



ANDOVER TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes Council

Time and date

6.30pm on Wednesday 24 November 2021

Place

Upper Guildhall, High Street, Andover

Cllr B Long - Town Mayor (A)		
Cllr R Hughes - Deputy Town Mayor (P)		
Cllr N Asamoah (P)	Cllr L Banville (P)	Cllr D Coole (P)
Cllr J Coole (P)	Cllr C Ecclestone (P)	Cllr L Gregori (P)
Cllr K Hughes (P) (Arrived at 6.53pm)	Cllr N Long (P)	Cllr R Meyer (P)
Cllr M Mumford (P)	Cllr R Rowles (P)	Cllr J Sangster (A)
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 C Donnelly

Cllr D Drew

Cllr N Matthews

Members of the Public: 4

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.

C103/11/21	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
	Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor B Long.
C104/11/21	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
	Councillor L Gregori declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 11.
C105/11/21	MINUTES
	It was agreed that the Minutes of 20 October 2021 would be deferred until the next Council meeting, as an amendment was required.
C106/11/21	TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
	<p>I would like to thank those Councillors and Members of the Public who joined me on October 23rd to plant an oak tree in Vigo Road recreation Ground, to mark those lives lost during the COVID pandemic and to thank all the many volunteers who helped others during that time. It was with great sadness that I learnt that someone removed the plaque from the tree. My thanks to Councillor Anderson who found the plaque deposited in a bin. Since then, the metal plaque has again been removed. We are working with TVBC to reinstate it in the future.</p> <p>I attended the concert Misa de los Mineros at Whitchurch performed by Quimantu and Andover Museum Loft singers on November 6th.</p> <p>I attended the armistice day service at Andover Cenotaph on 11th November and Deputy Mayor, Councillor Robin Hughes, attended the Remembrance Day parade to lay the wreath at Andover Cenotaph.</p>
C107/11/21	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
	<p><i>The notes below are a precis of statements/questions. They are not recorded word for word.</i></p> <p>A Member of Public made reference to his comments that were made during the Public Participation session at the Council meeting of 20 October 2021. He asked when would he be receiving the previously requested written apology from the Andover Town Councillor.</p>
C108/11/21	REPORTS FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS FROM THE ANDOVER WARDS
	<p>Councillor N Matthews:</p> <p>I held a public consultation workshop at Augusta Park Community Association Community Centre with great success.</p> <p>As previously highlighted to ATC, I called this meeting in response to the rather "vague" and apparent lack of informative outputs from Taylor Wimpey's public consultation process. It was also becoming evident that many residents were increasingly concerned about the details surrounding the L2 planning application and the belief that it was not in accordance with their initial expectations. Therefore, this workshop allowed not only the opportunity to better inform residents on the plans/applications and processes, but also enabled any potential objections, concerns or issues to have substance and addressed based on legitimate reasons. Additionally, you may recall I have called the L2</p>

application to committee, which enabled the opportunity for residents (and myself) to express views, based on legitimate and factual information gained. It was very well supported by Augusta Park residents. Much was discussed and debated, with a further view of collecting information in preparation for the L2 development being brought to planning committee. A comprehensive collation of all the information is currently being put together, and a briefing note will be distributed to ATC in a couple of weeks.

Remaining highlights for Romans:

- Additional salt bins have been requested for the newly expanded development around Saxon Heights and Atrium.
- A new bench and litter bin have now been installed at the Smannell Road skate park.
- A highways review has been initiated for this week, with particular emphasis on HCC highways active involvement of new development planning applications. (Road layout/management and safety)
- New youth mental health support and wellbeing hub workshops are planned for the new year. We now have a newly formed youth mental health focus group planning these activities and support network.
- Healthwatch Hampshire have released a GP Access survey relating to the lack of health services around the town, particularly with all the expanding development sites and the GP's reluctance to have an expansion of our current existing services or new pharmacies and clinics in and around those new developments. Please share this with as many residents as possible. The more feedback we get back the more ammunition and substance we've got to the backing of them.

Councillor C Ecclestone:

This week we distributed at Kings Chase, off of Millway Road, a resident's survey about a potential outcome of the green there. The options were a community garden, a small community wardship which the residents would look after within the group. A seasonal urban meadow with a play area. Maintaining the open space for the community. The final option was to leave it as is. We are waiting for the responses to come in.

There is a survey about the Vigo Recreation Ground. This can be found at testvalley.gov.uk/vigosurvey2021 for people to have their say if they have not done so already.

Councillor D Drew:

Hampshire County Council (HCC) announced further funding for community climate change action, to expand its work with communities to reduce carbon emissions and adapt to climate change.

HCC's scheme which helps young people (16 to 25 years) to get to work is given a green boost with the addition of 5 electric mopeds to its fleet of conventionally powered bikes. HCC has agreed to take the next steps to increase the number of places for secondary school age young people (11 to 16 years) with special educational needs.

HCC will be looking again at options for a 20mph speed limit on residential streets.

HCC is lending its voice to the NHS call to urge more eligible residents to get their COVID – 19 booster and flu vaccine. Hampshire Hospitals have reported that there are currently 35 Covid patients in Basingstoke, 15 in Winchester and 3 in Andover.

HCC has made decisions to improve bus services in Hampshire. Firstly, by approving a Countrywide Bus Service Improvement Plan. Secondly by adopting a policy that will enable HCC to take action when unauthorised vehicles are found using bus priority measures.

HCC has published its first Climate Change Annual report.
HCC cabinet has considered options to address the £80 million revenue shortfall by April 2023.
Andover Down – had a meeting with the Mayor and Councillor N Long regarding the speed limit reduction. There are options of painting white lines to naturally slow the vehicles down.
Electronic vehicle charging points are a hot topic. We are hoping to see more of them in and around Hampshire.
HCC are continuing to investigate more suitable areas for lorry drivers and rest parks for them.

Councillor R Meyer:

Gas works on Winchester Road have now been completed. No complaints were received.
I'm working with my Officer to find places in Winton ward to plant street trees with benches.

Councillor C Donnelly

I visited King Arthurs Way with Aster and other representatives with Councillor Burley last week to look at the parking problems occurring there. Possible solutions may include extra bays and prevention of parking on the grass.
Roads on Turnpike Way on Picket Twenty, Walworth Road in Picket Piece and parts of The Drove are being resurfaced at the moment.
I was very pleased yesterday along with Councillor Lodge, representatives of Persimmon and the local residents, to open Andover's first wheelchair accessible swing, up on Picket Twenty.
I am meeting the Youth Intervention Team from Hampshire and Basingstoke, hopefully before Christmas. These are teams that try to prevent young people being drawn to County Lines. It's a huge issue across the County and certainly in Andover. The exposure our children have to drugs, knife crime, violence and gang activities, need to be nipped in the bud. We are working with stakeholders, police, schools, Youth Services and Test Valley and Andover Town Council to try and see how effective the plans are. I will report back to you on this.

Councillor R Rowles:

The residents on Winchester Road are overjoyed that they are getting a new footpath but not so happy that more than a day, consecutively, there's no one working on it.
After a walk around the ward, there's quite a lot of grey telecom boxes that you normally see on the paths. One resident had mentioned he had repaired one himself as the doors had completely come off. So, I appeal to Councillors and residents who walk across the town to report them. The grey ones are usually Virgin, the green ones are usually BT. If the front of the box is off you will more than likely get water ingress, which could affect broadband supply.
I've written to all non-profit companies in my ward to take up the offer of a grant from the Borough Council. If anyone knows of a non-profit company in Winton ward, get them to contact me and I'll be happy to recommend them through the system.

C109/11/21 QUESTIONS FROM ANDOVER TOWN COUNCILLORS TO BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Councillor M Mumford to Councillor D Drew:

Can I ask you if you have the number of children in Hampshire who may have **been vaccinated** but are not getting any help because of lack of resources?

Councillor D Drew's Response:

That is an important question. I do not have the figures in my head but I will report back through the Chair.

Councillor R Hughes to Councillor C Donnelly:

When you do your work on King Arthurs Way, to work out parking layouts, do you work in conjunction with the electric charging plans?

Councillor C Donnelly's Response:

Yes, I'm trying to find out in advance what kind of plans we have from Highways, who will have established from Department of Transport, how the charging points will be rolled out.

Councillor D Coole to Councillor D Drew:

1. Has the HCC been tasked to accommodate Afghan children and refugees under the new policy from the Foreign Office?

2. Do you think the UK Government Levelling Up - Hampshire 'County Deals' Devolution this is a good idea for Andover?

Many Hampshire Borough/District Councils have expressed concern, saying they have not been significantly involved to date and want greater involvement. Will the Parish and Town Councils also be consulted?

Councillor D Drew's Response:

To deal with your first question as in has the County Council been asked to house refugees, I am not aware of the specific details of course s it's the district and boroughs that are the housing authorities. I know that the County Council is taking its lead from that. I haven't got any more information.

The second question about the County Deal, are Parishes and Town Councils going to be consulted? The first step is going to be to get the County, eleven districts and boroughs and the three unitrees aligned and working together. A prospectus has been published and that's being done primarily by the County Council taking on board some of the points that they've heard from the districts and boroughs. But the Challenge remains working together. The opportunity to have a look at the prospectus is there. My personal view on consultation is yes, I will be reporting to you and parishes that I oversee, about the deal and how the parishes can get involved and have their say.

Councillor Ecclestone to Councillor D Drew:

The Andover Town Council has been able to do nothing more than manage allotments and Christmas Lights, how do you see the County Deal working and what would be required for a town Council covering an area of 50,000 people so that it should deal with the serious transfer of responsibilities?

Councillor D Drew's Response:

That's more of a question aimed at the Borough Councillors, as we all know there have been discussions over a number of years as to what the Town Council could do or take on from the Borough. The key thing is can the Test Valley be assured that anything that

is given to the Town Council, can be done more efficiently, more effectively and with no significant additional cost. Also, the Borough would have to go through due diligence as to what the plans and proposals were, to ensure the residents would be getting the services that were being proposed for transfer. I'm always happy to work with you, that's why I am here.

Councillor L Banville to Councillor D Drew:

Firstly, thank you Councillor Ecclestone for the information on Vigo.

To Councillor Drew, you, mentioned the deficit in the budget of £80 million. This has been around for seven years now. Does anyone know where it went? Is there a report on it?

Councillor D Drew's Response:

In any budget setting process, well first of a Council can't set a deficit budget, so you need to make sure the books balance. What we have identified is increasing costs in areas, particularly about social care, around £40 million. So, we are looking at ways of shaving money from the budget. I'm content on doing that provided we look at ways service delivery is maintained. Its not just about the money, it's about what we do for the residents. Any specific points that you have, I would be happy to answer those.

Councillor L Banville to Councillor D Drew:

Going back to Covid 19, you seemed to be quite involved. I've been encouraging my residents to go onto the yellow card scheme if they are having any side effects from the vaccine. Its really helping with research at the moment. I would just encourage that.

Councillor D Drew's Response:

I would reinforce that Chairman. I think we have to encourage all residents. There is some hesitance out there. It's in everyone's interests.

C110/11/21 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

As per Standing Order 4, f, vi, Members were asked to confirm the Committee Chairman for the Allotment, Planning and Policy and Resources committees:

It was proposed by Councillor N Long and seconded by Councillor R Rowles that Councillor K Hughes be confirmed as Chairman of the Allotments Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2021-2022.

A vote was taken:

FOR – 14, AGAINST – 0, ABSTENTION – 1

RESOLVED: That Councillor K Hughes be confirmed as Chairman of the Allotments Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2021-2022.

It was proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor R Meyer that Councillor C Ecclestone be confirmed as Chairman of the Planning Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2021-2022.

It was proposed by Councillor N Long and seconded by Councillor R Rowles that Councillor B Long be confirmed as Chairman of the Planning Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2021-2022.

A vote was taken in the order of the proposals:

	<p>FOR – 7, AGAINST – 7, ABSTENTIONS – 0 The Deputy Mayor, Councillor R Hughes, used his casting vote in favour of Councillor B Long.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Councillor B Long be confirmed as Chairman of the Planning Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2021-2022.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor N Long and seconded by Councillor R Meyer that Councillor R Hughes be confirmed as the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor ??? and seconded by Councillor L Banville that Councillor R Rowles be confirmed as Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee.</p> <p>A vote was taken in order of the proposals: FOR – 9, AGAINST – 3, ABSTENTIONS – 3</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Councillor R Hughes be confirmed as the Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2021-2022.</p>
C111/11/21	VIREMENTS WITHIN CURRENT BUDGET 2021/2022
	<p>Members considered the Virements in the current Budget 2021/2022. The Town clerk reiterated this was to tidy up and confirm some of the overspends during this year. There was a requirement to move some of the budgets around within the current budget in preparation for the end of the financial year.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor ??? that the recommendations be approved as follows: To the Virement of Funds from: Budget Head 4210/6 (Heating and Lighting) to 4000/3 (Legal and Professional Fees) Budget Heads 4700/7 (Andover Carnival), 4700/8 (Andover Cycling Festival) & 4700/1 (Festival of Motoring) to 4100/4 (Public Building Hire).</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 14, AGAINST – 1, ABSTENTIONS – 0.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the recommendations be approved as follows: To the Virement of Funds from: Budget Head 4210/6 (Heating and Lighting) to 4000/3 (Legal and Professional Fees) Budget Heads 4700/7 (Andover Carnival), 4700/8 (Andover Cycling Festival) & 4700/1 (Festival of Motoring) to 4100/4 (Public Building Hire).</p>
C112/11/21	UPDATE ON CHRISTMAS PROVISION FOR 2021
	<p>Members received and noted an update report on Andover Town Council's Christmas Lights and Tree provision 2021. The Deputy Mayor gave thanks to Councillors D Coole and R Rowles for their assistance with the Christmas Lights switch on.</p>
C113/11/21	GRANT AID PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS
	<p>Members noted a report from the Grant Aid Panel and considered its recommendations. Members discussed the Andover Trees United grant application for £2,000.00. The point was raised that Andover Town Council's Grant policy stated that a maximum of 75% of the total amount requested could be awarded, unless there were exceptional</p>

	<p>circumstances. A member of the Grant Aid Panel clarified that the Andover Trees United still had £70,000.00 of their total project costs of £100,000.00 to meet and their continual contribution to the Youth of Andover, were the 2 factors that made the majority of the panel feel the award of £2,000.00 was justified.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor N Long and seconded by Councillor R Hughes that the Andover Trees United grant award be reduced to £1,000.00.</p> <p>Members debated the proposal. It was felt that Andover Trees United have done incredible work for Andover and continue to do so. It has invigorated children in schools and single handily increased Andover’s climate control contributions. It was also suggested that if Members were to consider the amount of monies being spent in other areas, the amount of the grant being requested, would be considered to be well spent in comparison.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 2, AGAINST – 11, ABSTENTIONS – 1 Motion was not carried.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor R Rowles and seconded by Councillor D Coole that the Grant Aid Panel’s recommendation that Andover Trees United application for £2,000.00 be accepted and approved.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 9, AGAINST – 2, ABSTENTIONS – 3 RESOLVED: That the Grant Aid Panel’s recommendation that Andover Trees United application for £2,000.00 be accepted and approved.</p> <p>Members considered the Picket Piece Netball Club and Picket Piece Baby and Toddler Group grant applications. It was agreed that as the awaited verbal update had not been received, the Picket Piece Netball Club and Picket Piece Baby and Toddler Group grant applications would be deferred to the next Council meeting.</p>
C114/11/21	FINANCE
	<p>Members received and noted the list pf payments up to 1st October 2021. Members received and noted the list of payments up to 20 October 2021. It was proposed by Councillor R Rowles and seconded by Councillor R Hughes that the list of payments up to 12 November 2021 be received and approved.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 8, AGAINST – 4, ABSTENTIONS – 2 RESOLVED: That the list of payments up to 12 November 2021 be received and approved.</p>
C115/11/21	POTENTIAL SAVINGS FOR BUDGET 2022/2023
	<p>Members received a report on potential savings for the Budget 2022/2023, for their consideration. Members debated current costs and savings based on the information presented in the report. Some felt more detailed information was required. It was also noted that some investigations were still being carried out as new options had become available at the time of writing the report.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor R Rowles and seconded by Councillor S Waue that the Council instruct the Officers as requested to commit to further investigations to</p>

	<p>produce detailed proposals for all these items listed in Appendix H and other options that may be found. (Cllr N Asamoah left the meeting at 7.40pm)</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 9, AGAINST – 3, ABSTENTIONS – 1</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Council instruct the Officers as requested to commit to further investigations to produce detailed proposals for all these items listed in Appendix H and other options that may be found.</p>
C117/11/21	OPENING OFFICE
	<p>Members received and noted a report on the opening of the Town Council Offices. It was agreed that this item would be taken to the Policy and Resources Committee for full consideration.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor R Rowles and seconded by Councillor R Hughes that the Council moved to the next item on the agenda.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 12, AGAINST – 1, ABSTENTIONS 0</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Council moved to the next item on the agenda.</p>
C119/11/21	SPEED INDICATOR SIGNS
	<p>Members received and noted a report on Speed Indicator Signs (SIDs). It was noted that although Officers could go ahead and purchase the SIDs, it was highlighted that Officers had not yet been able to source a contractor to install and maintain them. The requirements for data collection, solar panels, weight of certain types of batteries and SID locations were also discussed.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor L Gregori and seconded by Councillor R Hughes that this item be moved back to the Planning Committee for consideration of the required action going forward.</p> <p>AN amendment to the motion was proposed by Councillor Rowles, that this item be put to Policy and Resources for consideration. There was no seconder.</p> <p>A vote was taken on the original motion: FOR – 11, AGAINST – 2, ABSTENTIONS – 0</p> <p>RESOLVED: That this item be moved back to the Planning Committee for consideration of the required action going forward.</p>
C120/11/21	HALC CONSIDERATIONS
	<p>Members received a proposal from Twyford Parish Council, via Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) to apply a default speed limit throughout Hampshire of 20mph, in all residential areas and where people work and play.</p> <p>It was decided to remove this item from the agenda as Hampshire County Council were already dealing with it.</p>
C121/11/21	QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS
	<p>Councillor D Coole:</p> <p>1.Can you please confirm if the Proper Officer has received any notification from TVBC as per Standing Orders 14.a. (Code of Conduct) and if she has, can you advise when will she inform the Council?</p>

	<p>2. Only Full Council can approve and adopt Council Policy and Procedures. Can you please advise when the Council's Staff Hand Book will be presented to the Full Council for its consideration?</p> <p>3. The Council's Whistleblowing Policy is out of date in that it does not include the new Internal Auditor's details. Can you please arrange for their details to be published on the Council's website without delay and for an amendment to the Whistleblowing Policy be brought to a future Full Council meeting will for approval?</p> <p>4. The next Andover Vision Stakeholders Meeting is to be held on 2nd December, which clashes with the Allotments Committee Meeting. Given that this is the only opportunity Members, Officers and Residents have to contribute to the improvements under the Andover Vision umbrella, which will be discussing the Andover Masterplan, Public Realm Improvements and Vigo Recreation Ground Improvements, can the Allotments Committee Meeting please be moved to another date?</p> <p>Deputy Chairman's Responses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) No, nothing has been received. I can confirm that with my conversations with the Monitoring Officer, she has not bought any investigations to a close yet to be in a position to notify the clerk. 2) That will be bought to the next meeting. 3) Yes. 4) The Clerk has spoken to the Town Mayor about it and there are no other dates it can be moved to.
C122/11/21	DATE OF NEXT MEETING
	Members noted the date of the next meeting: Wednesday 15 December 2021 , at the Guildhall, High Street, Andover, starting at 6.30pm.
C123/11/21	EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC
	<p>It was proposed by Councillor R Rowles and seconded by Councillor S Waue that the Members of the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting at Agenda Items 20 & 21 due to consideration of Confidential Staffing Matters.</p> <p>S 11 of LG & HA 1989 prevents personal information about individual members of staff being discussed in public.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 12, AGAINST – 1, ABSTENTIONS - 0</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Members of the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting at Agenda Items 20 & 21 due to consideration of Confidential Staffing Matters.</p>
	CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS
C124/11/21	STAFFING MATTERS
	<p>(The Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk left the meeting at 8.05pm)</p> <p>Members discussed the letter received from the Town Clerk pertaining to the overtime owed.</p>

	<p>It was proposed by Councillor L Gregori and seconded by Councillor R Rowles that the Town Clerk's formal request for payment for overtime worked between December 2020 and November 2021, be accepted and approved.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 8, AGAINST – 3, ABSTENTIONS – 1</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk's formal request for payment for overtime worked between December 2020 and November 2021, be accepted and approved.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor R Rowles and seconded by Councillor L Gregori that the Standing Orders 3X be suspended to extend the Council meeting beyond the two-hour period.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 8, AGAINST – 4, ABSTENTIONS – 0</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Standing Orders 3X be suspended to extend the Council meeting beyond the two-hour period.</p>
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C119/11/21	STAFFING REVIEW – JOB ROLES
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	<p>Members considered a proposal to review job roles as per the resolution from Full Council 20 October 2021. (Councillor R Rowles left the meeting at 8.46pm)</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor D coole and seconded by Councillor L Gregori that an extraordinary meeting be held to discuss strategic requirements and specifications for the contractors with invited representatives from Ellis Whitton and a plan from the Town Clerk.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 10, AGAINST – 0, ABSTENTIONS – 1</p> <p>RESOLVED: That an extraordinary meeting be held to discuss strategic requirements and specifications for the contractors with invited representatives from Ellis Whitton and a plan from the Town Clerk.</p>
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The Town Mayor closed the meeting at 8.48pm.

Town Mayor	Date
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