



# ANDOVER TOWN COUNCIL

## Minutes Council

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### Time and date

6.32pm on Wednesday 20 October 2021

### Place

Upper Guildhall, High Street, Andover

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

### Officers Present:

Wendy Coulter (Town Clerk)

Tor Warburton (Deputy Town Clerk) (Taking the minutes & managing online streaming)

### County/Borough Councillors:

Cllr I Anderson

Cllr D Drew

Cllr N Matthews

### Members of the Public: 3

Members of the Press: Unknown

**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.**

<b>C087/10/21</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>
	Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor L Banville.
<b>C088/10/21</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>
	Cllr D Treadwell declared an interest in Item 13 of the agenda.
<b>C089/10/21</b>	<b>MINUTES</b>
	<p>The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15 September 2021 were proposed by Cllr D Coole and seconded by Cllr R Rowles as a correct record.</p> <p>A vote was taken:  FOR – 10, AGAINST - 0, ABSTENTIONS – 4</p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That that the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 15 September 2021 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.</b></p>
<b>C090/10/21</b>	<b>TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>
	<p>On the 23 October 2021, the Town Mayor planted an oak tree, donated by the Test Valley Mayor, in the Vigo Recreation Grounds, to commemorate all the Covid Pandemic victims in Andover.</p> <p>The Town Mayor reminded Members about Armistice Day on 11 November 2021.</p> <p>The Town Mayor gave thanks to the Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor R Hughes, who will be in attendance on behalf of the Andover Town Council on Remembrance Day, Sunday 14 November 2021.</p>
<b>C091/10/21</b>	<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b>
	<p><b><i>The notes below are a precis of statements/questions. They are not recorded word for word.</i></b></p> <p><b>Member of Public 1:</b>  “Madam Mayoress,  On Thursday last at the extraordinary Policy and Resources committee meeting, I had the misfortune to witness behaviour that I can only describe as Democratic Terrorism. It has led me to ponder a number of questions. With your grace, I would like to pose those questions here.</p> <p>Given that, as I understand it, Council Staff required escorting to their cars following the committee meeting; does the Council believe that this adds to the intimidation and harassment of the people who work professionally, tirelessly and with our gratitude, for our Town Council?</p> <p>The aip councillors displaying this regrettable behaviour have seemingly elected not to join the committees that their Democratic Terror tactics want to disrupt, thus denying swathes of the electorate any representation. How can they possibly justify this and still claim to be acting in the interests of the people? I would venture that they cannot.</p> <p>Following on, they make claims that they be allowed to participate in Confidential Sessions on the very committees that they have elected not to join. Can they please provide the people of Andover the documentary evidence that what they claim is not in fact simply, lies?</p> <p>I now see they are applying for membership of certain committees. Given their previous attacks, can we safely assume that they will be denied this. For the sake of future committee meetings, I hope so.</p> <p>Their actions have been criticised on multiple platforms, including their own social media pages. Usually securing the concerned members of the public, insult, scorn, and yet more unsubstantiated lies. It appears that the aip have no shame to go along with</p>

their ignorance and disregard of the Councils Code of Conduct, or even common, civil decency.

Madam Mayoress, can they please, for the people of Andover, just STOP these acts of Democratic Terrorism until they have provided documentary evidence supporting their claims, in the correct manner, in the correct place. Here, in full Council. Their disgraceful acts do nothing but cost the taxpayer money and hurt the very reputation of our town. In closing, if the aip are so sure of their righteousness, then why not resign in protest and stand at a new round of elections. Yes, there would be a cost to the public, but that would pale into insignificance to be rid of the costs they force upon us all.

Andover serves better, Andover wants better, Andover DEMANDS better.

Madam Mayoress, I thank you for your indulgence.”

**Town Mayor's Response:**

Thank you. We will reply to your questions in writing.

**Member of Public 2:**

I am a resident and business owner in the town. This is my town, my adopted town. I know many of you via my business. This is only the second time as a resident, I have felt I had to address full Council and it's on a more serious note.

I and many others are fed up with the pettiness and playground attitude of certain councillors. Would expect better from public office. You should stand down and let someone else with better morals and respect for others stand and serve in your place. Further more I say to you all and especially those concerned, if your only purpose as a Councillor is to only attend 1 meeting every 6 months, then you should also stand down. Allow someone to be elected who will represent their ward on a more regular basis. If your only purpose is to cause disruption and disorganisation to a democratic process, you should stand down.

I would like an apology from the Councillor. He knows who he is.

**Town Mayor's Response:**

Thank you for your comments.

**Member of Public 3:**

Can the Town Mayor confirm when the Town Council last approved the staff's appraisals?

Since 2017, Officers have not complied to the Town Council's Allotment Policy and allowed non-Andover residents to continue to rent allotments plots, subsidised plots. Will the Andover Town Council right this wrong and instruct the Allotment Officer to terminate the non-Andover residents' agreements and reallocate these plots to Andover residents?

**Town Mayor's Response:**

Non-Andover resident allotment holders was discussed at the Allotment Committee meeting of 9 September 2021. They were allotment tenants when the allotments were under Test Valley Borough Council, prior to Andover Town Council and we have honoured those contracts.

Regarding the appraisals, we will respond to you in writing.

C092/10/21

## REPORTS FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS FROM THE ANDOVER WARDS

### **Councillor C Ecclestone:**

Working with residents on Kings Chase regarding anti-social behaviour involving the nearby parks and the football games played there. For example, footballs are hitting the windows of surrounding houses. I've been pushing Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) to do something about this. Mediocre planting. Also requested some refurbishment.

### **Councillor N Matthews:**

Copper Box Close roads have now been resurfaced.

Cricketers Way discrepancies have now been resolved.

L2 development – Augusta Park we are holding a public workshop in mid November. It will be an opportunity for the development planners to let people know, I've called it in. Update from Youth Mental Health Club, Andover Mind, Unity and myself, we have already had one youth worker start, two children and one veteran referred.

### **Councillor R Meyer:**

Winchester Road foot path on the western side has started to be resurfaced by Hampshire County Council, in partnership with TVBC. The end date has been scheduled for 17 December 2021.

### **Councillor I Anderson:**

St Mary – Virgin Media boxes have been installed.

SSE will cut back tree by Arch Place.

The traffic lights by Tesco's been repaired.

Sainsbury Road trees have been cut back.

Pilgrims Way, several mattresses appeared to have been dumped as well as trolleys.

Burst water main on Artists Way – busses were still running.

Colenzo Drive – the layby will be reduced to 2.4 metres which is the standard width for parking regulations. This is to prevent vehicles sticking out onto the highway and to widen the cycle way.

Single yellow lines near school have been put in place to reduce parking emissions near the school. Following request from residents, I have asked Hampshire County Council if the yellow lines could be extended.

Paperless agendas – I have grave concerns from residents as not everybody has the internet. I would like paper continuity for these residents to be able to participate.

### **Councillor D Drew:**

NHS Trust - 47 Covid Cases locally. I would ask everyone to consider wearing masks where possible – Public Health warning.

Andover Down – reduce traffic speed. I am happy to help to look at ways to reduce speed of traffic in high impact areas.

Encourage people to go and visit the tip more than once a week.

Young people invited to stand on Youth Parliament.

Walktober – encourage children, parents and grandparents to walk to school.

Hampshire County Council have published a climate change annual report.

Hampshire County Council is taking steps to increase the recycling facilities for glass and food waste.

Everyone selling sandwiches now has to list all the ingredients.

County spearheaded - better together.

C093/10/21

**QUESTIONS FROM ANDOVER TOWN COUNCILLORS TO BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

**Councillor R Meyer to Councillor N Matthews:**

On the Youth profession, do you have any updates on anything that has been created?

**Councillor N Matthews:**

A directory of youth services will be compiled by the first Youth Worker.

General Practitioners and Pastel Services will report through that focus group.

Its important to say that this is not within TVBC's remit, although TVBC is supporting it.

**Councillor R Meyer to Councillor D Drew:**

Do you have any update on tourism?

**Councillor D Drew:**

It's been a tough time for everybody in the tourist industry. We have reinstated our tourism get togethers. We are keen to work with the Town Council on this.

**Councillor D Coole to all County and Borough Councillors present:**

The Hants Waste Strategy recommends composting as a solution towards kerbside collections, have you any updates?

**Councillor D Drew:**

Yes, the law is changing. We have been promised change by the Government, which will require the collections as standard again. This will include kerbside collection of glass and food waste. At the moment there are green sites around town and we are collecting a very high percentage of glass.

**Councillor D Coole to all County and Borough Councillors present:**

Electric charging points nearest to us – Winchester. Any plans for Andover with trials and subsequent implementation?

**Councillor D Drew:**

Right now there are electric charging points in George Yard car park which were instituted a year ago. As for trials in residential areas in Andover, it has been highlighted that exactly that would be looked into and with Hampshire Highways support.

**Councillor I Anderson:**

Triffids removal – 2 planters in Union Street leaving.

Yes they are traffic calms, but I would like to see them removed. I will chase TVBC on removal.

**Councillor C Ecclestone to Councillor D Drew:**

Over last 20 years Walworth and Portway Industrial Estates have had issues with truckers. What is the portfolio group doing to make Andover more friendly towards truckers with rest places and services?

**Councillor D Drew:**

	It is a challenge. I do need to contact Rob Hamby as we should be making it easier for truck drivers to park and for there to be more convenient spots for them. I can report back.
<b>C094/10/21</b>	<b>ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2020/2021</b>
	Members noted the Annual Governance Statement 2020/2021 and the External Audit for the Year Ending 31 March 2021.
<b>C095/10/21</b>	<b>MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS</b>
	Members considered a Motion on reducing Paper & Printing costs proposed by Councillor Waue and seconded by Councillor Rowles.  Councillor D Coole raised a procedural motion, seconded by Councillor C Ecclestone that the Motion be referred to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration. A vote was taken: FOR – 12, AGAINST – 2, ABSTENTIONS – 0 <b>RESOLVED: That the Motion on reducing paper and printing costs be referred to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.</b>
<b>C096/10/21</b>	<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP</b>
	Members noted that there were vacancies on all Standing Committees as follows: Allotment Committee – 5 Members (up to 7 Members permitted) Planning Committee – 6 Members (up to 7 Members permitted) Policy and Resources Committee – 6 Members (up to 7 Members permitted) Members considered whether the vacancies could be filled.  It was proposed by Councillor L Gregori and seconded by Councillor R Rowles that Councillor N Long be appointed as a Member of the Policy and Resources Committee. It was proposed by Councillor C Ecclestone and seconded by Councillor D Coole that Councillor R Meyer be appointed as a Member of the Policy and Resources Committee.  It was proposed by Councillor D Treadwell and seconded by Councillor J Coole that Councillor D Coole be appointed as a member of the Policy and Resources Committee.  A vote was taken as follows: Councillor N Long: FOR – 9 Councillor R Meyer: FOR – 5 Councillor D Coole: FOR – 0  <b>RESOLVED: That Councillor N Long be appointed as a Member of the Policy and Resources Committee by the Council.</b>  It was proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor R Meyer that Councillor D Coole be appointed as a Member of the Allotment Committee. A vote was taken: FOR – 8, AGAINST - 2, ABSTENTIONS – 4 <b>RESOLVED: That Councillor D Coole be appointed as a Member of the Allotment Committee.</b>
<b>C097/10/21</b>	<b>UPDATE FROM EVENTS PANEL</b>
	Members noted the update report from the Events Panel.

<b>C098/10/21</b>	<b>UPDATE ON CHRISTMAS PROVISION FOR 2021</b>
	Members noted an update report on Andover Town Council's Christmas Lights and Tree provision 2021.
<b>C099/10/21</b>	<b>GRANT AID PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
	<p>Members noted the Grant Aid Panel report and considered its recommendations. It was proposed by Councillor R Rowles and seconded by Councillor J Sangster that the Grant Aid Panel's recommendation that the Youth Options grant application for £990.00, be accepted and approved.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 13, AGAINST - 0, ABSTENTIONS – 1</p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That the Grant Aid Panel's recommendation that the Youth Options grant application for £990.00, be accepted and approved.</b></p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor R Rowles and seconded by Councillor J Sangster that the Grant Aid Panel's recommendation that Rooting for Andover grant application be accepted and approved for £1,000.00, which is the maximum Andover Town Council's Grant policy allows.</p> <p>A vote was taken which was unanimous.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That the Grant Aid Panel's recommendation that Rooting for Andover grant application be accepted and approved for £1,000.00, which is the maximum Andover Town Council's Grant policy allows.</b></p>
	<p>The Town Mayor (Councillor B Long) noted that there were important items that needed to be considered in the Confidential section of the agenda. She noted that there would be insufficient time to consider all the items on the agenda and therefore proposed that Council move straight to item 18 on the agenda, this was seconded by Councillor R Rowles.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 7, AGAINST – 5, ABSTENTIONS – 2</p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That the Council move straight to Item 18 on the agenda.</b></p>
<b>C100/10/21</b>	<b>EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</b>
	<p>It was proposed by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor R Rowles that the Members of the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting at Agenda Items 19 &amp; 20 due to consideration of Confidential Staffing Matters.</p> <p>S 11 of LG &amp; HA 1989 prevents personal information about individual members of staff being discussed in public.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 9, AGAINST – 4, ABSTENTIONS - 1</p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That the Members of the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting at Agenda Items 19 &amp; 20 due to consideration of Confidential Staffing Matters.</b></p>
	<b>CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS</b>
<b>C101/10/21</b>	<b>STAFFING REVIEW</b>
	Members received and considered a Staffing Review Report.

It was proposed by Councillor L Gregori and seconded by Councillor N Long that the key action and recommendation outlined within the report from the members Panel recommendations at A be approved.

A vote was taken:

FOR – 8, AGAINST – 5, ABSTENTIONS – 1

**RESOLVED: that the key action and recommendation outlined within the report from the members Panel recommendations at A be approved.**

It was proposed by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor R Rowles that the key actions and recommendations within the report from the members Panel recommendations from B to H be approved.

A debate started; however, Councillor R Rowles proposed a Procedural motion to move straight to a vote which was seconded by Councillor N Long

A vote was taken:

FOR – 8, AGAINST – 5, ABSTENTIONS – 1

**RESOLVED: That the key actions and recommendations within the report from the members Panel recommendations from B to H be approved.**

It was further proposed by Councillor L Gregori and seconded by Councillor R Rowles that the Town Clerk to consolidate a plan, costings, and a timeline to carry out these recommendations and that it be presented to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration prior to recommendation to Full Council.

A vote was not taken.

**C102/10/21 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor L Gregori and seconded by Councillor R Rowles that the Confidential Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 23 June 2021 be signed by the Town mayor as a correct record.

A vote was taken:

FOR – 10, AGAINST – 1, ABSTENTIONS – 3

**RESOLVED: That the Confidential Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 23 June 2021 be signed by the Town mayor as a correct record.**

It was proposed by Councillor N Long and seconded by Councillor R Rowles that the Confidential Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 15 September 2021 be signed by the Town mayor as a correct record.

A vote was taken:

FOR – 11, AGAINST – 0, ABSTENTIONS – 3

**RESOLVED: That the Confidential Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 15 September 2021 be signed by the Town mayor as a correct record.**



The Town Mayor closed the meeting at 8.25pm.

Town Mayor

Date