



ANDOVER TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes Council

Time and date

6.30pm on Wednesday 29 June 2022

Place

The Lights, 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 (P)
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)

Michelle Young (Committee Officer) (Taking the minutes)

County/Borough Councillors:

Councillor I Anderson

Councillor D Drew

Members of the Police: Sergeant S Harris

Members of the Public: 6

Members of the Press: 1

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic this meeting was held in The Lights following Coronavirus preventative measures. The Town Council made arrangements to stream the meeting virtually to allow as much public access as possible.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Town Mayor gave the following speech:

“It is with great sadness that I have to announce the passing of Councillor Barbara Long. Barbara was a true and dedicated champion of Andover and will be greatly missed.”

Councillor M Mumford gave the following speech:

“A lot has been said about our friend and colleague, Barbara Long over the last few weeks since she left us. I think she’s probably looking down on us so I’m going to have to be careful on what I say, I think. It’s easy to pay tribute to somebody like Barbara. We all knew her. We all knew what she was like. Something I learned about Barbara that many of you may not know, is that she had a great sense of fun. She had a cheeky side and there is a story I’d like to tell about when she and I went to the town band’s annual award ceremony. Rock and Roll was being played and Ian Carr and his wife were on the floor dancing. Barbara said to me, “I reckon we should split them up, what do you think?” So, we did and she danced poor old Ian to the floor, I can tell you. She loved it. She had a cheeky grin on her face all the time. She then said afterwards that that was the sort of atmosphere that should exist between us and other people in other parties all the time. We should be able to get on with them, should be able to dance with them. Friendly co-operation debate should be the norm. Debate without rancor should prevail. When she sat down, she said just that. That was how she felt. Barbara danced her life with democracy. She danced with fairness but most of all, she danced her life with love for her fellow man, for her fellow human beings. I think probably the nicest thing I could say about Barbara is that she wasn’t a politician. She was someone who wanted to help people. Someone who wanted Andover to be a better place and she devoted a good deal of her life in pursuing that aim. Barbara never sought publicity. She just quietly went about her life doing whatever she could to help and improve people’s lives. She was an example to us all. We will miss her. Andover will miss her. We will miss her knowledge as a local, I have to say, politician. She leaves a gaping hole that’s going to be hard for us all to fill. Barbara Long, you were a very special person.”

A minute silence was held in memory of the former Town Mayor and Town Councillor, Mrs Barbara Long, who sadly passed away on Saturday 21 May 2022.

Councillor N Long gave his thanks to Councillor M Mumford for his kind words.

C046/06/22	ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR - REVOTE
	The Town Mayor stated that this agenda item would not be considered or heard in this meeting. The matter would be investigated and the Council would be updated.
C047/06/22	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
	Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors J Sangster and D Treadwell.
C048/06/22	DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS
	There were no Declarations of Interest in relation to any item on the agenda. A Member asked what the quorum was for the meeting. The Proper Officer confirmed the minimum number to be quorate was 6.

C049/06/22	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: Why did you skip item 1?</p> <p>Town Mayor's Response: If you wish to talk about an item that is going to be heard on the agenda, please say so.</p> <p>Member of Public 1: I'm going to speak about agenda item 1.</p> <p>Town Mayor's Response: Are there any other agenda items you wish to talk about?</p> <p>Member of Public 1: No</p>
C050/06/22	EXTERNAL REPORTS
	<p>Sergeant S Harris Sergeant Harris introduced himself to the Members of the Council and gave thanks for the invitation to attend the meeting. Sergeant Harris has been in the Police Force for 18 years and is new to the Andover area. As a Test Valley resident, he is also passionate about tackling crime being experienced at the moment. Priority in this district is currently being given to drug related harm, anti-social behaviour and an operation called Solar. Sergeant Harris and his team are very passionate about continuing the good work that has been achieved in the Andover area thus far.</p> <p>Councillor R Rowles put forward a procedural motion. The Town Mayor stated that under Section 26d of the Standing Orders, he was not accepting the motion. The Proper Officer was asked to clarify that the Town Mayor was correct in that he can refuse the procedural motion.</p> <p>Councillor D Drew: Hampshire County Council (HCC) commemorated 40 years since end of Falklands Conflict. To commemorate the 40th anniversary, a Union flag was raised outside The Great Hall in Winchester, followed by a moment of silence.</p> <p>Prevent loneliness with Hampshire libraries. Loneliness Awareness Week (13-17 June 2022) Hampshire County Council reminded residents about the many services on offer through the Library Service. A community hub which offers a safe and welcoming environment with a wide variety of activities, some of which are free, available for people of all ages. From classes, courses and book clubs to singing and story time sessions. Recently, many libraries have also started groups to help Ukrainian guests and their hosts to connect with others here in Hampshire.</p> <p>Adult Social care Savings Proposals. Recommendations will be made to save £680,000.00 from the County Council's Adult Social Care budget to help meet the Local Authority's overall budget shortfall of at least £80million by April 2023.</p>

HCC opened a consultation on proposed changes to County Council financial support for transport and travel. The proposals are made in light of continued pressures on local authority budgets, following year on year reductions in central Government funding. The closing date for comments will be midnight on 24 July 2022.

Brand new service for older adults with high support needs opened in Romsey. The Living Well Centre at Nightingale Lodge in Romsey, a dedicated wellbeing centre for those with dementia and other high support needs, was officially opened this week.

Report a road problem – Responsibility of Hampshire County Council.

A reminder of the HCC website where road problems, including potholes can be reported. Paving problems, plus flooding, trees and hedges can also be reported using the website. For the speediest response, it is best to use this system as the whole of the Hampshire Highways team use it as a reference for future works.

HCC invited grant applications to support Ukrainian refugees in Hampshire.

Community and voluntary organisations can now apply for grants to help fund projects that will help Ukrainian refugees to settle in Hampshire.

In addition, free bus pass travel within the wider Hampshire area will be available for Ukrainian refugees arriving in the county as part of the Government's Homes for Ukraine scheme over the summer.

Councillor I Anderson:

St Mary's churchyard – campers have been served with an eviction notice.

Smashed window at Waterloo Court has been fixed.

Anton Lakes – people have been fishing there. A request for a notice of no fishing to be put in place has been made.

Lockable bollards are to be replaced in the High Street due to increasing traffic.

Councillor C Ecclestone:

Kings Chase Gardens – ongoing problems with anti-social behaviour of football being played and windows being broken. Warnings have been given by the police. Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) have taken steps to plant trees and shrubs in the area. TVBC has received a proposal from a resident that the area be redesignated as a Jubilee Garden.

Councillor R Rowles:

I've been working with Councillor Anderson to get a bin put on London Road.

Aster appeared to keep leaving plastic barriers in place for no reason. These will be removed and returned to TVBC.

Homeless people – have been encouraging them to go to Beech Hurst for registering for emergency accommodation.

Councillor R Meyer:

Rooksbury Park – the fencing has now been put up.

Members proceeded to call for a procedural motion to adjourn the meeting on the basis that the revote for the Deputy Town Mayor did not take place.

It was proposed by Councillor R Rowles and seconded by Councillor N Long that the meeting be adjourned until a Deputy Mayor can be elected.

A vote was taken:

FOR – 7, AGAINST – 5, ABSTENTIONS – 0

RESOLVED: That the meeting be adjourned until a Deputy Mayor can be elected.

The meeting was adjourned at 7.05pm.

Town Mayor

Date