



Time and date

6.30pm on Wednesday **29 May 2024**

Place

The Lights, Andover

Councillors Present:

Arrival time noted if after meeting start

Cllr H Neate (Town Mayor)	✓	Cllr K Bird (Deputy Town Mayor)	✓	18.31	
Cllr J Cockaday	✓	Cllr M Farren	✓		Cllr L Gregori ✓
Cllr T Gregory	✗	Cllr S Hardstaff	✓		Cllr J Hughes ✗
Cllr K Hughes	✗	Cllr R Hughes	✓		Cllr R Kidd ✓
Cllr M McGarry	✗	Cllr R Meyer	✗		Cllr E Reynolds ✓
Cllr J Sangster	✗	Cllr S Waue	✓		

Officers Present:

Gail Foster (Town Clerk)

Members of the Public:

11

County/Borough Councillors:

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Members of the Press:

1 Matthew

PUBLIC SESSION

C 072/05/24 ***The discussion below is a short summary and is not recorded word for word.***

A member of the public spoke to congratulate the new Mayor and Deputy Mayor on their appointments and wished them luck for the coming year. He spoke in support of the local event planner and offered his support with the proposed event which he hoped council would approve their involvement in. He congratulated the council on recently working more positively with local organisations. The Grant that had been approved for the Carnival had been much appreciated and had gone down well in the community. He felt that if funds were available, that the proposal was a great opportunity to support Andover as a whole. He also offered himself on a free consultancy basis to help the team get the event up and running. He hoped that Councillors felt inclined to support the proposal.

C 073/05/24 *A member of the public spoke in connection with the Picket Piece Land purchase agenda item. He congratulated the Council on the work done so far in attempting to save the green space for what had once been a small village of approximately 100 houses, but*

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was now a much larger community of over 1,000 dwellings at risk of losing another piece of green space.

C 074/05/24 *Another member of the public spoke to declare her support for the proposed festival and her voice her appreciation that the Town Council were serious about making provisions for young people in the locality. She hoped the Council supported the motion and thought it would be fantastic for the Town to host.*

APOLOGIES

C 075/05/24 Apologies had been received from Councillors J Hughes, K Hughes, J Sangster, R Meyer, T Gregory.

INTERESTS

C 076/05/24 Non-pecuniary declarations were received from:

1. Councillor E Reynolds, as a member of the Drove Association, and as an allotment plot holder.
2. Councillor H Neate, plot holder. Ox drove as item 12.
3. Councillor K Bird wished to confirm that at present she had no connection with Jerk Jam Events Ltd or Illusion Events Ltd but was planning to work with either company in the future.

MINUTES

C 077/05/24 It was proposed by Councillor H Neate and seconded by Councillor M Farren and **RESOLVED: FOR – 9, AGAINST – 0, ABSTENTIONS - 1**, that the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 22nd May 2024, would be reviewed at the next Town Council meeting as they had not been finalised by the Town Clerk.
Action: Town Clerk.

JERKJAM PRESENTATION

C 078/05/24 It was proposed by Councillor L Gregori and seconded by Councillor E Reynolds and **RESOLVED: Unanimously**, that the Standing Orders be suspended in order to allow a presentation to be given the by organisers of the proposed festival.

C 079/05/24 The Directors of JerkJam Events Ltd and Illusion Events Ltd gave a jointly presented a PowerPoint to explain how the current JerkJam event in Southampton was run. Councillors were provided with a fifteen-page provisional Event Management Plan to review. Many questions were posed by councillors and answered by the organisers.

C 080/05/24 It was heard that the event was planned to be held at Vigo Recreation Ground which would be fenced with Heras fencing and would have security personnel in attendance.

The park would not be cut off from public access, through traffic would be maintained.

C 081/05/24 Jerkjam is a Caribbean BBQ competition, participants go head-to-head to cook food. It is a fantastic way for attendees to sample other cultures' cuisine.

C 082/05/24 it is expected that over the course of the time that the event runs, four to four and a half- thousand people may attend. The event is designed to attract younger people in the 18-30 years category as well as families with children.

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- C 083/05/24** It was proposed by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor S Waue and **RESOLVED: Unanimously**, to re-instate Standing Orders to allow the meeting to proceed.
- C 084/05/24** It was proposed by Councillor K Bird and seconded by Councillor M Farren that the Council work with the JerkJam organisers to fund the August 2024 event.
- C 085/05/24** An amendment was proposed by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor L Gregori and **RESOLVED: Unanimously**, to remove the word "funding".
- C 086/05/24** Councillors went into debate, and it was then proposed by Councillor S Waue and seconded by Councillor S Hardstaff and **RESOLVED: Unanimously**, that the Councillors move to vote on the substantive motion.
- C 087/05/24** It was proposed by Councillor K Bird and seconded by Councillor M Farren and **RESOLVED: Unanimously**, that the Town Council work with the JerkJam organisers to host the August 2024 event. **Action: Town Clerk.**
- FUNDING**
- C 088/05/24** It was proposed by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor S Waue and **RESOLVED: Unanimously**, that the Standing Orders be suspended again in order to ask more questions of the organisers.
- C 089/05/24** More questions from Councillors followed and it was heard that the contribution that the Town Council were being asked to provide would cover security and welfare primarily.
- C 090/05/24** The organisers were not asking for a grant application. The event would proceed with or without the Town Council's input. The organisers wanted however to work with the Council to provide a free event for residents. It was hoped that JerkJam would become an annual event and that it would help to put Andover on the map.
- C 091/05/24** There were many costs to bring the festival to fruition. The infrastructure, stage build, staffing, power supplies and security personnel and fencing came to twenty to twenty-five thousand pounds. The Council were being asked to contribute £10,500 to contract with the organisers to bring the event to Town. The balance of the costs, and the associated risks, would be borne by the organisers. If the Council agreed, the event would be publicised as "Andover Town Council presents JerkJam".
- C 092/05/24** A member of the public spoke to give approximate costs for the Andover Carnival which also employed security personnel and barriers and fencing although it was a smaller event. His opinion was that the costs involved in providing security and fencing for the size of festival proposed would be greater than the amount the Council were being asked for.
- C 093/05/24** The organisers explained that the people involved in security and welfare are all professionals and DBS checked. Every service being contracted in is checked for accreditation and public liability insurance.
- C 094/05/24** Gender neutral toilets are provided on site, and generators running on biodiesel are used to minimise the carbon footprint of the event.

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- C 095/05/24** Clear up of the event is closely managed and bins on site are monitored throughout the day. No tents are permitted, and noise levels are kept within the legal limits and cease at 10pm before they can be considered nuisance or anti-social.
- C 096/05/24** It was intended that the event would take place on 31st August, at the end of the Summer Holidays, and after the Reading Festival.
- C 097/05/24** It was proposed by Councillor E Reynolds and seconded by Councillor K Bird and **RESOLVED: Unanimously**, to re-instate the Standing Orders.
- C 098/05/24** It was proposed by Councillor E Reynolds and seconded by Councillor S Waue and **RESOLVED: Unanimously**, that the Town Council contract with the organisers to provide the August 2024 JerkJam festival in the name of the Town Council for a fee of £10,500. **Action: Town Clerk.**

PAYMENT TERMS

- C 099/05/24** It was proposed by Councillor K Bird and seconded by Councillor L Gregori and **RESOLVED: Unanimously**, that the payment terms for the contract be agreed with the organisers by the Town Clerk. **Action: Town Clerk.**

CONTRACT

- C 100/05/24** It was proposed by Councillor K Bird and seconded by Councillor E Reynolds and **RESOLVED: Unanimously**, that a contract would be drawn up between the Town Council and JerkJam Events Ltd and Illusion Events Ltd. **Action: Town Clerk.**

LAND VALUATION

- C 101/05/24** The Mayor advised that she had sought advice from the Monitoring Officer who had confirmed that neither Councillor Neate, nor her daughter, had a pecuniary interest in the agenda item. All Councillors however did have an interest in increased well-being if the project took place, but this was shared by all residents of the Town.
- C 102/05/24** The Mayor asked that the Code of Conduct be reviewed with the Standing Orders in relation to Councillors interests. **Action: Town Clerk.**
- C 103/05/24** In order to be consistent with previous actions, the Mayor left the room at **7.25pm** so that council could consider the agenda item without her presence. The Deputy Mayor took over chairing the meeting to enable debate to progress.
- C 104/05/24** Councillors considered whether an independent valuer should be engaged to provide a valuation of the land prior to agreeing a price with the landowners of the acre in Picket Piece. It was noted that a Red Book valuation would be required in order to make an application to the Community Ownership Fund. (COF)
- C 105/05/24** It was proposed by Councillor L Gregori and seconded by Councillor S Hardstaff and **RESOLVED: Unanimously**, that the supplier no. 1 be appointed at a cost of £3,750. **Action: Town Clerk.**
- C 106/05/24** The Mayor returned to the room at **7.28pm** and resumed chairing the meeting.

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

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C 107/05/24 Councillor K Bird reminded all present that the Town Council had arranged for a Beacon to be lit after the evening Church Service at St Mary's on 6th June.

C 108/05/24 Councillor S Hardstaff had attended the recent Boat Race in Town. It had been an excellent event that had seen so many residents turn up and enjoy the atmosphere.

C 109/05/24 Councillor E Reynolds had recently attended a Lantra Basic Tree Assessment course with the Allotment Officer, Admin Officer and the Town Clerk. It had been held in the Abbots Ann Memorial Hall and had been extremely informative in identifying when a tree may be of concern. Councillor Reynolds and the officers now felt able to decide when professional help should be sought for safety reasons.

Some basic equipment would be bought to aid tree assessments. **Action: Town Clerk.**

C 110/05/24 A Tree Inspection Policy would be drafted. **Action: Deputy Clerk.**

FUTURE ITEMS

C 111/05/24 Councillor R Hughes asked that when the question of applying for the Community Ownership Fund was raised at the next Council meeting, it be supported by a business plan for the land use.

C 112/05/24 It was noted that a draft business plan was already being compiled, and that it would be useful to circulate this prior to the next meeting and receive comments by email. **Action: Town Clerk.**

C 113/05/24 The Mayor asked that Councillors particularly consider the wording in the new revision of the Standing Orders in relation to councillors' interests.

C 114/05/24 The Mayor asked Councillors to consider what actions they would like to see in Andover over the coming year, and suggested that the Council may write to the incoming MP with suggestions. An item would be added to the June agenda to gather suggestions. **Action: Town Clerk.**

NEXT MEETING

C 115/05/24 Members noted that the date of the next meeting would be Wednesday 19th June 2024 at The Lights, Andover, at 6.30pm.

MEETING CLOSURE

C 116/05/24 The Town Mayor closed the meeting at **7.35 pm.**