



ANDOVER TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes Council

Time and date

6.30pm on Wednesday 10 August 2022

Place

Upper Guildhall, High Street, Andover

Cllr D Coole - Town Mayor (P)		
Cllr R Meyer - Deputy Town Mayor (P)		
Cllr N Asamoah (P)	Cllr L Banville (A)	Cllr J Coole (P)
Cllr C Ecclestone (P)	Cllr L Gregori (P)	Cllr K Hughes (A)
Cllr N Long (P)	Cllr R Hughes (P)	Cllr M Mumford (P)
Cllr R Rowles (P)	Cllr J Sangster (A)	Cllr D Treadwell (A)
Cllr S Waue (P)		

Officers Present:

Wendy Coulter (Town Clerk)

Tor Warburton (Deputy Town Clerk)

Michelle Young (Committee Officer) (Taking the Minutes)

County/Borough Councillors:

Cllr I Anderson

Members of the Public: 12

Members of the Press: 1

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and Government legislation regarding Social Distancing, this meeting was held in the Guildhall following Coronavirus preventative measures. The Town Council made arrangements to stream the meeting virtually to allow as much public access as possible.

C064/08/22	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
	Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors L Banville and K Hughes.
C065/08/22	DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS
	Councillors D Coole, J Coole, N Long and R Meyer declared an interest in Item 12 of the agenda.
C066/08/22	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
	<p><i>The notes below are a precis of statements/questions. They are not recorded word for word.</i></p> <p>Member of Public 1: Agenda item 6 – It does not include the promise to complete the correct procedure for electing the Deputy Mayor in this meeting. Agenda item 9 - There are a number of motions to be discussed. Should this meeting get that far, many of them are a front to the tax paying members of the public and must either be withdrawn or voted down. The public will be expecting non bias and Councillors should be mindful of the fact they represent the electorate and not themselves. Agenda Item 12 – I attended the Community and Events Committee meeting on 20 July, where appendix B very clearly stated, “to consider received grant applications for recommendations to full council”. Given that not all of those applications discussed then, are here now, we must assume that these grants were not deemed worthy. Or are you as Councillors attempting to deceive the public? In truth this agenda mirrors the abilities of a good number of the Councillors now present; not for purpose, destined for the rubbish bin and quite frankly a waste of tax payers’ money.</p> <p>Town Mayor’s response: Thank you for your comments.</p>
CO67/08/22	EXTERNAL REPORTS
	<p>The following report from Councillor N Matthews, was emailed to all Members on 8 August 2022:</p> <p>Councillor N Matthews: L2 development – The resubmission of the amended planning application has still not taken place, although it is expected very soon. Our previous statement that confirmed our intent on calling it back to committee has not changed! We remain objective to elements of the proposed site. Furthermore, the delays of the Finkley road junction opening adds to our objections, particularly given this was one of the original highways’ consultation conditions.</p> <p>Yet another “meeting” is taking place next week to insist on update on the situation regarding Finkley road junction. We have also requested a realistic timescale for the resurfacing of Icknield Way and Hadrian Road.</p> <p>The parking restrictions markings have now been put on Augusta Way; however, the monitoring and enforcement remains an ongoing issue!</p>

	<p>Contractor no parking signs have now been installed around Atrium, although monitoring by site managers is difficult, as visiting contractors often ignore them! Robust monitoring and enforcing have been insisted on and is ongoing. We have instructed Taylor Wimpy that when L2 building begins (if planning approved), temporary hard standing is to be installed on the grassed area, taking all work vehicles off the road.</p>
C068/08/22	MINUTES
	<p>It was proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor R Meyer that the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 25 July 2022, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 7, AGAINST – 0, ABSTENTIONS – 3</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 25 July 2022, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.</p>
C069/08/22	TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
	<p>The Town Mayor visited the Romsey Mayor Picnic in early July which was well supported by the community, a memorable day.</p> <p>The Town Mayor also visited the Andover Flower Club and put them in touch with Unity to help promote the club and attract new members.</p>
C070/08/22	ANDOVER TOWN COUNCILLORS REPORTS
	<p>Councillor M Mumford:</p> <p>I have been attending Mind, who have been looking at aspects of mental health of the youth of Andover Town. There are a lot of things to be worried about and I would like to invite a member of the group to come and give a talk at the beginning of a Council meeting, about what needs to be done and why and to correct some misunderstandings about mental health.</p> <p>I'll liaise with the Town Clerk.</p> <p>Councillor S Waue:</p> <p>With reference to the Careers Fair working group, I'd like to thank Councillor Sangster and Councillor Treadwell for bringing the proposal forward. Unfortunately, I have only received confirmation of one person volunteering to assist on the working group. Due to this and the Council's resources being stretched extremely thin over the next coming months, I will hereby be withdrawing from this endeavour. It breaks my heart; however, it makes more sense to protect our resources as much as possible over the next coming months. Any private organisations or Community Interest Companies that wish to take this forward, I will be happy to assist with this.</p>
C071/08/22	QUESTIONS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS
	<p>There were no questions received from the Andover Town Councillors.</p>
C072/08/22	MOTIONS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS
	<p>Members considered a Motion on Council Surgeries and Events Presence, proposed by Councillor N Asamoah and seconded by Councillor R Meyer.</p> <p>Members debated the motion.</p>

A recorded vote was requested by Councillor R Hughes.

COUNCILLOR	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTENTIONS
N Asamoah	X		
D Coole	X		
J Coole	X		
C Ecclestone	X		
L Gregori		X	
R Hughes		X	
N Long		X	
R Meyer	X		
M Mumford		X	
R Rowles		X	
S Waue		X	
TOTAL	5	6	0

Motion was not passed.

Members considered a Motion on the **Provision of Open Space Furniture**, proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor R Meyer.

Members debated the motion.

Councillor L Gregori questioned the Town Mayor with regards to the £20,000.00, whether he had concocted a deal with the Head of Test Valley Borough Council, Councillor P North. The Town Mayor confirmed he did not.

Councillor R Hughes proposed an amendment to the motion, that the Open Space Working Group be known instead as an Open Space Working Party, with no money allocated to it, until it reports back to Full Council and the removal of the first bullet point which read: "Approve a Virement from Community infrastructure Levy funds of up to £20,000 excluding VAT, for the provision of public open space furniture."

It was seconded by Councillor L Gregori.

A vote was taken:

FOR – 6, AGAINST – 4, ABSTENTIONS – 1

RESOLVED: That the Working Group be known instead as a Working Party, with no money allocated to it, until it reports back to Full Council and the removal of the first bullet point which read: "Approve a Virement from Community infrastructure Levy funds of up to £20,000 excluding VAT, for the provision of public open space furniture."

Members voted on the substantive motion with the removal of the first bullet point, which was unanimous.

Motion passed.

Members considered a Motion on **Council Meetings' Video and Audio Live Streaming Service**, proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor R Meyer.

Members debated the motion.

Councillor R Rowles proposed an amendment to the motion, that the last bullet point be removed, which read: "Instructs the Town Clerk to nominate and Officer to assist the Working Group in identifying, testing and proving satisfactory solution(s) and to advise on any positive/negative implications the proposed solution(s) may have on current Officer workloads."

It was seconded by Councillor N Long.

A vote was taken:

FOR – 8, AGAINST – 2, ABSTENTIONS – 1

RESOLVED: That the Motion be amended that the last bullet point be removed, which read: “Instructs the Town Clerk to nominate and Officer to assist the Working Group in identifying, testing and proving satisfactory solution(s) and to advise on any positive/negative implications the proposed solution(s) may have on current Officer workloads.”

Members voted on the substantive Motion with the removal of the last paragraph.

FOR – 9, AGAINST – 2, ABSTENTIONS – 0

Motion passed.

Members considered a **Ukraine Motion**, proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor L Gregori.

It was proposed by Councillor M Mumford and seconded by Councillor C Ecclestone that the Council move straight to a vote.

A vote was taken:

FOR – 10, AGAINST – 0, ABSTENTIONS – 1

Motion passed.

Members considered a Motion on **Council Meeting Start Time**, to be returned to 5.30pm, proposed by Councillor C Ecclestone and seconded by Councillor R Meyer.

Members debated the motion.

A recorded vote was requested by Councillor R Hughes.

COUNCILLOR	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTENTIONS
N Asamoah			X
D Coole	X		
J Coole	X		
C Ecclestone	X		
L Gregori		X	
R Hughes		X	
N Long		X	
R Meyer	X		
M Mumford		X	
R Rowles		X	
S Waue	X		
TOTAL	5	5	1

The Town Mayor used his casting vote and voted for.

Motion passed.

It was proposed by Councillor R Rowles and seconded by Councillor D Coole, that at 7.55pm, the Council meeting be suspended for a ten-minute comfort break.

A vote was taken:

FOR – 6, AGAINST – 3, ABSTENTIONS – 2

RESOLVED: That at 7.55pm, the Council meeting be suspended for a ten-minute comfort break.

The Council meeting resumed at 8.05pm.

It was proposed by Councillor L Gregori and seconded by Councillor R Rowles that the proceedings of the meeting be changed slightly in accordance with Standing Orders section 1, 10A.6, which enabled Agenda Item 11 to be brought forward.

A vote was taken which was unanimous.

RESOLVED: That the proceedings of the meeting be changed slightly in accordance with Standing Orders section 1, 10A.6, which enabled Agenda Item 11 to be brought forward.

C073/08/22 TOWN CLERK AND RFO RECRUITMENT

Members noted the report on the next steps regarding cover and recruitment for a Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer (RFO).

It was proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor R Meyer that the Action Plan be approved.

Members discussed the action plan.

Reference was made to the second bullet point of the Action Plan and an amendment was requested that it clearly stated whether the Recruitment Panel would consist of 3 or 4 Councillors. It was also felt that the reduction in Committee Meetings required further discussion.

It was proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor C Ecclestone that the second bullet point of the Action Plan be amended to state the required number of Councillors on the Recruitment Panel be 4.

A vote was taken which was unanimous.

RESOLVED: That the second bullet point of the Action Plan be amended to state the required number of Councillors on the Recruitment Panel be 4.

Members returned to the substantive motion.

A vote was taken which was unanimous.

RESOLVED: That the Action Plan be approved with the amendments.

The following Councillors put their names forward to be on the Recruitment Panel: Councillors D Coole, C Ecclestone, L Gregori, M Mumford and R Rowles.

A suggestion was made to increase the number of Councillors on the Recruitment Panel from 4 to 5. This would ensure a majority vote on decisions and actions.

It was proposed by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor N Long that the second bullet point of the action plan, be amended to read; "Set up a panel of 5 Councillors, chosen by Ful Council, be created to be responsible for delivery."

A vote was taken which was unanimous.

RESOLVED: That the second bullet point of the action plan, be amended to read; "Set up a panel of 5 Councillors, chosen by Ful Council, be created to be responsible for delivery."

It was proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor C Ecclestone that the Councillors D Coole, C Ecclestone, L Gregori, M Mumford and R Rowles be accepted as Members of the Recruitment Panel.

A vote was taken which was unanimous.

RESOLVED: That the Councillors D Coole, C Ecclestone, L Gregori, M Mumford and R Rowles be accepted as Members of the Recruitment Panel.

Members returned to agenda item 9.

C074/08/22 MOTIONS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS

Members considered a Motion to **Appoint an Andover Town Crier and the Purchase of Regalia**, proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor R Meyer.

It was proposed by Councillor C Ecclestone and seconded by Councillor S Waue that the last two motions, the "Purchase of Mayoral Regalia" and the "Increase Delegated/Authorised Officer Spending Limit from £500.00 to £1,000.00 (exc. VAT)", be deferred until the next Council meeting.

A vote was taken:

FOR – 2, AGAINST – 8, ABSTENTIONS – 0

Motion not passed.

It was proposed by Councillor R Rowles and seconded by Councillor R Hughes that the Council moved straight to a vote with no debate.

A vote was taken:

FOR – 3, AGAINST – 6, ABSTENTIONS – 2

Motion not passed.

Members considered a Motion to **Approve the Purchase of Mayoral Regalia**, proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor R Meyer.

It was proposed by Councillor R Rowles and seconded by Councillor R Hughes that the Council moved straight to a vote with no debate.

A vote was taken:

FOR – 7, AGAINST – 0, ABSTENTIONS – 3.

RESOLVED: That the Council moved straight to a vote with no debate.

A recorded vote was requested by Councillor R Rowles.

COUNCILLOR	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTENTIONS
N Asamoah			X
D Coole	X		
J Coole	X		
C Ecclestone			X
L Gregori		X	
R Hughes		X	
N Long		X	
R Meyer	X		
M Mumford		X	
R Rowles		X	
S Waue		X	
TOTAL	3	6	2

Motion not passed.

	<p>Members considered a Motion to Increase Delegated/ Authorised Officer Spending Limit from £500.00 to £1,000.00 (exc. VAT).</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor C Ecclestone and seconded by Councillor D Coole that the Council moved straight to a vote with no debate.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 3, AGAINST – 6, ABSTENTIONS – 0</p> <p>Motion not passed.</p> <p>Members debated the motion. An amendment to the motion was suggested in respect of the Financial Regulations.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor R Rowles and seconded by Councillor L Gregori that Section 6.13 of the Financial Regulations, with respect to the roles which are identified in relation to spending limits, be amended to state that delegated authority spending be increased from £500.00 to £1,000.00 (exc. VAT) for all Committees.</p> <p>A vote was taken which was unanimous.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Section 6.13 of the Financial Regulations, with respect to the roles which are identified in relation to spending limits, be amended to state that delegated authority spending be increased from £500.00 to £1,000.00 (exc. VAT) for all Committees.</p>
C075/08/22	COMMITTEE MINUTES
	<p>It was proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor C Ecclestone that the Minutes from the under-mentioned Committees, be received:</p> <p>7 April 2022 – Allotment Committee 14 June 2022 – Policy and Resources Committee 9 May 2022 – Planning Committee 30 May 2022 – Planning Committee 27 June 2022 – Planning Committee 11 July 2022 – Planning Committee</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR - 9, AGAINST – 0, ABSTENTIONS – 2</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Minutes from the under-mentioned Committees, be received:</p> <p>7 April 2022 – Allotment Committee 14 June 2022 – Policy and Resources Committee 9 May 2022 – Planning Committee 30 May 2022 – Planning Committee 27 June 2022 – Planning Committee 11 July 2022 – Planning Committee</p>
C076/08/22	GRANT APPLICATIONS
	<p>(Councillors D Coole and J Coole left the meeting at 8.30pm)</p> <p>Members considered the recommendations from the Community and Events Committee regarding Grant Funding Applications.</p> <p>Andover Summer Fayre 2022</p> <p>Members noted that the Andover Summer Fayre grant application was submitted after the Community and Events Committee meeting on 20 July 2022 and therefore had come straight to Full Council for consideration and approval.</p> <p>Councillor C Ecclestone proposed and seconded by Councillor R Meyer that the grant application be approved and the requested sum of £1,000.00 be awarded.</p>

Members debated the grant application.

(Councillor N Asamoah left the meeting at 8.35pm)

It was proposed by Councillor R Rowles and seconded by Councillor R Meyer that the meeting be extended beyond the two-hour time limit.

A vote was taken:

FOR – 2, AGAINST – 4, ASTENTIONS – 0

Motion not passed.

The meeting was closed and no further discussion took place.

The Deputy Town Mayor closed the meeting at 8.38pm.

Town Mayor

Date