure that they are continued next year and beyond.

Finally, the outgoing Mayor thanked Cllr Price Jones for his help and support during the year and wished him all the best for his Mayoral year. Cllr Muldoon assured all that Sandbach Town Council will continue to do its duties and fulfil its obligations to the best of its abilities.

**3. ELECTION OF THE TOWN MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2020/21**

Proposed by Cllr Muldoon and seconded by Cllr Hovey.

**Resolved:** that Cllr Geraint Price Jones be elected Mayor for the year 2020/21.

**4. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE – TOWN MAYOR**

The new Mayor read and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was countersigned by the Town Clerk.

**5. ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2020/21**

Cllr David Jack: Proposed by Cllr Kirkham and seconded by Cllr Seymour.

Cllr Kathryn Flavell: Proposed by Cllr L Crane and seconded by Cllr Smith.

Cllr Corcoran requested a named vote, with the vote split as follows:

**Cllr Jack:** K Seymour, M Muldoon, G Merry, D Jack, S Ashcombe Hurt, M Lea, I Williams, S Kirkham. (8 for).

**Cllr Flavell:** G Price Jones, A Smith, R Hovey, J Beddows, P Eaton, D Hegarty, R Hoffmann, S Crane, S Corcoran, L Crane, K Flavell (11 for).

**Abstained:** S Broad.

**Resolved:** that Cllr Kathryn Flavell be elected Deputy Mayor for the year 2020/21.

**6. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE – DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR**

The new Deputy Mayor will read and sign her Declaration of Acceptance of Office at a later date.

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The Mayoral Party withdrew from the Meeting whilst the Mayor was invested with his Civic Chains.

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**7. TRIBUTE TO THE RETIRING TOWN MAYOR**

The Mayor, Cllr Geraint Price Jones

On behalf of residents of Sandbach and Members of Sandbach Town Council Cllr Muldoon was thanked for representing the town over the past year. His list of official engagements provides an indication of how busy his year has been. It is hoped that the new year provides similar opportunities to visit the various groups that provide support to the community.

The new Mayor thanked the outgoing Mayor for his assistance and inclusive nature during his year and noted that this has made him feel much more confident in taking on the role himself.

A framed certificate of appreciation for the past year was presented.

**8. APPOINTMENT BY THE NEW TOWN MAYOR OF HONORARY CHAPLAINS, THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DATES OF CIVIC EVENTS AND THE CHARITIES TO BE SUPPORTED AND PLANS FOR YEAR OF OFFICE**

The Mayor noted that his personal plans and goals for the year have been put on the back burner as the community of Sandbach face the need to rebuild as a community following the COVID-19 pandemic.

During his mayoral year, he hopes to endeavour to keep the work of the Town Council moving at a good pace to continue the good work being done in the Markets and Town Hall, as well as other assets in the Town which the Council is responsible for. The Mayor also hopes to reach out to local organisations and individuals of the town to support and develop work being done by them for the good of Sandbach. It was noted that many resident's mental health will have been tested during the past few months, and that we must do our best to support individuals and organisations. To this end, The Mayor will be looking to invest time into the setting up of a community support hub for this purpose. He also hopes to resurrect the chamber of commerce to help the voices of Sandbach Business be heard.

On a personal level, The Mayor looks forward to working with various sporting groups such as rugby, football, cricket, cycling, running and many more sporting organisations to support their efforts which benefit residents of all ages.

The Mayor will be fundraising for Leighton Hospital Children's Ward, Teenage Youth Cancer Trust and Mental Health Provision for Youth, and will actively

support Foden's Band and Sandbach Concert Series. The appointment of an honorary chaplain will be delayed until The Mayor has contacted them.

**9. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS 2020/21**

Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen will be appointed at each first Committee meeting, when Terms of Reference will also be reviewed for the forthcoming year.

**Resolved:** The Committee appointments were approved as:

**Assets & Services Committee**

Cllrs J Beddows, R Hovey, L Crane, S Broad, R Hoffmann, A Smith, K Seymour, D Jack, D Hegarty and I Williams.

**Conditions Survey Sub-Committee**

Cllrs R Hovey, I Williams, L Crane, D Jack and J Beddows

**Small Common Redevelopment Sub-Committee**

Cllrs S Kirkham, J Beddows, G Merry, S Broad, A Smith, D Jack, D Hegarty and L Crane.

**Community & Environment**

Cllrs G Merry, L Crane, S Broad, R Hoffmann, M Lea, K Flavell, D Jack and D Hegarty.

**Events Sub-Committee**

Cllrs J Beddows, G Merry, L Crane, S Broad, R Hoffmann, D Jack and D Hegarty.

**Finance, Policy & Governance**

Cllrs R Hovey, S Kirkham, G Merry, I Williams, M Muldoon, S Crane, L Crane, D Hegarty, A Smith, K Seymour, D Jack and S Corcoran.

**Planning**

Cllrs R Hovey, G Merry, M Muldoon, S Broad, M Lea, K Flavell, D Jack, and S Crane.

**Personnel**

Cllrs R Hovey, G merry, M Muldoon, S Broad, M Lea, K Flavell, D Jack and S Crane.

**10. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2020/21**

**Resolved:** the appointments be approved.

[List attached]

**11. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2020/21**

**Resolved:** the calendar of meetings 2020/21 is approved.

[Calendar attached]

**12. INTERNAL AUDITOR**

**Resolved:** that JDH Business Services be approved as internal auditor 2020/1

### **13. OUTSIDE SUPPORT 2020/21**

Due to required internal knowledge and for the purpose of business continuity, Financial Regulation 10.3 (quotations) is waived to permit the ongoing appointment of the following:

- i. **Resolved:** that Wirehouse Employer Services be approved for Health, Safety and Employment support 2020/21.
- ii. **Resolved:** that John Greenall and Co. be approved for payroll and pension services 2020/21.
- iii. **Resolved:** that Dixon Rigby Keogh, Sandbach, be approved for Legal Support 2020/21.
- iv. **Resolved:** that John Greenall & Co be approved for Financial guidance and VAT return 2020/21.
- v. **Resolved:** that Prism Computers be approved for IT Support 2020/21.

### **14. COVID-19 GRANTS**

**Resolved:** that Sandbach Town Council invites Community Groups and Organisations who are supporting Sandbach Residents through the epidemic and its consequences to apply for a Grant from the existing Grant fund. The Grants are to be administered by the Finance Committee in accordance to existing policy.

### **15. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Town Council is a business meeting scheduled for Thursday 9 July at 7.00pm on the Zoom Meeting Platform.

Cllr G Price Jones, Chair

MW

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**Agenda Item 10 – Appointment to Outside Bodies**

<b>Sandbach Partnership Mgmt Team:</b>	Cllr D Jack
<b>Sandbach Park Project:</b>	Cllr S Broad
<b>Sandbach Festival of Transport:</b>	Cllr G Price Jones
<b>Sandbach Almshouse Trust:</b>	Cllrs K Flavell, P Eaton, R Hovey and G Price Jones (D Hegarty – Reserve)
<b>Linden Bank Liaison Group:</b>	Cllrs G Merry and S Broad
<b>CHALC Area Committee:</b>	Mayor & Clerk
<b>CHALC AGM:</b>	Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Clerk
<b>CHALC Clerks' Forum:</b>	Clerk
<b>St Mary's Church</b>	Cllr G Merry
<b>CEC Town/Parish Conferences:</b>	Mayor and Clerk
<b>Churches Together Fairtrade</b>	Cllr K Seymour on invitation
<b>Foden's Supervisory Board</b>	Cllr G Merry
<b>Connected Communities</b>	Mayor + Cllrs G Merry, R Hovey and P Eaton.

## Agenda Item 11 – Calendar of Meetings

<b>Proposed Meetings 2020/21</b>		
<b>Sandbach Town Council and Committees</b>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>START</b>	<b>MEETING</b>
Wednesday 1st June 2020	6.30pm	Pre-AGM
Thursday 11th June 2020	7pm	Sandbach Town Council (AGM)
Monday 29th June 2020	7pm	Planning
Tuesday 30th June 2020	7pm	Personnel
Thursday 2nd July 2020	7pm	Community & Environment
Thursday 9th July 2020	7pm	Sandbach Town Council
Monday 20th July 2020	7pm	Planning
Tuesday 28th July 2020	7pm	Assets & Services
Thursday 6th August 2020	7pm	Finance & Governance
Monday 10th August 2020	7pm	Planning
Tuesday 1st September 2020	7pm	Planning
Thursday 17th September 2020	7pm	Community & Environment
Monday 21st September 2020	7pm	Planning
Thursday 24th September 2020	7pm	Sandbach Town Council
Monday 12th October 2020	7pm	Planning
Tuesday 13th October 2020	7pm	Pre-Budget
Thursday 23rd October 2020	7pm	Sandbach Town Council
Monday 2nd November 2020	7pm	Planning
Tuesday 3rd November 2020	7pm	Assets & Services
Tuesday 10th November 2020	7pm	Pre-Budget
Thursday 12th November 2020	7pm	Finance & Governance
Monday 23rd November 2020	7pm	Planning
Thursday 26th November 2020	7pm	Community & Environment
Thursday 10th December 2020	7pm	Sandbach Town Council
Monday 14th December 2020	7pm	Planning
Tuesday 11th January 2021	7pm	Planning
Monday 25th January 2021	7pm	Planning
Tuesday 26th January 2021	7pm	Assets & Services
Thursday 4th February 2021	7pm	Finance & Governance
Thursday 12th February 2021	7pm	Sandbach Town Council
Monday 15th February 2021	7pm	Planning
Thursday 4th March 2021	7pm	Community & Environment
Monday 8th March 2021	7pm	Planning
Wednesday 17th March 2021	7pm	Personnel
Thursday 18th March 2021	7pm	Annual Town Meeting
Monday 29th March 2021	7pm	Planning
Thursday 9th April 2021	7pm	Sandbach Town Council
Monday 19th April 2021	7pm	Planning
Tuesday 22nd April 2020	7pm	Assets & Services
Thursday 29th April 2021	7pm	Finance & Governance
Monday 10th May 2021	7pm	Planning
Thursday 6th May 2021	7pm	Pre-AGM
Thursday 20th May 2021	7pm	Sandbach Town Council (AGM)
TBC		Civic Ball
TBC	6.00pm	Bowls
TBC	2pm	Civic Parade and Service