

SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Sandbach Town Council held on 11 October 2019 at 7.00pm at Sandbach Literary Institution.

PRESENT

Councillors: M Muldoon (Mayor)
G Price Jones (Deputy Mayor)
S Corcoran
P Eaton
M Lea
R Hovey
L Crane
S Crane
S Broad
D Jack
K Seymour
I Williams
A Smith
K Flavell
S Kirkham
S Ashcombe-Hurt

Also present was one member of the press.

The prayer was read by Cllr Corcoran

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs: Merry, Beddows and Hoffman
Absent without Apologies
Cllr: Belsham

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MAYORS COMMENTS

Report of activities over the past two months:

- Regular meeting with the Town Clerk.
- Tried to attend all Committee and Sub-Committee meetings.

- STC now fully staffed which is helping tremendously, thank you to all staff.

Public engagements:

- Sandbach Choral Society, number 1.
- Sandbach and Wheelock Fun Day.
- Sandbach Market Town Festival
- Honour to start a 2 and 10k run from Bradwall Village Hall, with the 10k run was record time, just 31 minutes.
- Sandbach Grassroots AGM.
- Macclesfield CCTV HQ to view their operation.
- Public Forum for the Small Common Car Park
- Sandbach Today
- Greeted Mayor of Knutsford, along with five other Councillors on their 100m round Cheshire East Run.
- Sandbach Choral Society number 2, attended by Jonathan Radcliffe and Ashley Fripp.
- Assisted in opening of Sandbach House, Sixth Form.
- Presented Rev Thomas Shepherd with gift and plaque on behalf of STC, at his last Sunday morning service at St Mary's.
- Attended Sandbach Community Launch at the Wesley Centre.

Thoroughly enjoyed attending these events and noticed the tremendous amount of talent in Sandbach.

Thanks to all those STC Councillors who attended.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The Town Mayor adjourned the meeting to allow questions from members of the public. There being no questions, the meeting was immediately reconvened.

4. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15 AUGUST.

RESOLVED: that subject to Cllr Flavell being reported as tendering apologies, the minutes are approved as an accurate record.

6. TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE MARKET HALL STEERING GROUP SUB-COMMITTEE – NO MEETINGS HELD.

7. TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & CONSULTATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON 12 AUGUST, 2 SEPTEMBER AND 23 SEPTEMBER (DRAFT).

RESOLVED: that the minutes are noted.

8. TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 24 SEPTEMBER (DRAFT).

RESOLVED: that the minutes are noted.

9. **TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE, POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8 AUGUST 2019 (DRAFT).**

RESOLVED: that subject to the date being corrected the minutes are noted.

10. **TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – NO MEETINGS HELD.**

11. **TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON 12 JUNE AND 21 AUGUST 2019 AND 18 SEPTEMBER (DRAFT).**

RESOLVED: that the minutes be noted.

12. **TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE ASSETS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE – NO MEETINGS HELD**

13. **MATTERS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

13.1 Finance, Policy & Governance – Outside Body Reps Guidance Document

RESOLVED: that the guidance document is adopted.

14. **COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

14.1 Small Common Refurbishment Sub-Committee

RESOLVED: that the Small Common Refurbishment Sub-Committee Terms of Reference are approved.

15. **SANDBACH PARTNERSHIP CORE FUNDING**

The Clerk confirmed that all supporting paperwork required had been received and circulated to members.

A meeting of the Partnership Liaison has taken place, where representatives from the Partnership and the Town Council discussed the position and what might be done to move forward.

It was agreed that there have been some difficulties and that these are not all recent. There have been breaches of the SLA from both sides. The SLA was considered and agreed that it is due to be reviewed. It was stressed that such a re-negotiation should be seen in a positive light, with a view to moving forward in Partnership.

RESOLVED: that:

- i) £5,000 be released to the Partnership in accordance with the SLA and budget. This is the second and final payment for the year 2019/20.
- ii) Notice be served to end the current (2012) SLA, with a view to re-negotiating the terms over the next six months.

16. AGAR END OF YEAR EXTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT

The Clerk/RFO presented the External Auditor's report and was pleased to present a set of unqualified accounts for the period ending 31 March 2019.

She asked for approval to pay the External Audit account.

RESOLVED: that

- i) The report be received.
- ii) The payment £1920 inc. VAT is approved and delegated to the Clerk. Nominal Code 101 4112 (Audit Fees).

17. TOWN HALL OFFICE REPORT

The Clerk reported that works are due to commence on the Town Hall Office refurbishment on 21 October. She stated that the Town Hall Office, Corridor and Trader Toilets will be out of use for the duration of the works; alternative toilet provision is being made available.

RESOLVED: that the report be received.

18. COBBLES AND YORK STONE STOCK

A site visit to the Bradwall store has been undertaken, with the position being reported as follows:

All Transport Festival related items have been removed; only the Christmas Lights remain in the covered store. The annual rental and on-costs are almost £3,500. The new Christmas Lights body has storage available, which would cost the Council £1,000 per annum.

Externally, there are several tonnes of landscaping materials, which were surplus when the Market Square was refurbished. An estimate is that there are about 40m² York Stone, all of which needs cleaning and several bags of cobbles and hard-core mix.

It was agreed that the current rental costs are not good value and therefore the Christmas lights should be re-located following this year's display. Members considered the best option for the landscaping materials.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the hard landscaping materials currently stored at Bradwall are disposed of, with a small amount being retained in the Market Store for minor repairs around the Town. Disposal is to be delegated to the Clerk.
- ii) The Council serve notice to vacate Bradwall Store on or before 31 March 2020.
- iii) The Christmas Lights are stored by Blitz from 2020..

19. MEMBERS ITEMS

There were no members items.

23. CORRESPONDENCE

20.1 Cheshire East Council

Letter dated 10 September regarding 5G technology.

RESOLVED: that the letter be received.

21. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Town Council Meeting will be on Thursday 5 December 2019 at 7.00pm in The Ballroom, Sandbach Town Hall. All Councillors and members of the public are invited to join the Mayor after the meeting for Christmas Carols and Seasonal Refreshments.

Meeting closed 7.44pm

Cllr M Muldoon, Town Mayor

ALB