



ANDOVER TOWN COUNCIL

Council Minutes

Time and date

5.30pm on Wednesday 29 September 2022

Place

Upper Guildhall, High Street, Andover

Cllr D Coole - Town Mayor (P)		
Cllr R Meyer - Deputy Town Mayor (P)		
Cllr N Asamoah (A)	Cllr L Banville (A)	Cllr J Coole (P)
Cllr C Ecclestone (A)	Cllr L Gregori (P)	Cllr K Hughes (P) (Arrived at 5.34pm)
Cllr N Long (P)	Cllr R Hughes (P)	Cllr M Mumford (P)
Cllr R Rowles (A)	Cllr J Sangster (P)	Cllr D Treadwell (A)
Cllr S Waue (P)	Cllr E Reynolds (P)	

Officers Present:

Karen Ross (Locum Town Clerk) (Taking the Minutes)

Tor Warburton (Interim Town Clerk)

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.

C088/09/22	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
	Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor D Treadwell.
C089/09/22	DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

	The Declaration of Acceptance of Office for the Councillor elected for St Mary's Ward was received from Councillor E Reynolds.
C090/09/22	DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS
	There were no Declarations of Interest in relation to any item on the agenda.
C091/09/22	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
	There were no comments received from Members of the Public present at the meeting.
C092/09/22	EXTERNAL REPORTS
	<p><i>The following report from Councillor N Matthews, was emailed to all Members on 26 September 2022:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ongoing L2 Development resubmission has now received further responses from HCC, which is now visible on the TVBC planning website. Our objections and calling to committee remain unchanged. Particularly in regard to vehicle access and traffic flow impacted by the ongoing fiasco relating to Finkley Arch junction. The legal teams between network rail and TW remain in ongoing correspondence, although indications appear to suggest that network rail are the main "stumbling block" over progress. It is our intention to escalate to Kit Malthouse to intervene, if this continues over the next fortnight. In any event, it is my intention to maintain strong stance on objecting to this development until at least these issues are resolved. 2. The overgrown trees and shrubs in the carpark at Cricketers is unacceptable and has been escalated to Aster for swift resolution. 3. The overgrown and neglected grassed areas by Fleece Road and facing YMCA has now been escalated to regional director TW and expect resolution promptly. 4. We have received correspondence that Icknield Way may be "patched surfaced". We have expressed our displeasure and insisted that the whole road requires resurfacing and that Hadrian's get the same treatment. I shall keep you updated on progress.
C093/09/22	MINUTES
	<p>It was proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor R Hughes that the Minutes, of the Extraordinary Town Council meeting held on 24 August 2022, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 10, AGAINST – 0, ABSTENTIONS – 1</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Minutes, of the Extraordinary Town Council meeting held on 24 August 2022, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.</p>
C094/09/22	TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS
	<p>The Town Mayor, Councillor D Coole, attended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mayors of Wilton's event • Events around for the Queen Elizabeth II's death such as the Service of Remembrance • King Charles III Proclamation
C095/09/22	ANDOVER TOWN COUNCILLORS REPORTS

	<p>Councillor L Gregori: I attended a parade and events around for the Queen Elizabeth II's death.</p> <p>Councillor R Hughes: I attended the proclamation of King Charles III and was pleased with the turnout.</p> <p>Councillor M Mumford: The representative from MIND apologised for not attending the meeting to present Mental Health and role MIND has to play, with reference to younger people, but would like to attend the next meeting.</p>
C096/09/22	QUESTIONS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS
	There were no questions received from Members of the Andover Town Council.
C097/09/22	MOTIONS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS
	<p><u>Motion on Energy Price Cap:</u></p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor J Sangster and seconded by Councillor L Gregori. A vote was taken which was unanimous.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That this Council moves to declare a “Cost of Living Emergency” in Andover and will write to our local MP calling on him to put pressure on the Government to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce the standard rate of VAT from 20% to 17.5% for one year, saving the average household a further £600 this year. 2. Ensure the Government honours its commitment to reinstating the pensions triple lock to support Andover pensioners. 3. Implement an energy price cap on heating oil, where this is currently disproportionately affects rural families. <p><u>Motion on Insulating Homes of Lower Income Residents:</u></p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor L Gregori. A vote was taken which was unanimous.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Town Council will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call upon the Secretary of State, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, to do more to support low-income households by dramatically improving the Local Authority Delivery Scheme, by doubling the funds available to the lowest income households and expanding the threshold of household income to £50,000 p.a. 2. Call upon Test Valley Borough Council to build on their current good work in this area by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urgently investigating the availability of other schemes which have already benefited the residents of other councils in the Hampshire area. • Communicating with our residents as to what options and opportunities are available for improving their homes' heating and energy efficiencies. • Immediately seeking to assist our lowest income families with financial support packages aimed at insulating their homes.
C098/09/22	TOWN CLERK & RFO RECRUITMENT

	<p>RESOLVED to delegate power to panel, to recruit and appoint new Proper Officer, for ratification at Full Council and resolved unanimously.</p> <p>RESOLVED to approve a recruitment budget of £5,000 (to include SLCC costs, advertisement etc) with the additional money to be vired from Operational Reserves and resolved unanimously.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the candidates MUST have the CiLCA qualification to be considered for the post. Proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor N Long and resolved on a vote of 8 FOR, 2 AGAINST with 1 ABSTENTION.</p> <p>RESOLVED to offer a relocation package of £4,000 for any candidate who has to move in order to be within 30 minutes of the office on the understanding that the successful candidate will commit to two years in role. Proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor L Gregori and resolved unanimously.</p> <p>Councillor D Coole proposed that an informal meeting could take place for any candidate and the Councillors. As there was no seconder the proposal was withdrawn.</p> <p>RESOLVED that there would be no informal meeting of all candidates and the Councillors. Proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor K Hughes and resolved on a vote of 5 FOR, 4 AGAINST with 2 ABSTENTIONS.</p> <p>NOT RESOLVED that the successful candidate would be offered the NEST pension scheme. Proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor R Meyer and not resolved on a vote of 2 FOR, 7 AGAINST with 2 ABSTENTIONS.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the successful candidate would be offered Local Government Pension Scheme. Proposed by Councillor S Waue and seconded by Councillor K Hughes and resolved on a vote of 7 FOR, 1 AGAINST with 3 ABSTENTIONS.</p>
C099/09/22	RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY
	<p>It was proposed by Councillor L Gregori and seconded by Councillor J Sangster that the Risk Management Policy as recommended by the Policy and Resources Committee be adopted.</p> <p>A vote was taken which was unanimous.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Risk Management Policy as recommended by the Policy and Resources Committee be adopted.</p>
C100/09/22	EQUALITY POLICY
	<p>It was proposed by Councillor J Sangster and seconded by Councillor Hughes that the Equality Policy, updated to comply with current legislation, be adopted.</p> <p>A vote was taken which was unanimous.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Equality Policy, updated to comply with current legislation, be adopted.</p>
C101/09/22	FINANCE
	<p>It was proposed by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor L Gregori that the List of Payments up to 7 September 2022 be approved.</p> <p>A vote was taken:</p>

	<p>FOR 8, AGAINST 3, ABSTENTIONS 0</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the List of Payments up to 7 September 2022 be approved.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor L Gregori that the Cashbook up to 31 August 2022, be noted.</p> <p>A vote was taken which was unanimous.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Cashbook up to 31 August 2022, be noted.</p> <p>Members received and noted the Bank Reconciliation up to 31 August 2022.</p>
C102/09/22	VIREMENTS 2022/2023
	<p>It was proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor R Meyer that the recommendation from the Policy and Resources Committee that a Virement be made from Budget 4210/6 Heating & Lighting – Office of £413.00. be approved.</p> <p>A vote was taken: FOR – 10, AGAINST – 0, ABSTENTIONS – 1</p> <p>RESOLVED: That a Virement be made from Budget 4210/6 Heating & Lighting – Office of £413.00.</p>
C103/09/22	EARMARKED RESERVES
	<p>It was proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor R Hughes that the recommendation from the Policy and Resources Committee that Earmarked Reserve (Defibrillators £1072.01) be transferred to Operational Reserves, as the Council agreed in 2018 that it would no longer directly purchase defibrillators.</p> <p>A vote was taken which was unanimous.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the recommendation from the Policy and Resources Committee that Earmarked Reserve (Defibrillators £1072.01) be transferred to Operational Reserves, as the Council agreed in 2018 that it would no longer directly purchase defibrillators.</p>
C104/09/22	APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS
	<p>RESOLVED to appoint Members to the following Committees and Working Groups:</p> <p>Community and Events Committee – Councillors L Gregori and D Coole. Proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor N Long and resolved unanimously.</p> <p>Allotments Committee – Councillor E Reynolds. Proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor N Long and resolved unanimously.</p> <p>Policy and Resources Committee – Councillor E Reynolds. Proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor K Hughes and resolved on a vote of 10 FOR with 1 ABSTENTION.</p> <p>Christmas Lights/Events – Councillors L Gregori and M Mumford. Proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor J Sangster and resolved unanimously.</p> <p>Open Spaces Furniture (formed 10.08.2022) - Councillor R Meyer. Proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor J Sangster and resolved on a vote of 8 FOR with 3 ABSTENTIONS.</p> <p>Audio and Live Streaming – Councillor J Sangster. Proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor K Hughes and resolved unanimously.</p>

	<p>RESOLVED to dissolve the Staffing Review Working Group. Proposed by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor S Waue and resolved on a vote of 9 FOR, 1 AGAINST with 1 ABSTENTION.</p> <p>RESOLVED to disband Charter Stone Working Group with the Charter Stone being within the remit of the Planning Committee. Proposed by Councillor J Sangster and seconded by Councillor R Hughes and resolved unanimously.</p>
C105/09/22	OFFICE ACCOMMODATION UPDATE
	Members noted that the office move has now been completed and Officers are now able to work out of the Incuhive space. The contract has now finished on 68B High Street, Andover.
C106/09/22	SIDS UPDATE
	Members noted that the SIDS have been ordered and delivery to the contractor who will manage them, is expected within 8 weeks. It is anticipated that they will be operational before the end of the year.
C107/09/22	EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC
	<p>It was proposed by Councillor D Coole and seconded by Councillor K Hughes that the Members of the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting at Agenda item 21 due to consideration of Confidential Legal Advice, as per Schedule 12a of LGA 1972. A vote was taken which was unanimous.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Members of the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting at Agenda item 21 due to consideration of Confidential Legal Advice, as per Schedule 12a of LGA 1972.</p>
C108/09/22	LEGAL ADVICE
	Members noted a CONFIDENTIAL report with advice received by Surrey Hill Solicitors.
C109/09/22	DATE OF NEXT MEETING
	Members noted the date of the next meeting: Wednesday 23 November 2022, at The Lights, Andover, starting at 5.30pm.
<p>The Town Mayor closed the meeting at 7.01pm.</p>	
Town Mayor	Date