

Minutes of a meeting of CREWKERNE TOWN COUNCIL held at 18.45 in the Beech Suite, George Reynolds Centre on Monday 28th March 2022.

PRESENT

Cllrs. K. Head (Mayor), M. Best, T. Bond, A. Samuel, A. Stuart, and D. Wakeman.

In attendance: Town Clerk K. Sheehan, Deputy Clerk L. Gowers and three members of the public.

OPEN FORUM

Nobody wanted to speak.

195 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

21/22

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. R. Cottle (personal), R. Pailthorpe (unwell) and J. Roberts (personal).

196 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

21/22

in items on the agenda

Cllr. Head declared a personal interest in the update item relating to South West in Bloom, due to her position as Chair of Crewkerne in Bloom.

197 MINUTES

21/22

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 February 2022 were AGREED.

198 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

21/22

Cllr. Best reported that:

- Both SCC and SSDC were working hard to get the District Council's work programme amalgamated at County level;
- The Structural Change Order for the Unitary Authority had been approved;
- Much is on hold now due to entering the pre-election purdah period.

199 CLERK'S PROGRESS REPORT

21/22

The Clerk reported that the new website was now live, staff were working to iron out a few minor issues but it was hoped that it would act as a valuable community resource. She reported that there had been two days of public meetings with representatives of Taylor Wimpey regarding the Crewkerne Key Site development. The drop-in session on the Friday had been very well attended, whereas the Q&A sessions arranged for the Saturday had not attracted very many visitors.

The Deputy Clerk noted a comedy event supported by Welcome Back Funding had taken place at the weekend and had been a success.

200 PLANNING

21/22

To consider applications due before the next meeting of Planning & Highways

a. 21/03833/FUL: Land South of Cloudshill, Hewish Lane, Crewkerne

It was AGREED to recommend APPROVAL of this application

201 FINANCE

a. To approve the accounts for payment as listed

Questions were answered relating to payments for clearing branches fallen in recent storms, the comedy event and the LIC website domain renewal.

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Pailthorpe had verified the accounts for payment in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations. Accounts for payment for 28 March 2022 in the sum of £79,623.94 were APPROVED.

b. To report the bank reconciliation for February 2022 has been completed

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Pailthorpe had verified the bank reconciliation for February 2022. It was noted that cash in hand as of 28 February 2022 was £207,875.36.

c. To note that a review of internal controls has been carried out

Councillors noted that a review of the Council's internal financial controls had been carried out.

202 MEETINGS 2022/23

21/22 To approve the meetings calendar for the forthcoming municipal year

AGREED, subject to the amendment of the January 2023 Full Council meeting to 16 January.

203 SOUTH WEST IN BLOOM FINALS 2022

21/22 To receive an update on plans for the SWiB awards ceremony

Cllr. Head reported that the awards ceremony would be held at Haselbury Mill in October and a joint civic event was being planned in conjunction with Haselbury in Bloom. Further details would be determined following the elections. One of Crewkerne's team had been appointed to the judging panel and shops had now been contacted about hanging basket provision.

204 JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

21/22 To receive an update on planned Platinum Jubilee celebrations

The Deputy Clerk reported that the working group continued to meet and would co-ordinate all the town's activities and events in one programme. Crewkerne Shed were working on giant lawn games and a live music event was being planned by CUDOS. There would be some food stalls and the weekend would also coincide with open garden events and exhibitions. Additionally, a shop window competition was being planned.

205 National Association of British Market Authorities (NABMA)

21/22 To note a report from NABMA regarding market days and future use of the charter

Councillors noted that, as part of the Welcome Back Funding, SSDC had organised for NABMA to look into the market arrangements for each of the South Somerset market towns. The

attached report had been produced, which suggested that, as the details of Crewkerne's charter were unclear, the Council should consider making a declaration that Part III of the Food Act 1984 would be used to operate and manage any market as the modern statutory framework. Having considered the report, Councillors agreed that this declaration should be tabled for the next Full Council meeting.

206 SSDC RANGER SERVICE

21/22 To approve the temporary use of the SSDC Ranger Service to support the Grounds Maintenance team

It was AGREED that the SSDC Ranger Service could be used for up to eight hours per week to support the Grounds Maintenance team while additional Grounds Maintenance Operatives were recruited.

207 FALKLAND SQUARE UNCLAIMED WASTE BINS

21/22 To consider a request regarding the proposed removal of an unclaimed waste bin

A request regarding an unclaimed and overflowing waste bin had been received but had since been cleared. Councillors noted that rubbish was frequently overflowing in the waste collection area between Falkland Square and the George Shopping Centre. Future instances of fly tipping and accumulations of waste would be notified to SSDC Environmental Health. The Clerk was asked to write again to the Management Company to complain, highlighting that if CTC cleared the area, the Council would invoice the Management Company for costs incurred.

208 BARN STREET RECREATION GROUND

21/22 To receive an update following recent public meetings

Cllr. Samuel summarised the two public meetings recently held in respect of Barn Street Recreation Area. She noted the key points gathered from the meeting:

- Improved 'no dogs' signage was required
- No ball games signage should be removed
- Consideration to be given to providing a level pathway, whether mown or grass supported by mesh, around the area
- Provision of additional benches
- Addition of a few trees around the periphery, but not fruit trees
- Wheelchair and pushchair access was required

The Clerk was asked to look at signage and gate options and bring all proposals back to a future council meeting for decision.

209 TO RECEIVE COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP MINUTES AND

21/22 APPROVE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED THEREIN

a. Planning and Highways Committee held on 14 February 2022.

The minutes were received and APPROVED.

210 TO RECEIVE MATTERS OF REPORT

21/22

Cllr. Wakeman reported he had received correspondence about parking issues around town. He had asked the PCSO to pay passing attention to problem areas.

Cllr. Bond reported that a resident had raised the poor condition of Rose Lane. The Clerk was asked to report this using the online Highways function. She also highlighted the fly tipping at the incomplete entrance to the Stonewater development, noting that a resident had been told by Stonewater that they anticipated completing the junction in mid-April.

In answer to a question about the CCTV in the town centre, the Clerk clarified that the system was fully operational and that no recent requests had been received for information.

211 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

21/22

Monday 25th April 2022, 6.45pm, Beech Suite, George Reynolds Centre.

It was AGREED that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it was advisable that the public and press be excluded and were instructed to withdraw.

CONFIDENTIAL SESSION: EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC – PROCEDURAL MATTERS

212 GEORGE REYNOLDS CENTRE

21/22

A request from the Football Club to further review charges for use of the GRC was considered. Councillors AGREED that charges for this season should remain as previously agreed, and that a 'pay per play' pricing structure might be considered for the new season.

A request for regular hire of the GRC from Merriott Table Tennis Club was considered and AGREED, subject to a review of usage and storage arrangements in six months' time.

The meeting closed at 20.15.

Signed:

Dated: