



ANDOVER TOWN COUNCIL

A

Minutes Council

Time and date

7.00pm on Thursday 10 September 2015

Place

The Upper Guildhall, High Street, Andover

Details of Attendance:

Cllr V Pond (Chairman) (P)

Cllr B Long (Vice-Chairman) (P)

Cllr K Bird (P)

Cllr B Carpenter (P)

Cllr A Cotter (P)

Cllr C Ecclestone (P)

Cllr L Gates (P)

Cllr S Hardstaff (P)

Cllr K Hughes (P)

Cllr R Hughes (P)

Cllr G McBride (P)

Cllr M James (P)

Cllr R Pond (P)

Officer: Wendy Coulter (Town Clerk) (P) (Taking the minutes)

Members of the Public: 21

C 41/15 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

C 42/15 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C 43/15 Minutes

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 1 June 2015 were agreed and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 1 June 2015 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

C 44/15 Public Participation

No members of the public present wished to make a statement or ask a question.

C 45/15 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman Cllr V Pond, reported that she had attended the following events:

Garden Party for the Launch of the Arts Bus at Broughton
Community Listening at the Guildhall for St Mary's Church
Raising the Flag on Armed Forces Day at Guildhall in June and in September for Merchant Seamen

Flood Resilience Workshop in Longstock

Guest of HCC in Winchester Cathedral and afterwards in the Great Hall for a strawberry tea

Kit Malthouse presentation on Broadband at St Mary Bourne

Preview at Chapel Arts

The Chairman also visited the following parish councils in order to promote closer working between local Town and Parish Councils:

Hook Town Council, Wherwell Parish Council, Smannel Parish Council, Abbots Anne Parish Council, Ludgershall Town Council and Romsey Town Council.

The Chairman also brought the Members attention to the ongoing Refugee crisis explaining that Town Clerk had received a motion from Cllr Gates which was too late to be included on the agenda for this time, with regard to the Town Council supporting refugees being housed in Andover.

As the motion was proposed too late for this agenda the Chairman explained that it would be minuted that the Town Council generally supports the motion but that it will be formally discussed at the next full Council meeting to be held on 15 October 2015.

C 46/15 Youth Council Update

Members received a report from Youth Councillors Jordan Simcox (Executive Officer of the Youth Council) and Theo Youds (Deputy Executive Officer of the Youth Council) on 'Lessons Learnt' from the Youth Council A-Fest Event which was held on the High Street in April 2015.

(The Report is attached to Record Minutes, held in the Minute Book)

The Report would be circulated to Partner Groups.

C 47/15 Committee Minutes

The following Minutes were received and noted:

5 August 2015 – Policy and Resources Committee

24 August 2015 – Policy and Resources

22 June 2015 – Planning Committee

13 July 2015 – Planning Committee

3 August 2015 – Planning Committee

24 August 2015 – Planning Committee

C 48/15 Motion from Town Councillor

Members noted that a Motion had been received from Councillor B Long and seconded by Cllr C Ecclestone to the effect; "I would like to propose a motion before full council to suspend Standing Orders so that we can have a blind ballot vote on the co-option of councillors to Andover Town Council".

Members considered the proposed motion. There were no amendments to the motion. A vote was taken by show of hands which was unanimous and therefore

RESOLVED: That Standing Orders be suspended to all for a blind ballot vote on the co-option of councillors to Andover Town Council.

C 49/15 Co-Option of Members to the Town Council

Members considered the Co-option of a Members to Andover Town Council following the uncontested election of only 13 Members in May 2015. It was noted that following Local Elections (Parishes & Communities) (England & Wales) Rules 2006, the Town Council could co-opt to the remaining 6 seats.

Members noted that applications had been received from the following candidates:

Carol Bartholomew

Ross Fifield

Luigi Gregori
Jane Juliff
Richard Kidd
Dean Marriner
Wayne McGregor
Josephine Msonthi
Michael Mumford
Emmanuel Monkonge
Kieran O'Kelly
Richard Rowles
Zoe Snelson
Adam Timby
Michael Valenzia

It was noted that Mr W McGregor and Mr K O'Kelly were unable to attend the meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor K Bird and seconded by Councillor C Ecclestone that all the applicants be nominated as candidates by a single resolution.

RESOLVED: That the following applicants, namely; Carol Bartholomew, Ross Fifield, Luigi Gregori, Jane Juliff, Richard Kidd, Dean Marriner, Josephine Msonthi, Michael Mumford, Emmanuel Monkonge, Richard Rowles, Zoe Snelson, Adam Timby, and Michael Valenzia be accepted as candidates for Co-Option to Andover Town Council.

The Candidates were invited by the Chairman to make a two minute presentation to the Members of Andover Town Council.

The vote was taken by blind ballot and the following applicants; Carol Bartholomew, Luigi Gregori, Dean Marriner, Josephine Msonthi, Michael Mumford and Richard Rowles, received the majority vote of councillors present and were therefore co-opted on to the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That Carol Bartholomew, Luigi Gregori, Dean Marriner, Josephine Msonthi, Michael Mumford and Richard Rowles, having received the majority vote, be co-opted on to Andover Town Council.

C 50/15 Declarations of Acceptance of Office

The following newly co-opted Members made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed and signed by the Town Clerk as the Proper Officer of the Town Council; Carol Bartholomew, Luigi Gregori, Dean Marriner, Josephine Msonthi, Michael Mumford and Richard Rowles.

C 51/15 Committee Membership

This item was be deferred to the next full meeting of the Council to give new Members more time to decide on which committees they would like to stand.

C 52/15 Pensions Policy

Members noted the recommendation from the Policy and Resources Committee to adopt the new Pensions Policy. Cllr S Hardstaff, Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee explained that the legislation for Pensions in the Workplace had changed and the Town Council was required to adopt the policy to ensure it complied with statutory duties.

It was proposed by Cllr S Hardstaff and seconded by Councillor C Ecclestone and

RESOLVED: That the Pensions Policy be adopted by Council. (A copy of the Pensions Policy is attached to Record Minutes)

C 53/15 CCTV – In the Town Centre

Members received a request from the Town Centre Partnership regarding CCTV coverage in the Town Centre.

The Town Council was asked to consider the possibility of CCTV monitoring to take place for 12 hours per week from the Town Council Office and to provide funding in the region of £500.

Members considered the request very carefully and it was agreed that in principle the Town Council full supported the scheme. However, before a decision could be made on the use of the office and funding provided, further information would be required.

Members requested the Town Clerk to liaise with the Town Centre Manager and bring back a more detailed plan for a future meeting.

C 54/15 Finance

The following list of payments up to 8 September 2015 were approved.

The Chairman indicated the Members that the Bank Reconciliation would be submitted at the next meeting on 15 October 2015.

BACS/Cheque No	Date of Inv	Description	Supplier	Amount (£)
346114725	31.03.2015	External Audit Fees	BDO LLP	480.00
145875458	01.09.2015	Provision of Toilets for Allotments	Convenient Hire Ltd	560.98
560985593	02.09.2015	Resolve issue with Cllr photos	Custom Studio	45.00
300157	27.08.2015	Velcro sticking strips for posters	Mrs B Long	4.25
DDMainstAug2015	31.08.2015	Call charges 31.07-28.08.2015	Mainstream Digital	7.03
823675682	28.08.2015	Cleaning services 1-30 Aug 2015	Moors Cleaning Services	130.00
DDMainstAug2015	31.08.2015	Broadband Services	Mainstream Digital	61.19
738814421	02.09.2015	Postage charges & machine rental	Pitney Bowes	181.94
161889518	03.09.2015	Hire of Guildhall 10.09.2015	Test Valley Borough Coun	60.00
852865110	28.08.2015	Hire of Rendezvous 15.10.2015	Test Valley Borough Coun	60.00
341517863	02.09.2015	Stationery Order ref 4868303	Viking Supplies	221.35
TOTAL				1,811.74

C 55/15 Questions from Councillors

There were no questions received from Councillors under Standing Order No 8.

C 56/15 Questions from Councillors to Borough and County Councillors

Councillor L Gates asked County Councillor T Rolt for an update regarding the Crossing outside Roman Way School.

Cllr Rolt replied that progress was being made, albeit slowly. 106 monies had been found and Hampshire County Council were looking into various different options. Certain criteria needed to be fulfilled in order to receive the monies allocated.

Cllr Gates thanked Cllr Rolt for his answer but indicated that at an informal meeting it had been indicated by Hampshire County Council that work would start at the end of the summer. He urged Councillor Rolt to do everything he could to forward the works.

Councillor B Long asked County Councillor Tim Rolt to look into the works being carried out on the Upper High Street and Newbury Road. She expressed her concern about the resurfacing and asked Cllr Rolt to check to ensure that it would not exacerbate the flood problems that the High Street already suffered from.

Cllr Rolt replied that he had been looking into the works and had asked for plans of the all the drainage. He explained that Southern Water had acknowledged the problems in the main High Street and that any problems were being directed to them. He confirmed to Cllr Long that he would send her an update once he had investigated further.

Cllr McBride asked Cllr Rolt to investigate the situation with regard to Junction Road, he voiced his concern that someone was going to be killed before any action would be taken.

C 57/15 Reports from Councillors

Cllr G McBride reported that he had been up to Westminster and the Houses of Parliament with the Youth Council. He reported that they had all learnt a great deal and the Youth Councillors had been given confidence for public speaking. The Youth Council intended to repeat the trip in the near future.

Cllr K Bird reported that she had attended the Test Valley Association of Town and Parish Council's meeting. The minutes would be circulated in due course. She reported that the Housing Team had made a presentation on Social Housing. She suggested that the Housing Team be asked to present to the Town Council.

Cllr C Ecclestone reported that he had further investigated the Heydon Garage Site with the assistance of Hampshire County Council. The County Council had confirmed that there were 5 underground tanks on the site which had been filled with cement.

Cllr Ecclestone further reported on the Fish and Chip shop which was being developed on Bridge Street. He reported that it had been brought to the Planning Committees attention that the Bow Windows in the front of the shop had been taken out, without planning permission. This had been reported to the enforcement officers. However no action had so far been taken.

Cllr Ecclestone further reported that he would be asking the Town Council to support as a minimum the Parker Morris Standard for accommodation, reference material had been circulated.

Cllr B Long reported that she had attended a Workshop on responsible dog ownership. They had considered many way in which to encourage people to clean up after their dogs. She confirmed that some of the initiatives would need to be brought back to full Council for support. Cllr Long further reported that she had attended the opening of the Men's Shed.

Cllr Long confirmed Cllr Ecclestone's report regarding the Fish and Chip shop on Bridge Street and reported that there had been no follow up since the removal of the bow windows had been reported.

C 58/15 Reports from Borough and County Councillors

This item was deferred to the next meeting of the full Council.

C 59/15 Date of Next Meeting

Members noted that the date of the next full Council meeting was Thursday 15 October 2015 at 7pm in The Rendezvous.

C 60/15 Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED: That the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting at Part 2 Item 21 of the Agenda due to consideration of staffing matters.

Councillor K Hughes left the meeting at 8.50pm.

Part 2 – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

C 61/15 Staffing Matters

Members considered the recommendation of the Policy and Resources Committee to increase the Office Administrators hours from 16 hrs per week to 32 hrs per week, from 1 October 2015.

Members noted that the increase of hours would still come within the Staffing Budget including allowing for Pension provision and National Insurance Payments.

It was therefore proposed by Cllr S Hardstaff and seconded by Cllr B Carpenter and

RESOLVED: That the Office Administrators hours be increased from 16 hrs per week to 32 hrs per week, commencing from 1 October 2015.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

Chairman

Date